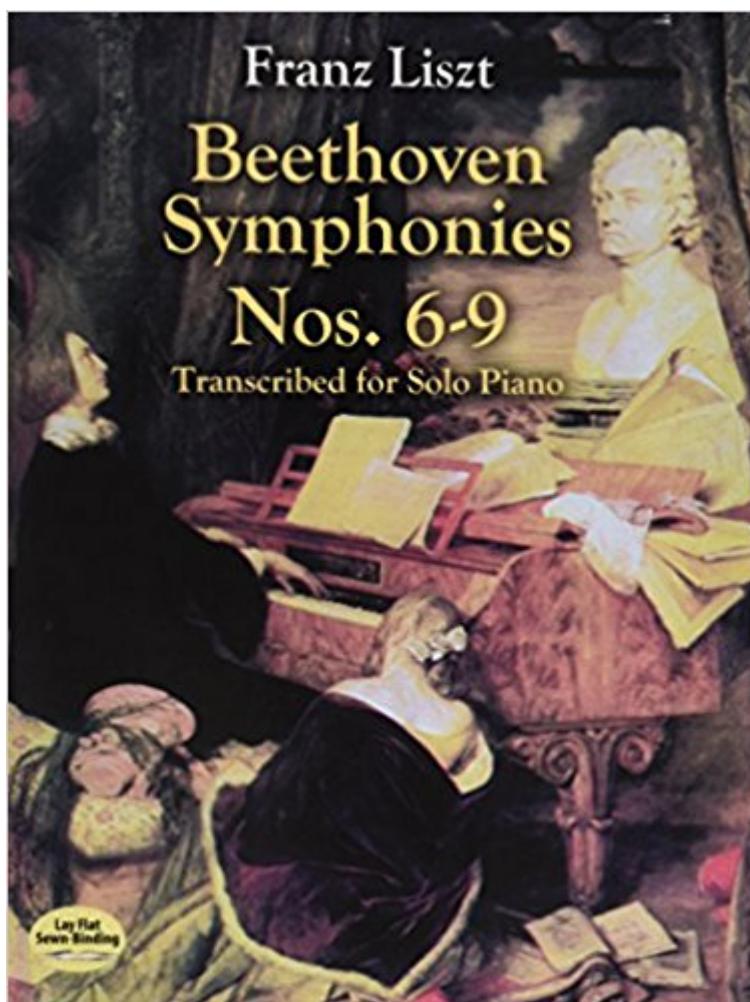


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Beethoven Symphonies Nos. 6-9 Transcribed For Solo Piano (Dover Music For Piano)



Synopsis

Second volume in a Dover series of Liszt's piano transcriptions of Beethoven's nine symphonies includes Symphony No. 6 in F major, Op. 68, "Pastorale"; Symphony No. 7 in A major, Op. 92; Symphony No. 8 in F major, Op. 93; and Symphony No. 9 in D minor, Op. 125, "Choral." Also contains Liszt's handwritten French preface to his transcriptions and an English translation, plus an introduction by Dr. Alan Walker, author of the definitive Liszt biography.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Composer, conductor, and teacher Franz Liszt (1811-86) was renowned throughout Europe for his skills as a concert pianist. The quintessential romantic, he created an extensive and diverse oeuvre that ranges from influential experiments in musical form to more conventional pieces as well as transcriptions of works by other composers.

Going into this, I knew beforehand that this music is beyond my current abilities. I've never seriously attempted to play anything by Liszt. That being said, these pieces aren't as impossible as I had imagined. (Still fairly impossible at this point, but not overwhelmingly so) My beef with this book has nothing to do with what was composed. My problem is how this music has been presented. I'm not sure if there are other editions of Liszt's transcriptions or not, but I wish I had researched more options. This edition is messy. There are very obviously wrong notes/missing accidentals and it's just

difficult to see where notes are supposed to line up. Again, I'm unfamiliar with most music written by Liszt and maybe this is just what happens when you're trying to show the voicing of an orchestral transcription. However, it's extremely frustrating for someone like me who doesn't have the resources to know better. I bought this book solely for the Andante of the 7th Symphony and I'm very familiar with that piece so I know what's supposed to happen and some of the rhythms (or lack thereof) just don't work. Picture description: 1- This should be an f sharp. I have a recording of both the orchestral and piano performances and that note is definitely NOT a natural. Beethoven's music is not that dissonant. 2- It's obvious a hemiola is intended here, but what notes are the triplets and what are the eighths? Who knows! Summary- If there's a different edition, and it's not worse than this, buy that one instead.

These transcriptions by Liszt are a remarkable feat of musicianship. They are certainly challenging to play by an amateur; however, the level of difficulty is within reasonable reach if you are patient. What is amazing is that Liszt was not only able to present the overarching melodic, harmonic, and rhythmic elements of Beethoven's symphonies; but also the inner voices are effectively retained. While playing the individual movements, I felt as though I could hear the various choirs of the orchestra in the piano figurations. Liszt's version is far better than the other transcriptions that I have seen. Those versions sacrificed fullness for ease of performance.

It's great. Easy to read (not so easy to play). Nice layout. For anyone who's interested in Beethoven's symphonies, these transcriptions don't miss a note... Liszt's homage to Beethoven. These transcriptions give amazing insights as to how two great musical minds worked.

This two book set is a wonderful addition to any music library. Listen to Cyprien Katsaris's performance (available on) for a fine rendering.

I love this rendition of the symphonies, but the kindle edition is hard to play with on the piano. Seeing the pages and turning is difficult. I wish I had bought the hard copy

Great transcriptions of Beethoven's Symphonies, which are republications of the original two-volume set published by Breitkopf & Hartel, Leipzig, 1865. As expected from Liszt, the transcriptions are arranged in the fullest manner possible in representing the orchestral score for the piano; staying respectful to Beethoven's scores, yet embellishing & adding more pianistic figurations

that are necessary to create effective and creditable piano music in its own right. The score often incorporates ossia staffs to show alternative ways of playing certain parts where available and often notates in the score what instruments the piano parts are representing. I was a bit hesitant in purchasing this publication at first, because I had bought Dover music publications in the past and pages have very quickly come apart due to flimsy binding quality. However this publication seems to be of much better "Lay Flat Sewn-Binding" quality and seems quite securely bound (although I haven't used the book for very long yet). Also the photos on .co.uk of inside this book are of bad quality and are completely inaccurate to the scores appearance. The printing is of standard quality, clear and legible; however it could be better and possibly due to the fact it is a facsimile of the original publication, there is some very minor fading / smudging of the ink in parts and the printing in general could be bolder; but this does not affect the legibility of the music in anyway. Similarly the paper used is of standard quality and if better quality paper had been used it would have probably helped enhance the printing quality. Overall, considering the price and that these are the only publications I have found available online; I believe they are well worth purchasing if you wish to play the best transcriptions available for Beethoven's Symphonies.

The sixth was famously recorded by Glenn Gould. It is also featured in duet form in the film "Impromptu", which I also recommend. There have been several recordings released recently, all of which are commendable. Beethoven's late symphonies are his gift to the world. Although Beethoven COULD be intimate, I find his gifts were best suited to large forms: symphonies, sonatas, concertos. His music is torrential, big, and moving, and these symphonies are here transposed so that the soloist can enjoy them live without visiting a concert hall or having a small symphony on hand. Liszt is very faithful to the music and does not take any wild liberties. This edition is affordable and complete. I highly recommend it for the advanced pianist, as the pieces themselves are worthy to be performed in concert. The symphonies are masterpieces, but the transcriptions are masterpieces in their own right. Definitely a notable release from Dover.

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