

The book was found

The First Four Notes: Beethoven's Fifth And The Human Imagination



Synopsis

A TIME Magazine Top 10 Nonfiction Book of 2012
A New Yorker Best Book of the Year
Los Angeles Magazine's #1 Music Book of the Year
A unique and revelatory book of music history that examines in great depth what is perhaps the best-known and most-popular symphony ever written and its four-note opening, which has fascinated musicians, historians, and philosophers for the last two hundred years. Music critic Matthew Guerrieri reaches back before Beethoven's time to examine what might have influenced him in writing his Fifth Symphony, and forward into our own time to describe the ways in which the Fifth has, in turn, asserted its influence. He uncovers possible sources for the famous opening notes in the rhythms of ancient Greek poetry and certain French Revolutionary songs and symphonies. Guerrieri confirms that, contrary to popular belief, Beethoven was not deaf when he wrote the Fifth. He traces the Fifth's influence in China, Russia, and the United States (Emerson and Thoreau were passionate fans) and shows how the masterpiece was used by both the Allies and the Nazis in World War II. Altogether, a fascinating piece of musical detective work—a treat for music lovers of every stripe.

Book Information

File Size: 1131 KB

Print Length: 386 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: 0804170193

Publisher: Vintage (November 13, 2012)

Publication Date: November 13, 2012

Sold by: Random House LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B0084TWNUY

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Not Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #645,879 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #209

in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Sheet Music & Scores > Composers > Beethoven #224

in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Arts & Photography > Music > Musical Genres > Classical

#410 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > History > World > Modern

Customer Reviews

The title of Matthew Guerrieri's *The First Four Notes* has a rather *In The Beginning* feel. Undeniably those notes mark a new era, be it the early years of the Romantic period, or of instrumental music, even the beginning of symphonies composed with a metronome. The subject matter - the four-second melody which opens Beethoven's *Symphony # 5 in C Minor* - seems too long for a blog post, too short for a book, too specialized for a general audience and too well-trodden for the specialists. Fortunately Guerrieri errs to the side of hardcover in spite of that, briefly exploring every divergence available, from Georg W.F. Hegel to Ralph Waldon Emerson and Charles Ives. But while some readers may bask in the measure's aesthetic and philosophical family tree, others may resort to pruning. Ludwig van Beethoven wrote the Fifth during - and indeed, was largely responsible for - a transitional period in music history. Given, the metronome had not been invented yet, but neither had the conductor's baton or, not insignificantly, the electric motor. Critics reviewed symphonies from sheet music and audiences rarely attended concerts by permanent orchestras; instead, the Fifth was normally "interpreted by either amateur or essentially freelance groups." Rumors must have flourished in this environment, and two survive even today: first, that Beethoven composed the Fifth and all of his subsequent work stone-deaf, and second, that the opening measure - and its refrain throughout the seven-minute allegro - represents the knock of fate, or the knock of death, our one shared fate.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The First Four Notes: Beethoven's Fifth and the Human Imagination
Beethoven - "Pathetique" Piano Sonata No. 8 in C minor (Beethoven Piano Sonatas) (Volume 8)
Beethoven - Complete Piano Concertos: Schirmer's Library of Musical Classics Vol. 4480
Two Pianos, Four Hands Better Note Taking Made Easy (Revised and Expanded Edition): 8 Simple Steps on How to Take Notes (Notes and More Book 1)
The 36-Hour Day, fifth edition: The 36-Hour Day: A Family Guide to Caring for People Who Have Alzheimer Disease, Related Dementias, and Memory Loss (A Johns Hopkins Press Health Book) 5th (fifth) edition
Theory and Practice of Group Psychotherapy, Fifth Edition 5th (fifth) edition (authors) Yalom, Irvin D., Leszcz, Moly (2005) published by Basic Books [Hardcover]
Peds Rehab Notes: Evaluation and Intervention Pocket Guide (Davis's Notes Book)
What Your Fifth Grader Needs to Know: Fundamentals of a Good Fifth-Grade Education (Core Knowledge Series)
The Fifth Knight (The Fifth Knight Series Book 1)
The Blood of the Fifth Knight (The Fifth Knight Series Book 2)
GIS Tutorial for Health, fifth edition: Fifth Edition
Notes from the Underground: A Classic 1864 Russian Novella (Notes from the Underground - Fyodor Dostoyevsky)
The Ex Notes:

Clinical Pocket Guide (Davis's Notes) Derm Notes: Dermatology Clinical Pocket Guide (Davis's Notes) Surgical Notes: A Pocket Survival Guide for the Operating Room (Davis's Notes) LPN Notes: Nurse's Clinical Pocket Guide (Davis's Notes) A First Book of Classical Music: 29 Themes by Beethoven, Mozart, Chopin and Other Great Composers in Easy Piano Arrangements The Symphonic Repertoire, Vol. 2: The First Golden Age of the Viennese Symphony: Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, and Schubert (Volume II) A First Book of Beethoven: 24 Arrangements for the Beginning Pianist with Downloadable MP3s (Dover Music for Piano) Official NCAA Men's Final Four Records Book (Official NCAA Final Four Tournament Records)

[Dmca](#)