First-edition imprints

First-edition imprints of a work by Chopin are shown below. The Collection’s scores for the work are described on the pages that follow. To go directly to a description, click the score’s imprint in the Bookmarks panel on the left.

NOCTURNES IN B FLAT MINOR, E FLAT MAJOR, B MAJOR

Opus 9

Paris: M. Schlesinger (1287) 1833
Leipzig: Kistner (995) 1832
London: Wessel (916) (917) 1833

Composed 1832
Brown 54
Chominski & Turlo 108
TROIS NOCTURNES | Pour Le Piano | DÉDIÉS A | Madame Camille Pleyel |


p. 6, ‘2e NOCTURNE.’; p. 8, ‘3me NOCTURNE.’.

FOOTLINE: pp. 2–13, ‘M.S. 1287’.

STAMPS: publisher, style mS/A; dealer, Filliette, Boulogne.

ANNOTATIONS: handwritten “2” on each recto page.

1. Date: first-edition inference (date code fe).
2. The number “79” in the address on the title page is an engraver’s error for 97.
NOCTURNES, Opus 9

Paris: Brandus (M.S. 1287) [1851–58]

3 \ NOCTURNES \ POUR \ LE PIANO \ Dédies à \ Madame Camille Pleyel \ PAR \ F. CHOPIN \ A. Lafont, \ Op. 9. « Prix: 7 \ 50 \ PARIS, \ BRANDUS et Cie \ Éditeurs, \ 103. Rue Richelieu \ S\ Petersbourg, \ Maison Brandus. « \ Leipzig, \ Kistner.


Caption title: p. 2, ‘F. CHOPIN Op. 9. \ Trois Nocturnes. \ i\textsuperscript{e} NOCTURNE.’; p. [6], ‘2\textsuperscript{e} NOCTURNE.’; p. 8, ‘3\textsuperscript{e} NOCTURNE.’.

Footline: pp. 2–13, ‘M.S. 1287.’.

Stamps: successor, style BD/B.

1. Date: The lower limit for the date is implied by the address (Table 5A), the upper limit by the publisher stamp.

2. The page number is “2” on p. [6]; it is missing on p. [7].

3. The music plates appear to be the same as those of 9-mS-1.
Leipzig: Kistner (995) [= 1832] 9-Ki-3 M25.C54 N5908


Sub-caption: p. 2, ‘1er | NOCTURNE.’; p. 6, ‘2d | NOCTURNE.’; p. 8, ‘3me | NOCTURNE.’

Footline: pp. 2–13, ‘995’.

Stamps: dealer, Tschertschenthaler, Innsbruck.

1. Date: first-edition inference (date code fe).
2. This score corresponds to Hob-207.
**Leipzig: Kistner (995) [after 1840]**  

The transcription of this title page is the same as that of 9-Ki-3, except here the price is “Pr. \( \frac{17}{2} \) Ngr.” and there is an additional line “No 2 séparément – 5 Ngr.” at the end.


**Caption title:** p. 2, ‘» F. Chopin. Op. 9.’.

**Sub-caption:** p. 2, ‘1\(^{\text{st}}\) | NOCTURNE.’; p. 6, ‘2\(^{\text{d}}\) | NOCTURNE.’; p. 8, ‘3\(^{\text{me}}\) | NOCTURNE.’.

**Footline:** pp. 2–13, ‘995’.

**Stamps:** none.

1. *Date:* currency inference (date code c1), but see 6-Ki-2, note 2.
2. This score corresponds to Hob-208. It is from the same plates as 9-Ki-3, except for the last line of the title page, which is not present in 9-Ki-3.
3. See Chominski & Turlo p. 139 for a discussion of various Kistner re-issues.
The transcription of this title page is the same as that of 9-Ki-1.


FOOTLINE: pp. 2–13, ‘995’.

STAMPS: dealer, Krompholz, Berne.

1. Date: currency inference (date code c1), but see 6-Ki-2, note 2.

2. The layout of this score is the same as that of 9-Ki-1, but the engravings are different. Since the music plates of 9-Ki-1 are the same as those of the first edition 9-Ki-3, it is likely that 9-Ki-2 is later than 9-Ki-1.
NOCTURNES, Opus 9

_Leipzig_: Kistner (995) [after 1840]  
9#2-Ki-1  
M25.C54 N6102

The transcription of this title page is the same as that of 9-Ki-1.


**CAPTION TITLE:** none.

**SUB-CAPTION:** p. 6, ‘2de NOCTURNE.’

**FOOTLINE:** pp. 6–7, ‘995’.

**STAMPS:** none.

1. *Date:* currency inference (date code c1), but see 6-Ki-2, note 2.
2. This score’s music plates appear to be identical to those of 9-Ki-2, except that they consist of only one folio, having only the second nocturne, with p. 6 on the verso of the title page.
NOCTURNES, Opus 9


TROIS NOCTURNES pour le Pianoforte composés et dédiés à Madame Camille Pleyel
PAR FRÉD. CHOPIN. OP. 9. « » (2\textsuperscript{e} ÉDITION) PR. 10 Ngr. NETTO
Propriété de l’Éditeur. Enregistré aux Archives de l’Union. LEIPZIG, FR. KISTNER.
(MEDAILLE D’OR DE L’EMPEREUR D’AUTRICHE) 3616.


sub-caption: p. 2, ‘1\textsuperscript{er} NOCTURNE.’; p. 6, ‘2\textsuperscript{me} NOCTURNE.’; p. 8, ‘3\textsuperscript{me} NOCTURNE.’


stamps: none.

1. Date: based on the plate number (Table 5C).

2. According to Chominski & Turlo (p. 139), the “2\textsuperscript{e} ÉDITION” is Kistner’s final form of Op. 9.

3. This octavo edition is in a small format (26 x 17 cm), perhaps designed for reading rather than playing.
NOCTURNES, Opus 9

London: Wessel (916) [ca 1840] 9#1,2-W-1 M25.C54 N613

Nº [handwritten “7”] OF | WESSEL & Cº. COMPLETE COLLECTION OF | the Compositions | OF | FREDERIC CHOPIN | FOR THE | Piano Forte | Solo & Duet | [list of works, Wessel 1–6] |
7 “MURMURES DE LA SEINE” 1st Set of Nocturnos, | as played by M. LISZT at his Concerts. |
| Price, Solo [handwritten “2/6”] » « Duet [blank] | LONDON, | WESSEL & Cº. Importers and Publishers of, |
| FOREIGN MUSIC, | (by special Appointment) to, H.R.H. the Duchess of Kent. | |
| Nº 67, Frith Street, Corner of Soho Square. |


Caption Title: p. 1, ‘LES MURMURES DE LA SEINE. | Nº 1 de | TROIS NOCTURNES Composés par |
| FRED. CHOPIN.’; p. 6, the same except with “Nº 2.”


Advt: p. [i], ‘[clipped to] THE WORKS OF BEETHOVEN, CHOPIN, LISZT, &c. PIANO SOLO AND ORGAN MUSIC. | No. 67, FRITH STREET, CORNER OF SOHO SQUARE.’. The list of Chopin works for piano solo ends with Op. 42. It includes the present work, Op. 9 (1st set), but with 8 as the opus number. This conflicts with a separate list — the “Series of Modern Trios” — the first entry of which is Chopin’s Op. 8. See 9#3-W-1, note 3.

Stamps: publisher, style W/C?

1. Date: The date of this issue is inferred from the last work listed on the title page, Op. 42, published by Wessel in 1840. It is consistent with the address and advertisement.


Caption title: p. 2, ‘LES MURMURES de la SEINE. | N° 3 de | TROIS NOCTURNES Composés par FRED. CHOPIN.’.


Advt: p. [1], ‘WESSEL and C°’s | NEW PUBLICATIONS OF | FLUTE AND CLARINET MUSIC, | to be had at their Foreign Music Warehouse, N° 6, Frith S! Soho Sq: London.’.

Stamps: publisher, styles W/A and W/B.

1. Date: first-edition inference (date code fe). Brown (p. 59) asserts that Wessel first issued Op. 9 without opus number. This Book 2 has the opus number, but there is no evidence it is not the first issue.
2. The title page gives incorrect keys for the two nocturnes of Book 1.
3. Op. 9 is the second of Chopin’s works issued by Wessel, preceded only by Op. 2.
5. According to Brown (p. 27), “Occasionally Wessel (e.g. in 1841) advertised the first two nocturnes of Op. 9 as ‘Op. 8’, calling the third nocturne ‘Op. 9.’.”
London: Wessel (917) [1848–56] 9#3-W-2 M25.C54 N6132

NOCTURNES, Opus 9


Caption title: p. 2, ‘LES MURMURES de la SEINE, | N° 3 de | TROIS NOCTURNES Composés par FRED. CHOPIN’.


Advt: p. [1], ‘[cut down to] WESSEL & CO.S CATALOGUE OF MODERN PIANOFORTE WORKS, CONTINUED FROM PAGES A. B. C. E. & S.’. There are no Chopin works.

Stamps: publisher, style W/D?

1. Date: Wessel inference (date code W1).

2. This collective title page lacks the line “Solo & Duet” after “Piano Forte”, and does not have the columns of prices of duets. In this respect it corresponds to 6-W-2 and 7-W-3.
Milan: Lucca (1557) [ca 1836] 9-Lu-1 M25.C54 N3906

TROIS | Nocturnes | POUR | PIANO | dédiés a Madame | CAMILLE PLEYEL |
PAR | FR. CHOPIN | 1557 « » Fr. 3 | Op. 9 | Propriete de l’Editeur | MILAN F. LUCCA |
Florence, Dacci « Turin, Blanchi » Naples Girard et C.


Stamps: none.

1. Date: Chominski & Turlo, p. 272.
NOCTURES, Opus 9

Warsaw: Gebethner & Wolff (323) [ca 1863] 9#2-GW-1 M25.C54 N61

OEUVRRES DE FR. CHOPIN. | Vol. VI. | NOCTURES. | [list of works:]
VARSOVIE | chez GEBETHNER & WOLFF.


STAMPS: dealer, Hösick, blind stamp.

1. Date: Chominski & Turlo, p. 261.