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Ludwig Van Beethoven Complete Piano Sonatas Volume 1 (Nos. 1-15)



Synopsis

The entire corpus of Beethoven's piano sonatas is contained in this two-volume work of 32 sonatas in all. Volume One contains the fifteen sonatas from Beethoven's first period, including the popular Pathétique, Moonlight, and Pastorale sonatas. Volume Two contains the 17 sonatas from Beethoven's second and third periods, including the Waldstein, the Appassionata, and the Hammerklavier. The music is reproduced directly from the exemplary Universal Edition set edited by Heinrich Schenker. Combining scrupulous scholarship and profound artistic vision, Schenker achieved an edition which is universally admired by musicians and scholars. He used more autographs as sources than any previous editor of the sonatas, and he was the first to reproduce in print the visual impression of the autographs. For this Dover edition, Schenker's footnotes have been translated into English and his preface translated. A new introduction by Carl Schachter has also been included. Noteheads have been reproduced in a size large enough to be read easily at the keyboard. Margins and spaces between staves are generous, permitting insertion of written notes, analysis, fingerings, etc. Running measure numbers and many fingerings have already been included by the editor — the last a particularly unusual and valuable feature of this edition. This edition will be welcomed by all pianists, both professional and amateur, for its accuracy and reliability; it is highly desirable for instruction, study, reference, and enjoyment.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The triumphant genius of Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827) casts a long shadow over classical music – no other composer of the past two centuries has exercised an influence more profound than his. A product of the classicist generation, he was the first of the Romantics, and his exhilarating works remain undiminished in their powers of enchantment.

Great piece. Great score. Great edition. Really clear and accurate, has enough space to mark your notes and follow the score easily.

There's not really getting any better from here. Schnabel might be better for a beginner, but this is my second copy of this volume and I have the other volume as well. Both are superb.

Not that this book should be expected to address a longstanding problem with piano books, but even with the lay-flat binding, the front pages will keep shutting (this is just a peeve of mine, probably doesn't bother most people). More importantly, this is my favorite version of Beethoven's Sonatas (this is my third book). In addition to the arrangement, which is most important, the fact that 1-15 are all included in this book is also nice. For me, that covers my most played pieces, though I still have to go to volume 2 for some of my favorites from time to time.

I had a couple of other editions, from years before. I could never really use those because it was not easy to open and read, since this is a huge work (32 sonatas make a gross volume very impractical). But with these 2 volumes they made it easy for me to read, the type of paper and the sewn-flat binding are very practical. I am studying several sonatas now.

good!

Rated 4 1/2 stars: I'm still amazed at how cheap this is, considering it's a 296-page book. It contains Beethoven's first 15 piano sonatas and will provide hours and hours of entertainment at the piano. I love the fact that there are fingerings all throughout the pieces (unlike the Schirmer edition), and that there is plenty of space for annotations. For this price, this edition is by far the best value. My only real complaint is that it doesn't lay flat. Many of the reviewers said it did, so I was expecting that. Even when I open it to the middle pages, I need a book on each side to hold the book open. Perhaps after years of use, it will wear down and stay open, but as a new book, don't expect it.

Excellent urtext edition of this wonderful works. Everything is clearly printed, the book stands on its own on any page (may take some time for the first pages), and this edition thinks about something that some other good editions don't: Whenever it's possible, the page change is located in a part of the score where it can be easily done with a single hand, without missing any note. I totally recommend it.

This edition is available at a fraction of the price and (contrary to the comments of other reviewers) is probably more accurate than other Urtext editions. The famous musicologist Heinrich Schenker is known for his extreme attention to detail, including, for example, the directions of the stems (which other Urtext editions are not). The only caveat to accuracy is that Beethoven's autographs for a few of the sonatas were not available to the world in Schenker's time but have since become available. Although I always ignore printed fingering, Schenker's is among the most sensible I have seen. The only drawback to this edition is that it is somewhat prescriptive, in the sense that it does not offer choices in the way the Henle edition does. Physically, the Dover edition will last longer and stay open better than other paperback editions.

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