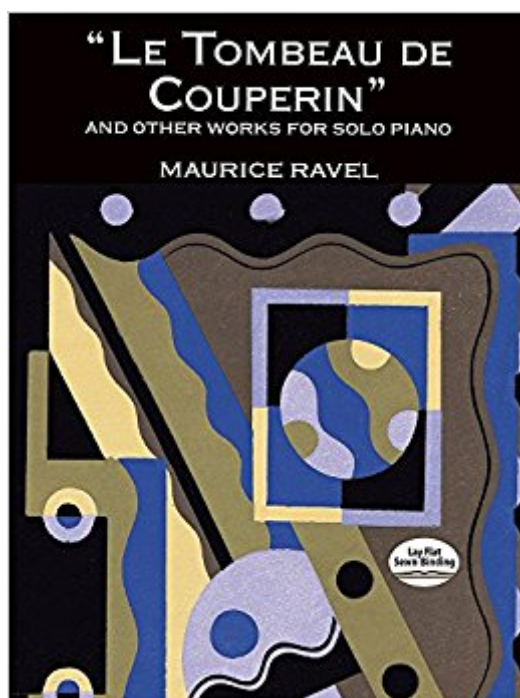


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Le Tombeau De Couperin And Other Works For Solo Piano



Synopsis

The consummate craftsmanship, elegance, and originality of Maurice Ravel (1875–1937) define this collection of masterly compositions for the piano. Here, in one volume are *Maman l'Oye* ("Mother Goose"), *Valse nobles et sentimentales*, *Le Tombeau de Couperin*, and three shorter pieces for piano: *Prelude*, *A la manière de Borodine (Valse)*, and *A la manière de Emmanuel Chabrier*. Ravel's own piano transcription of his world-famous *La Valse* completes this attractive edition of the master's most famous compositions. Intermediate and advanced pianists will welcome this superb compilation of piano classics, reproduced from authoritative French sources. Notes throughout introduce the works, their origins, and their context within the composer's output.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Pros:-This book contains the Mother Goose Suite as transcribed for piano solo by Ravel's friend Jacques Charlot, the Valse Nobles et Sentimentales, a Prelude (1911), Le Tombeau de Couperin, and Ravel's piano solo transcription of La Valse--all reprints of Durand editions. It also includes A la maniere de Chabrier/Borodine, reprints of the Salabert edition.-Printing is sharp and clear in all compositions.-Prefatory notes are great for interpretation and/or research.Cons:-Print is very small--still readable, but more difficult in "Le Tombeau de Couperin" and "La Valse." The volume itself is still a steal.

This book contains a great selection of pieces at a more than reasonable price. I bought it as a set with Piano Masterpieces of Maurice Ravel also by Dover. (I saw another edition of *Ma Mere l'Oye* *on it's own* was more than what I paid for this whole book!) Dover editions I have found in the past have great quality. The pages are sewn in so the book will last a lifetime without pages falling or ripping out. If you're not already impressed by the selection of pieces (I love the 1913 Prelude which I already had a copy of and memorized a while ago), Dover goes even further with this set. It opens with the table of contents and after that it has a complete glossary of French terms and text used in the music! This I found was quite impressive. Even Dover's other Ravel book doesn't do this. Some of the terms sound enough like English words or Italian musical terms for you to figure it out but it's really great that they gave you it there for you to know for certain. Following that are translations of the wonderful quotes of fairy tales from *La Mere* and other text that appears in the book. Before each multi-movement piece it receives it's own cover page followed by an introduction to the piece written by Ronald Herder citing Orenstein's book *Ravel: Man and Musician* as a primary source. It is really nice to learn a little about the piece before playing it and it's a wonderful inclusion. The music appears to be in chronological order with the three 1913 pieces grouped together under a single cover sheet (sans any introduction). The title piece is well deserving of it as it is a large section of the book with it's 7 movements. The book concludes with Ravel's transcription of *La Valse*. It is annotated with Ravel's own notes on the orchestra version sometimes including a third ossia staff showing parts of the orchestration unincorporated in the transcription. Instruments are named in French and can be translated via the glossary at the front of the book. The only problem anyone might have with this book is that there are no noted fingerings as far as I've seen. I don't rely on them much myself but I know other people prefer them. If that is an issue, consider still getting this book and consulting someone on parts where you are unsure of the best fingering. Otherwise this is the perfect set!

This is a superb book. Each piece is preceded by a very well written history and the book also includes a most interesting two page glossary of French terms and texts that pertain specifically to the scores in the book. For instance, m.d [main droit] = right hand and m.g. [main gauche] = left hand. Yes, I am just learning French as I go (if only I lived in Paris!). There are also Quotations cited that are in the music - a unique feature. I purchased this book primarily for the quality and to replace my current (illegible) edition of *Le tombeau de Couperin*, my favorite work by Ravel. I am very happy with my decision to obtain this book and to find all the extra works (shown below). A most impressive feature of this wonderful book is that the print is absolutely precise. It is the most acute

print I have seen in most any music book. The notes and symbols are very sharp. This is definitely a quality book for anyone who plays or appreciates Maurice Ravel's work. These are the lovely pieces in the book - 116 pages of Ravel: 224 Le Tombeau De Couperin and other works for solo piano Maurice Ravel Dover 1. Ma Mere l'Oye: Cinq pieces enfantines [Mother Goose: Five children's pieces] 2. Valses nobles et sentimentales [Elegant and lyrical waltzes] 3. Prelude (1913) 4. A la maniere de ... Emmanuel Chabrier Paraphrase sur un air de Gounod ("Faust IIème acte") [In the style of Emmanuel Chabrier --- Paraphrase on a melody by Gounod ("Faust, Act 2")] 5. A la maniere de ... Borodine (Valse) [In the style of Borodin --- Waltz] 6. Le tombeau de Couperin : Suite pour le Piano [Couperin's tomb: Suite for piano] 7. La Valse: Poeme choregraphique [The Waltz: Choreographic poem for orchestra]

Probably one of the better selections of Ravel's works. For anyone looking for general Ravel pieces, I'd highly recommend this book. Also note: these are not simplified nor big-note pieces. I don't mind, but someone looking for easy arrangements or larger print won't find it in this book.

Together with Le tombeau as promised by the title, this volume includes the original piano versions of Ma Mère l'Oye, all eight Valses nobles et sentimentales, the 1913 Prelude, the two pieces à la manière de (Chabrier and Borodin), and the composer's own piano transcription of La Valse. This fine, durable Dover edition nicely complements Dover's "Piano Masterpieces of Maurice Ravel" with no overlap to give a nearly complete collection of all of Ravel's compositions for the piano. The only piano work absent from both volumes is the Habanera, probably because that work is almost invariably performed by two pianists, although I own a transcription for a single player. Many of the works in this volume are quite accessible to pianists of intermediate skill, if they are sufficiently motivated by a love of the music of Ravel, and even in Le tombeau, a work of legendary difficulty, the exquisite Menuet, should prove playable by all but beginners. Highly recommended.

Easy to read and great Ravel.

Seriously some of my favorite music for piano, the book is good quality and clearly notated. It's a good compilation of works.

Great collection

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