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Complete Song Cycles (Dover Song Collections) (English And German Edition)



Synopsis

Practically without ancestry, the songs of Franz Schubert stand out as the crowning achievement of the lieder tradition. The directly appealing melodies, with their infinite variety and grace, and the highly evocative accompaniments, filled with graceful pianistic figures, lend these short masterpieces the rare distinction of encompassing greatness in a score of bars. Schubert's three great song cycles are here reprinted directly from the definitive Breitkopf & Härtel Schubert-Gesamtausgabe. The volume comprises the universally known and beloved songs of Die schöne Müllerin (1823), the somber depth and picturesqueness of Die Winterreise (1827) and Schwanengesang (1828), one of Schubert's last works, a rich and masterly epilogue to the long series of his songs. Whether purely lyrical (as in "Wohin?") or creating revolutionary atmospheric effects (as in "Die Stadt" or "Der Doppelgänger"), all of these songs show the composer to sure and powerful advantage. In addition to the music and German texts, this volume also includes English translations of the texts by Henry S. Drinker, previously unavailable, that are especially designed to be sung to Schubert's melodies.

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Customer Reviews

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Austrian composer Franz Schubert (1797–1828) was the first of the great Romantics. In addition to his nine symphonies, he wrote more than 600 Lieder (songs) as well as piano pieces, operas, and chamber music.

Good to have the score to read & play, along with reading Ian Bostridge's book on Schubert's Winterreise. Thanks, arrived in good shape and quickly.

Excellent price and this complete volume of the wonderful Schubert songs. As someone said, Ah Schubert Take me to your lieder.

This volume includes the three major Schubert song cycles. It's not as usable or legible as the old Peters edition, but it is much more available and cheaper. The music of course is pure heaven, from the world-famous "Serenade" to the grim and lovely "Winterreise" cycle to the "Swan songs" that end with perhaps Schubert's loveliest song of all, the "Taubenpost;" that was also the last song he wrote. You can hum them, sing them, strum them on your guitar or piano and you'll be a better human being. For low voice, with adequate English translations in the back of the book.

Good timing and good condition

The book was delivered sooner than I expected in securely packed envelope. Thanks for you

reliable work. Content of this book is sublime. Printing is easy to read. English translation in the back gives me more fun in appreciating Schubert's great work. Such a blessing.

Good edition

This is the Dover edition of Franz Schubert's two song cycles on the poetry of Wilhelm Mueller -- Die Schoene Muellerin and Die Winterreise -- plus the collection of songs known as Schwanengesang, which is not a true cycle but rather a group of songs written by Schubert near the end of his short life (d. 1828), packaged as cycle posthumously by his publisher. If you are interested in art song, this plus a few other volumes -- for instance Schubert's Goethe Lieder, also available from Dover -- are an essential aid to enjoyment and understanding. One down side is that this is the usual Dover repackaging of an older source, and as such lacks things such as measure numbers and Deutsch catalogue numbers that would be useful to have. For the money, however, this is an essential value. English translations of the poems are included in the back of the volume.

If you are looking for an amazingly inexpensive way to augment your score library, Dover is the way to do it. The lack of measure numbers in many cases is not ideal, but to me, the savings more than makes up for it. When preparing for a rehearsal situation, it is relatively painless to take five minutes and number the measures myself. An inconvenience, to be sure, but spending \$40 or more for an edition with measure numbers and rehearsal letters is the greater evil, as far as I'm concerned. I highly recommend this edition to vocal students, teachers, and anyone who simply wants to listen and read along to one of the greatest song-smiths ever to live.

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