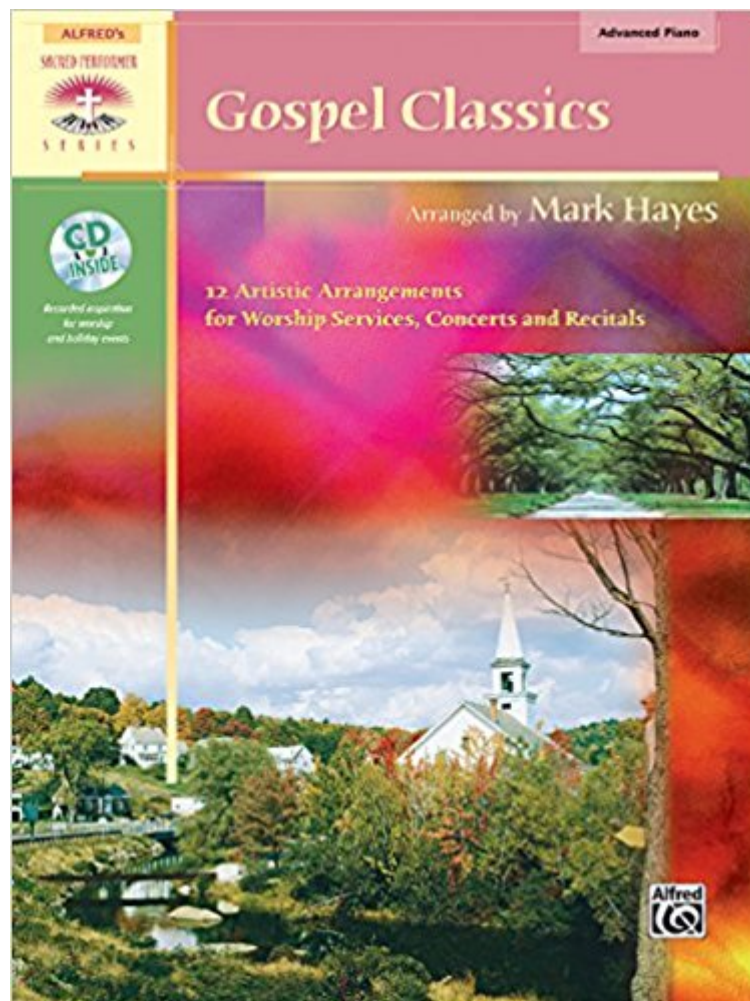


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# Gospel Classics: 12 Artistic Arrangements For Worship Services, Concerts And Recitals, Book & CD (Sacred Performer Collections)



## Synopsis

Gospel Classics reflects the importance of hymns and gospel songs in the musical fabric of Mark Hayes's life. The skillful arranger has artistically "breathed new life" into the well-known gospel songs included in this collection for advanced pianists. Church musicians and worshippers alike are certain to take great enjoyment in experiencing these fresh new settings and lush harmonies.

## Book Information

Series: Sacred Performer Collections

Paperback: 64 pages

Publisher: Alfred Music (January 1, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0739031058

ISBN-13: 978-0739031056

Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 9.2 x 12.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (52 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

THIS BOOK IS FANTASTIC!! I have nearly all of Mark Hayes other books, but this one is definately my favorite. Each piece is so incredibly arranged that it is completely like nothing else you'll ever have played. Note: this book is for ADVANCED pianist. That's mostly why I love it. If you have reached that level, you will appreciate the fact that these pieces require a little bit of practice and present a fantastic opportunity to showcase musicianship and expressiveness. There is not a single piece in this book that I will not perform on Sunday morning. From the beautifully serene "In The Garden" to the spunky "Heavenly Sunshine" each is an instant favorite. The arrangement of "The Old Rugged Cross" is the singlehandedly most unusual I've ever played, and is so moving that it brings tears to your eyes. It starts out with a very Rachmaninoff-style opening fanfare, followed by a solemn and mournful pass through the hymn as interpreted in a minor key. It's very unusual and different. My daughter jokes when I play it that it's probably what it would sound like if Dracula played the piano. HA! It goes on, in the minor key, building to a dramatic climax.....then it's almost

like a wave of sunshine washes over the scene and it moves to a beautiful verse with rich chords written in the more familiar major key. It represents the darkness, loss and desolation of the cross that turns to joy unspeakable. I am planning on playing that on Good Friday. The arrangement of "I'll Fly Away" has a ragtime flair that I just love. It starts out with a traditionally-chorded verse, then when you turn the page, all heck breaks loose! Love it! "Sweet By and By" is just beautiful the entire way through.

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