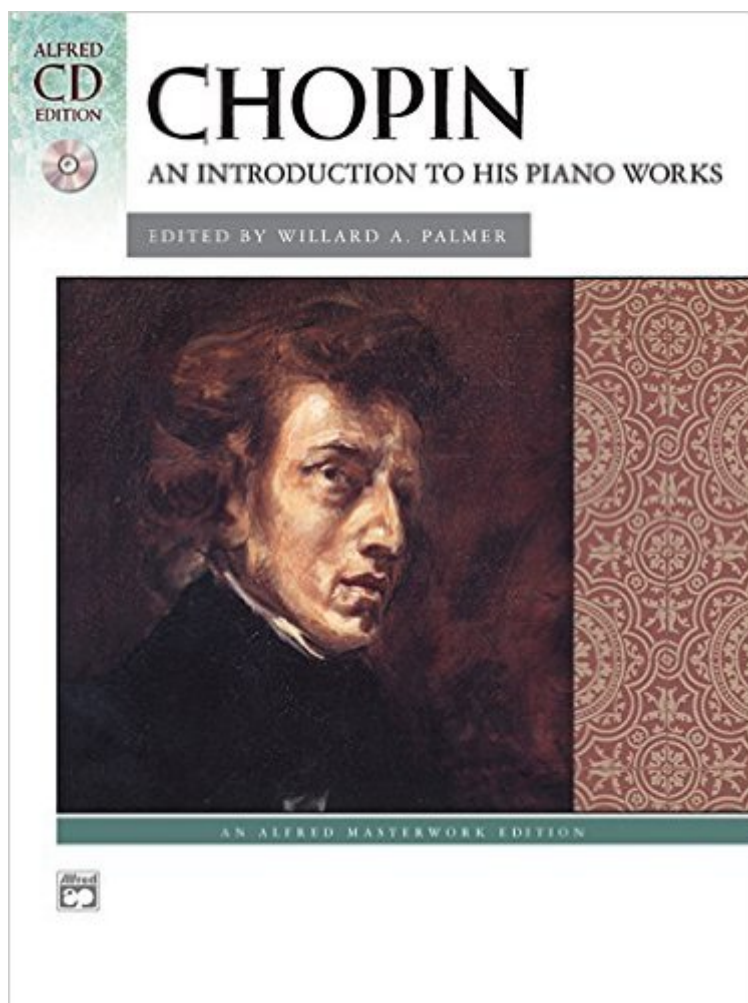


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# Chopin: An Introduction To His Piano Works (Book & CD)



## Synopsis

Known as a "pianist's composer," Chopin's love, passion and devotion to piano music resulted in more than 200 compositions. This collection contains the more accessible pieces which still have vivid melodies and lush harmonies. The Alfred Masterwork CD Editions conveniently combine each exceptional volume with a professionally recorded CD that is sure to inspire artistic performances. Pianist Valery Lloyd-Watts studied at the Conservatory of Music in Toronto and the Royal College of Music in London. She earned a Master of Music degree from the University of Wisconsin, where she studied with Paul Badura-Skoda.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This doesn't try to be really challenging, but it does give tons of good pieces to start with. I'd say it's a good way to get to know our friend Chopin and his music. It has a pretty even mix of various music styles from Preludes to a Polonaise or two. In general the pieces get harder as you progress through the book (as is usual). The volume is clean and does contain some suggestions on how to play some tricky parts. However, these suggestions are written in the book with the lightest of font which can make reading them a chore (the darkness varies to show what was written by Chopin and what is simply suggested). As I said before: it's a good beginning book which will prepare you for some more comprehensive volumes.

As a piano teacher I am always searching for collections that are userfriendly for my students. This

collection contains shorter works, in their original form, with accurate detail and editorial suggestions as to interpretation. I would recommend this book to everyone wanting a first time introduction to Chopin's most famous works!

Overall, this is a good introduction to Chopin's music for the intermediate to upper intermediate student. Chopin's music is generally quite challenging, and this book has compiled some of his "easier" works. However, one of the waltzes is in a simplified version. I don't know if Chopin himself wrote two versions of this waltz, but I know I have played it in a somewhat more difficult -- and more interesting -- version. Don't know why the easier version was selected for the book because there are other selections in the book that are more difficult than the more complex version of that waltz. Also, the cover of the book came off within two months of my having the book. And I was not hard on it. I didn't carry it around places; it never left my piano. Since most piano students do, in fact, carry their music around, to lessons and such, it seems that the book should be constructed in a more durable manner.

I think the CD is a great combination with an introduction to Chopin, not necessarily his most known pieces, but just as challenging. The compression is decent to the original, but allow an intermediate level to get their teeth into some challenging pieces. I love the CD, which really helps to teach the rhythm part of the piece! Worth the price.

I just received this and am listening to the CD right now. Just for the CD alone, the money is well spent. As for the book, it is BY FAR the best I have ever seen regarding slightly varying Chopin pieces to make them more accessible to intermediate players. I am absolutely thrilled with this purchase. In fact, best purchase in a long, long time! In any category!

I went back to classical piano after a close to 50 year hiatus. This book became my inspiration and was given to me as a gift ----- I just purchased a 2nd copy just as a backup -- this version comes with a cd of the music which makes it even more useful -- since you can hear the music and then try it. It has a wide selection of what I would call intermediate level pieces ----- Waltzes - Nocturnes - mazurkas and preludes. etc The book is a gem !! Worth every penny !

This is an interesting piece of work. It has a good overview of the composition style Frederick Chopin, i.e. technical analysis. Then selected works (scores) are presented. This is all backed up

with a CD of the works being discussed. A nice progression from just listening to the music itself. Also, very good value for the money.

I like the B minor waltz op.69 no 2 as it isn't the Fontana edition. As is the same for op 69, no 1 (L adieu). However, I feel the phrasing in the Fontana editions are better. The pedaling suggestions for Prelude in E minor are nice too.

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