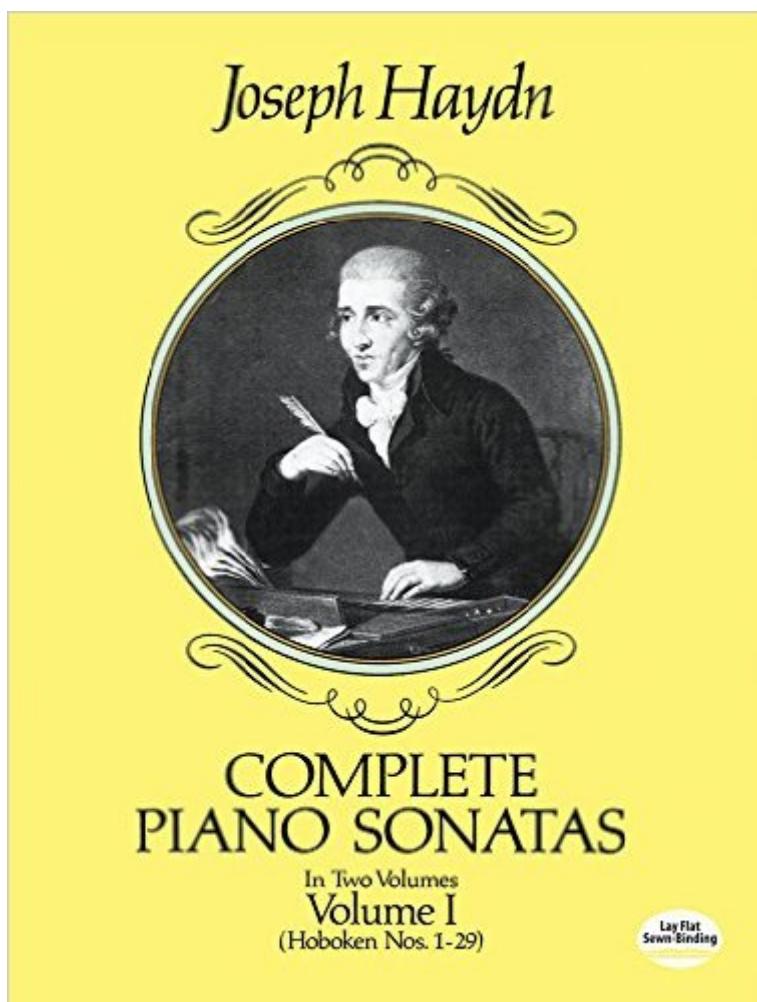


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Complete Piano Sonatas, Vol. 1: Hoboken Nos. 1-29



Synopsis

Note: This item will not have finger numbers. The towering composer who perfected the early symphonic form and invented the modern string quartet also left his indelible mark on the sonata. During 50 years of inspired creative effort, Haydn experimented constantly with the sonata form, adding a clear thematic structure to the tonal design inherited from earlier composers. This comprehensive new playing edition contains 52 sonatas by the master — a treasury of keyboard compositions in which echoes of the baroque and harbingers of romanticism blend with the lucidity and elegance of 18th-century classicism. Here is a remarkably convenient and reliable presentation of more than 50 of Haydn's efforts in the form, from the early divertimento-like sonatas to the masterworks of the later years, culminating in the sublime Sonata No. 52 in E-flat Major. Reprinted in two volumes from an authoritative Breitkopf & Härtel edition, the sonatas are arranged in a chronological sequence based on recent scholarship. Extremely clear and readable, with ample space for notes, this Dover edition is a must for serious pianists, students, and music lovers in general. It is an excellent, inexpensive means to study and savor the inventive daring, freedom, and mastery that Haydn brought to the piano sonata.

Book Information

Paperback: 230 pages

Publisher: Dover Publications (October 1, 1984)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0486247260

ISBN-13: 978-0486247267

Product Dimensions: 9.4 x 0.5 x 12.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars — See all reviews (13 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

Haydn's piano sonatas were composed over almost 50 years, and range from rather undistinctive rococco pieces to great masterworks of the genre. These are not always so easy to play and require some knowledge of classical style and ornamentation. I learned several sonatas from these Dover

editions, which fit the bill when I was economizing, as they are the cheapest complete edition out there. Unfortunately, they are a reprint of an outdated 19th C. edition, with a layout somewhat difficult to read, and not always well-printed. Much better as an investment is the Henle edition, in three volumes, despite the significantly greater cost.

Haydn sonatas LOOK easy, but to play them well and play them musically takes plenty of work. It's worth the effort. Though not as musically complex as Mozart, the Haydn Sonatas require good clean technique and attendance to dynamics and tempo. This edition has no fingering; good if you disagree with anyone else's rendering but bad if you need a starting point to either follow or reject. If you aren't sure if these are worth your time, go listen to Andre Watts or Andreas Schiff play a few of these and I am sure you will be back. While not profound like Beethoven or soaringly beautiful like Mozart, these gems shimmer like little diamonds and are a good way to improve your pianistic skills. And they are always easy on the ear.

Please note that there are 2 formats of this product, the "paperback" one is Dover edition; the "plastic comb" one is Alfred edition. These two books are different publishers but they share reviews. This is a little misleading.

This first volume of Haydn's complete piano sonatas far exceeded my expectations. I am always looking for music that will excite and inspire me to continue my practice. This book of piano sonatas does just that. Anyone wanting to learn some Haydn sonatas cannot go wrong with this series of books. Thanks!

This edition, edited by the great Maurice Hinson, is a must for every pianist. First, it is essentially an Urtext, but it does have performance suggestions that are clearly shown to not be part of Haydn's original. Second, and probably to be the most prized, is that it is edited by Maurice Hinson. His suggestions are outstanding. While ordinarily, I would not touch an Alfred edition for serious music, in this case, it's well worth the price.

Haydn's early sonatas are short. Some are only 2 pages. No fingering is included. Until near the end technically they are easy. Only single notes. It is fairly easy to pick out the melodies and they are very nice. This is much more easy than Mozart's sonatas. These are similar to Clementi, but much less difficult. They are fun. No pedaling indications. Since the piano in this period did not have the

range of the modern piano, he did not write these very high, making it somewhat less hard. Low range is good however.

If you are looking for music books that are complete, have few fingering suggestions, are easy to read, and are durable then you can't go wrong with Dover editions. With my teenage son I look for durable. The Dover editions he has have held up. His teacher is a fingering fanatic, so these editions allow them to "hash out" the fingerings together.

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