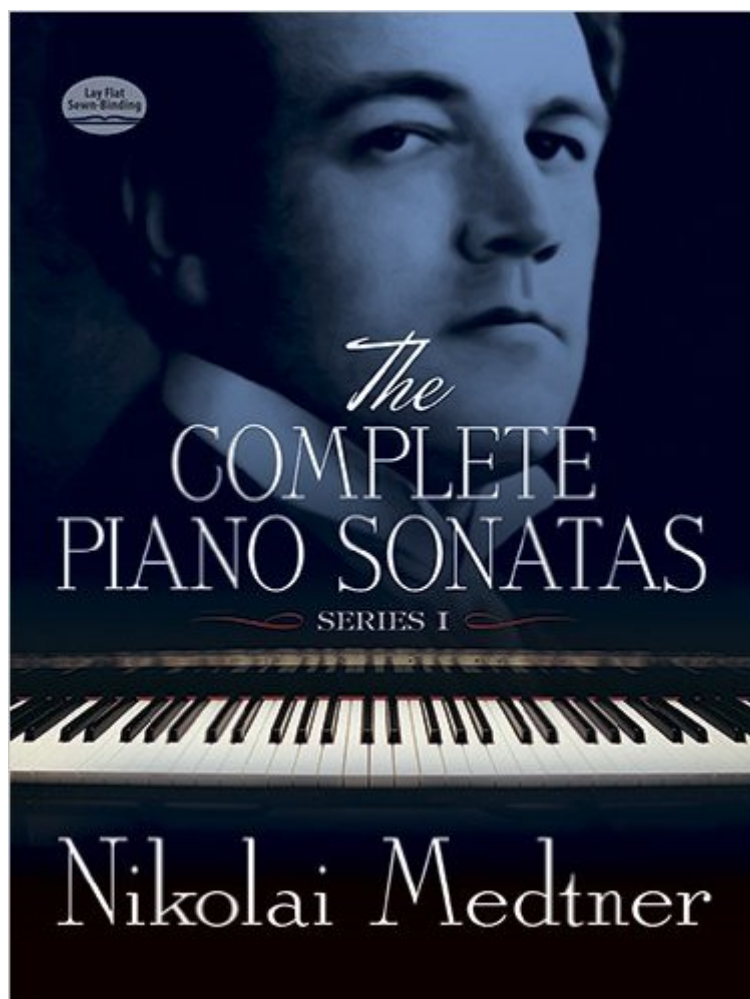


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The Complete Piano Sonatas Vol. 1



Synopsis

Faced with decades of shifting styles and music trends that characterized the early decades of the twentieth centuries, Nikolai Medtner remained faithful to the classical masters' roots. This two-volume series of Medtner's complete sonatas includes a Preface by Eugene Istomin, Performance Notes by Geoffrey Tozer, and an Editorial Note by Marc-Andre Hamelin. A must for pianists seeking alternatives to the core group of "standard" sonatas of this century, these works range from intermediate to very difficult. Series I features Sonata in F Minor, Op. 5; Sonatas Nos. 2, 3, and 4 of Sonatentriade, Op. 11; and three others. Series II comprises the Russian composer's final seven sonatas: Sonate-Ballade, Op. 27; Sonata in A Minor, Op. 30; Sonata-Reminiscenza, Op. 38, No. 1; Sonata tragica, Op. 39, No. 5; Sonata romantica, Op. 53, No. 1; Sonata minacciosa, Op. 53, No. 2; and Sonate-Idylle, Op. 56. A bonus selection of three melodies includes "Canzona matinata," "Canzona seranata," and "Alla Reminiscenza."

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Customer Reviews

A publication of the Medtner sonatas for piano, let alone a new edition, has been long overdue. This first volume brings together the first seven sonatas of Medtner; with a preface by Eugene Istomin, performance notes by Geoffrey Tozer...an unduly neglected composer...many admired Medtner's music; Horowitz, Gilels, Rachmaninoff, and in our time Hamelin, Milne, Demidenko, Tozer to name but a few...a definite must have for pianists who want to find alternatives to the core group of

"standard" sonatas of this century...pianistic difficulty ranges from intermediate to very difficult... but well worth the challenge!

Nice edition. GREAT price. I was expecting a terrible binding that would fall apart and my intention was to have it cut and spiral bound at a kinkos-like establishment. The binding was MUCH better than I expected. It may hold up in the long run. Time will tell.

As a doctorate student in piano performance, for me this is a really great edition, and very much affordable (especially for a student). It is a direct reprint of the first Soviet Union complete Medtner edition from the late 1950's. Which means that this is a very authoritative edition. I don't know of any better edition, although there is Henle, but it is very expensive and mostly follows the same source. I usually buy any Russian composer's music from Russian editions or reprints, as it follows the closest or exactly to the manuscript (and most of them are the first edition in themselves). As for the music - these are highly technical pieces that require some good technical facilities and an advanced musical understanding. However, I do not rule out the intermediate or amateur pianists that are just want to be exposed to some really great Russian yet underperformed piano music. Recommended for all who appreciate piano music!

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