

CZERNY

THE ART OF FINGER-DEXTERITY

OPUS 740

COMPLETE IN SIX VOLUMES

EDITED BY WILLARD A. PALMER



Carl Czerny in 1833 (Lithograph by Kriehuber)

Carl Czerny (1791-1857)—pupil of Beethoven—teacher of Liszt. This prodigious musical genius has been called “the fountainhead of modern piano playing.” Beethoven not only taught the young Czerny but later entrusted the teaching of his young nephew to him. In 1812 Czerny played the premier performance of Beethoven’s great *Emperor Concerto*.

Czerny was well-equipped to follow the career of a concert pianist, but he was naturally shy, and preferred to spend his years composing and teaching. He was tirelessly industrious. His works number over 1000, including solo pieces, concertos, symphonies, masses, oratorios, requiems, motets, trios, quartets and songs. As a teacher he was among the most celebrated, accepting only the most talented students. His roster included not only the great Liszt, but also Kullak, Leschetitzky, Belleville, Jaell and Döhler, all very important artists of their day. He amassed a considerable fortune, leaving most of it to the Vienna Conservatory and the rest to numerous charities.

Second Edition

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Seen from the Gardens, 1758-1761
by Bernardo Bellotto (Italian, 1720-1780)
Oil on canvas (134 x 238 cm)
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Book 1

C. CZERNY, Op. 740
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No. 1 For evenness of finger action, with a quiet hand.

Molto allegro (♩ = 60-72) ^a

1. *f*

5 (legato)

3

6

9

(legato)

12

^a Begin practicing each exercise at the slowest indicated tempo, or even a slower one.
 As the exercise is mastered, gradually increase speed until the final tempo is attained.