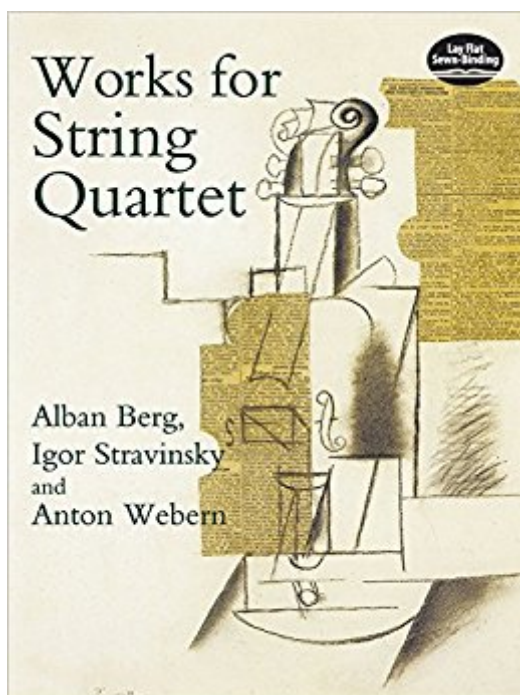


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Works For String Quartet (Dover Chamber Music Scores)



Synopsis

This impressive volume brings together three major 20th-century chamber works: Berg's String Quartet No. 1, Op. 3; Stravinsky's Three Pieces for String Quartet; and Webern's Five Movements for String Quartet. Heavily influenced by the works of Arnold Schoenberg, Alban Berg's String Quartet No. 1 brought its composer into the musical vanguard. Schoenberg declared himself astonished by the "fullness and unconstraint of its musical language, the strength and sureness of its presentation, its careful working and significant originality." Stravinsky recognized his Three Pieces for String Quartet as marking an important change in his art, and this turning point can be regarded as an experiment in new stylistic possibilities. The first piece features a mechanical repetition of a musical figure; the second is highly atonal; and the final piece introduces the austere style to which the composer later returned. Like Berg, Webern was a student of Schoenberg, and the Five Movements for String Quartet both reflects the master's teachings and extends beyond them. Departing from traditional thematic composition and form, these gemlike miniatures anticipate the development of the twelve-tone method.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Igor Stravinsky (1882-1971) is perhaps best known for his revolutionary ballet "Le Sacre du printemps," Robert Craft, the author of more than a dozen books on Stravinsky, continues to write about the composer and conduct his music on recordings.

These are clean, sharp reprints of the scores to Alban Berg's String Quartet Op.3 (1910), 20'13", Igor Stravinsky's Three Pieces for String Quartet (1914/1922), 7'15", and Anton Webern's Five Pieces for String Quartet Op.5 (1909), 11'34". These are among the great monuments of early 20th-century music and should be known by any serious musicologist or quartet lover. This binding is thinner than most of the Dover Scores (51 pp.), but this way, it will open flat on a music stand. It includes no biographical or program notes at all. You can get the same content absolutely free from IMSLP.org as a .pdf download, but then you would need to print it yourself, and the scanned images are not quite as sharp. These are in the public domain in the US, but not everywhere. (105 years old and still under copyright? What a racket! Don't ask about Happy Birthday.) I love these pieces and it is quite instructive to see how the music looks, as well as sounds.

This is a wonderful resource for people looking to study serialism in a chamber music context. These are three masterpieces of the modern string quartet repertoire by three of the greatest composers of the Twentieth Century, all for less than ten bucks, how can you beat that?

Great way to study modern composition and modern composers and the quality of the book is almost perfect great spacing and great size!

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