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## Dear Teachers,

*Masterworks Lesson Book Two* is a continuation of *Lesson Book One* where the student focused primarily on rhythm and note reading. After the student has developed a good sense of beat and is able to recognize and read simple rhythms and note names, it is then time to develop more complex aspects of articulation and playing with both hands. This book will focus on technique by introducing fingering, placements, and gestures while continuing to build on counting and note reading.

Topics covered in *Lesson Book Two* include:

- ✓ Fingering
- ✓ Placements of 2, 3, and 4 notes
- ✓ Intervals of 2nds, 3rds, and octaves
- ✓ Count quarter, half, and whole rests
- ✓ Composition
- ✓ Ties
- ✓ Sharps
- ✓ Glissandi

Lesson Book One introduced all the notes on the staff between 5<sup>th</sup> octave C and 3<sup>rd</sup> octave C. The 3<sup>rd</sup> octave D is introduced in this book. It is assumed that lever harps are tuned to C major.

Tuning is not yet covered. I have found that it is easiest to teach the parents of young beginners how to tune the harp. Have students practice using a tuning key on a string or two during the lesson to get them accustomed to the movements needed for tuning.

Placements are introduced in Lesson Book Two; however, only basic replacements are covered.

The basic steps I suggest for teaching each song in this level are:

1. *Clap* the rhythm
2. *Point* to the notes and say their letter names
3. *Play and say* the note values out loud
4. *Play and say* the note names out loud

Once the concept of playing different notes in each hand is introduced, I suggest using the above list first with right hand alone and then with left hand alone. Once both hands are learned well, put hands together.

Several pieces also include lyrics. Most students find it easier to recall rhythms from the lesson if they can sing along with words.

Happy teaching!