Music by the Masters: Bach, Beethoven, Chopin, Grieg, Handel, Haydn, Schubert and More

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Synopsis
This consistent top-seller includes 65 works by these famous composers: C. P. E. Bach, J. S. Bach, Beethoven, Chopin, Grieg, Handel, Haydn, Mendelssohn, Schubert, Schumann and Tchaikovsky. Excellent, motivating literature for the intermediate pianist.

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Customer Reviews
I used this book about 20 years ago as a student. Now, I use this book with my students. It is a great book full of short classical studies by prolific composers of the Baroque-Romantic Eras. This book contains a wide variety of music selections that teach various and sundry musical techniques and articulations. Great for the young pianist who is trying to bridge the gap into the Classical literature.

From Chopin to Brahms, I have had a copy of this book for 20 years. It has, as far as our family is concerned, every great piano piece you need to know. Period. I buy a new edition every half dozen years because of wear and tear. Highly recommended.

As a private piano instructor, I frequently have my 3rd/4th-year students purchase this book as it contains all of the basic elements and essentials that budding pianists need. There are so many collections to choose from and many of the modern ones include pieces from unknown composers. It’s good to be aware of them; however, if my student’s are going to spend time practicing, I want
them to be familiar with the "meat and potatoes" of piano literature - the works that made an impact. This book fits that bill better than most. Included in this collection are thirteen of the common works from Robert Schumann's "Album For the Young;" selections from J.S. Bach's "Anna Magdelena's Notebook" and his book of little preludes - essential for teaching Baroque ornamentation; by Chopin, four of his easier preludes and five mazurkas; Beethoven's "Fur Elise" and "Sonatina in F" (only the first movement), and miscellaneous pieces by Grieg, Haydn, Mozart, and Haydn. As this book seems to be aimed at the pianist learning the easier classics, there is only one of Mendelssohn's "Song Without Words," "Venetian Boat Song," is present in this collection, although "Consolation" and "Regrets" are no more difficult than the Chopin mazurkas and easily could have been added. My only concern with it is the binding, which appears to be glued and not sewn. After a year of continual use, the pages begin falling out, which becomes unavoidable if you want the page you’re playing to stay open on the piano rack. This collection is inexpensive enough and contains so many basics that, despite this flaw, I believe it is still worth purchasing. My suggestion - go to Kinkos and have it spiral bound before you play out of it. It will remain in a much nicer condition and will stay open while you’re playing!

Please, doesn’t matter if you are an intermediate or advanced piano student, you must have this book. It is the best book I have seen (in figurative language, you know), plus it is very well organized and the sequence is awesome. Nonetheless I have problem with the printed paper, because the pentagram's line are quite broad, but it's just a freak that I have (I prefer the thinner lines). You will feel bad if you don’t have it, believe me.

I used to play piano as a kid, and have recently taken it back up. This is really good for getting back into it - a bit more on the intermediate side, but has really helped me. Plus, you can’t beat the classics for learning piano. A nice mix of music, and good exposure to classic piano. Highly recommended.

Years ago I studied at Trenton Conservatory of Music. When I reached the intermediate level, this was the first book my teacher brought me. I used it for years until I attended college. My first piano recital at the college was a Bach piece from this book. I lost the original book, moving over the years. I was happy to find it here. I ordered it and it was delivered on time. And what is best, it's even better than I remembered it. Lots of good classical pieces at a great price. If you are using the John Thompson books, when you reach about level 3, you could work in some pieces from this book. It
brings back lots of memories and is as useful today to me as it was back then.

My husband had used his book since childhood in the late 50’s and 60’s. When digging through his music recently, he noticed several pages of his book missing. He lamented about it for days and days. Luckily, I ran a search on here and found this copy! I ordered it and it arrived pristine, quick and oh, boy was he surprised! LOVED it!

The book is chock full of classic piano pieces: a great selection, and lots of fun to play. However, at least one of the pieces is apparently not entirely by a "master". The fourth full measure of Beethoven's Ecossaise in G is completely different from what Beethoven wrote. In this book, the phrase resolves on a B dotted quarter note in the right hand. However, Beethoven's original resolves on a much more interesting eighth note A then quarter note A#. The left hand has also been altered at this spot. The correct version is really no harder to play, so I don't understand why it has been adulterated. This editorial decision now has me worried about what else may have been changed. Every piece I am now asking myself "is this really what the composer wrote?"

Lastly, the quality of the printing is not too great- it looks like a photocopy of a photocopy.

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