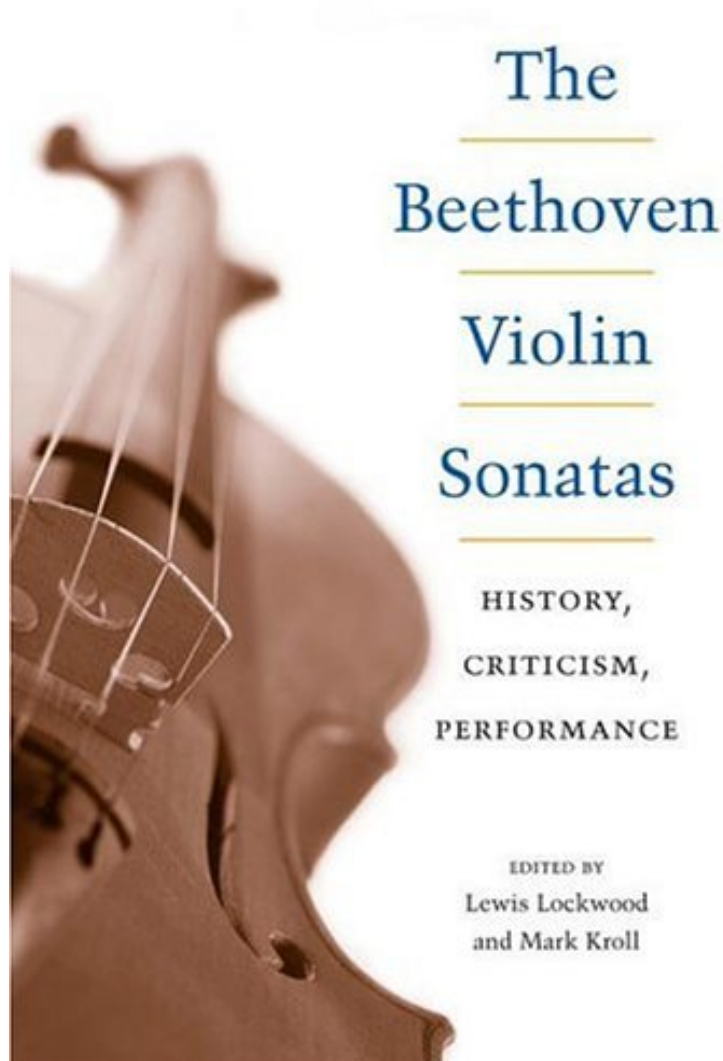


# The Beethoven Violin Sonatas: History, Criticism, Performance

*Lewis Lockwood (Editor), Mark Kroll (Editor)*  
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**Lewis Lockwood (Editor), Mark Kroll (Editor) : The Beethoven Violin Sonatas: History, Criticism, Performance** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Beethoven Violin Sonatas: History, Criticism, Performance:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Accolades for Lockwood and crew By John M. Pendergast This book is for the fairly serious scholar of music interested in an in-depth examination of Beethoven's Violin Sonatas. It is not for beginners in the study of music history. A high degree of familiarity with music theory and with the works in question, as well as with Beethoven's piano sonatas and many other works, is assumed. In that context, however, the book is a treasure, with a great deal of truly original and captivating insights into these unique and emblematic works.

This originality of a necessity creates rather sharp stylistic and theoretical differences among the perspectives of the various authors. Seek the uniform taxonomical approach elsewhere. Musical citations are abundant and beautifully laid out on the page, although occasionally their sheer size demands that they not be placed immediately opposite the relevant text. The notes and bibliographical references are very useful to students seeking further study of the composer and his world.

Beethoven's ten violin sonatas have long been cornerstones of the chamber music repertoire. The Spring and Kreutzer sonatas are the best known of these works, which stand at the pinnacle of music for violin and piano. Lewis Lockwood and Mark Kroll's volume *The Beethoven Violin Sonatas* is the first scholarly book in English devoted exclusively to the Beethoven sonatas, and deals with them in unprecedented depth. It presents seven critical and historical essays by some of the most important American and European Beethoven specialists of our time. The authors examine the sonatas within the history of the genre, the social and cultural context in which they were written, their significance within Beethoven's life and works, and the issues they raise regarding performance practices of the period.

" ... covers the subject systematically, with the whole repertoire covered, at least to some extent."--*Early Music* , 107  
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