Songs without Words

For Ukulele

In Standard Notation and Tab



Fingerstyle Pieces for the Intermediate Player

Loretta K. Notareschi

Songs without Words

For Ukulele

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About the Music

The Songs without Words are my second contribution to the fingerstyle ukulele repertoire for the intermediate player. (The first are my Five Etudes, available at www.disegnimusic.com.) They feature simple left-hand fingering and right-hand fingerpicking and strumming patterns. They may be performed as a complete set or individually.

Each Song is a world unto itself, a little tune to be played simply. I gave each a title I thought expressed the essential character of the music.

The first piece, Ruby's Song, reminded me of the times I would sing and dance to made-up tunes with my newborn daughter, Ruby.

The Lament is meant to be played with rubato (an expressive give and take in tempo).

Merry Tune should put a smile on the listener's face--start out practicing it slow and gradually build it up to tempo.

The challenge in High Wire is to bring out the main melody while subordinating the accompanying chords.

Climb the Ladder is a cheerful study in scales and chords. Carefully practice the left-hand shifting at the end until you can play smoothly.

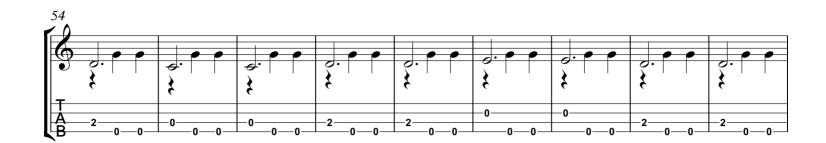
These piece were written to be performed on a soprano, concert, or tenor ukulele, in re-entrant (high G) standard tuning. They will also sound good with a low G string--passages on that string will simply sound down one octave.

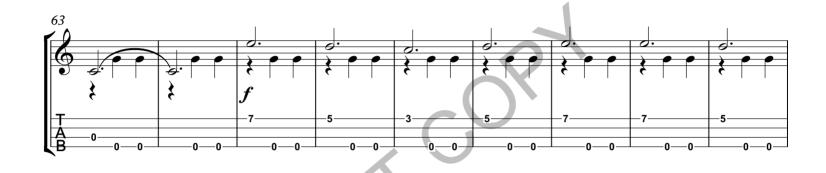
Right-hand fingerings are referred to as in classical guitar: p (thumb), i (index), m (middle), a (ring), and c (pinkie) (though c is not required). Two kinds of strumming patterns are indicated--a straight line with an arrow means to strum quickly and forcefully, and the wavy arrow means to roll each chord more slowly.

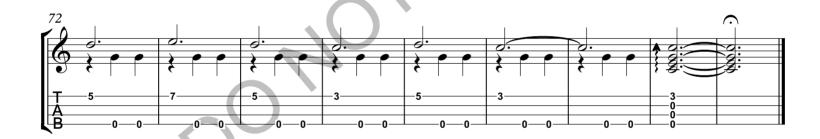
SONGS WITHOUT WORDS

I. Ruby's Song









SONGS WITHOUT WORDS

II. Lament

