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Debussy -- Selected Favorites (Alfred Masterwork Edition)



Synopsis

This concise edition includes 12 pieces selected by editor Lynn Freeman Olson, based on their frequent use with pre-college students. To impart Debussy's compositional intentions to the performer, the editor has kept editorial suggestions to a minimum. However, a glossary of selected French terms provides insight into the vivid nature of these expressive pieces.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I love the pieces selected to comprise this volume of Debussy. It's a great introduction for pianists, and contains a variety of pieces for different difficulty levels. The price is also quite reasonable. My only complaint with this book is that the binding is not so great. the book doesn't always stay open to the piece you want and you really have to break it in. I've already ordered Urtext edition of the Children's Corner suite because the book binding is annoying. I would recommend this edition of Debussy for pianists of intermediate-advanced ability who seek to familiarize themselves with Debussy's works, or students who are looking for a cheaper book. If you plan on spending a lot of time working on some of these pieces, however, you may wish to spend a little more on a nicer edition. At the end of the day, this is a good, not great, collection and you get what you pay for.

According to Eugene Moore, Mr. Masters in Musicology, this is "a good collection". But, "If only he had the talent of Brahms...". Ha. Seriously. One wonders if Mr. Musicology realizes these are mostly

very early pieces (pre-1894 before Debussy re-invented tonality and in the process, counterpoint and harmony as well). These selections are for young intermediate pianist. Debussy is one of the top 5 composers for today's piano repertoire. All that one needs to do is play through the two books of Preludes, the two books of Images, and many others not released in a collection from about 1894-1908 to see that Debussy changed everything. By this time, Brahms influence among composers had mainly been forgotten. But Debussy influences all the great 20th century masters (Stravinsky, Schoenberg, Bartok, Messiaen, Varese and Crumb just to name a few). Brahms, while brilliant, looked backwards towards the "Classical" period (Mozart and Beethoven are popular names), and while using some modern harmony concentrated his efforts on building upon past forms. Debussy invented the future. Without him music today (classical, jazz, film scores, and more), would be so much different. And this is coming from a double Music Composition and Music Theory major. About this edition. Alfred does their usual good job of providing fingerings and pedal markings for those that need it. And the introduction is very informative. The CD is a nice inclusion for those unfamiliar with the music. The best young players edition there is.

This is, in my limited viewpoint, holding only a Masters in Musicology, a good collection. If only he had the talent of Brahms...

I got this on a whim and discovered the Sarabande from Pour le Piano, which I'm now learning with my piano teacher's help. It's a challenging piece for me but beautiful.

Has many favorite pieces from Debussy such as Claire de Lune and Deux Arabesque. Good quality print and binding. For the intermediate to advanced piano students.

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