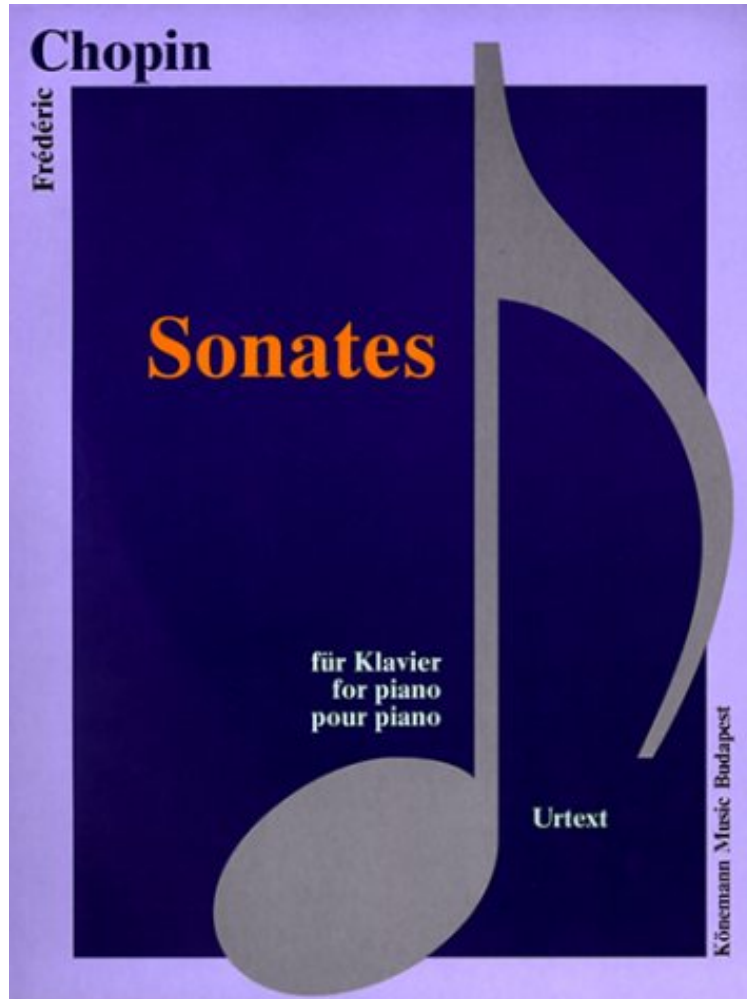


## Chopin: Sonatas

*Frederic Chopin*

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**Frederic Chopin : Chopin: Sonatas** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Chopin: Sonatas:

Frdric Franois Chopin (1810-1839), was a Polish composer and virtuoso pianist of the Romantic era. Chopin was born in Warsaw, then under Russian rule, to a French father and Polish mother. A child prodigy, he grew up in Warsaw and completed his musical education there, composing many of his works before leaving Poland at the age of 20. Settling in Paris, during the remaining 19 years of his life, Chopin gave only some 30 public performances, preferring the more intimate atmosphere of the salon; he supported himself by selling his compositions and as a sought-after piano teacher. He formed a friendship with Franz Liszt and was admired by many of his musical contemporaries, including Robert

Schumann. For most of his life Chopin suffered from poor health; he died in Paris in 1849, probably from tuberculosis. All of Chopin's compositions include the piano; most are for solo piano, although he also wrote two piano concertos, a few chamber pieces, and some songs to Polish lyrics. His keyboard style is often technically demanding; his own performances were noted for their nuance and sensitivity. Chopin invented the concept of instrumental ballade; his major piano works also include sonatas, mazurkas, waltzes, nocturnes, polonaises, tudes, impromptus, scherzos, and preludes. Many of these works were published only after Chopin's death. Stylistically, they contain elements of both Polish folk music and of the classical tradition of J.S. Bach, Mozart and Schubert, whom Chopin particularly admired. Chopin's innovations in keyboard style, musical form, and harmony were influential throughout the late Romantic period and since. Chopin's music, his association (if only indirect) with political insurrection, his amours and his early death have made him a leading symbol of the Romantic era in the public consciousness. His works remain popular, and he has been the subject of numerous films and biographies of varying degrees of historical accuracy.