

PRELUDES, Opus 28

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.

PRELUDES

Opus 28

Paris: Catelin (560) 1839

Leipzig: Breitkopf & Härtel (6088) 1839

London: Wessel (3098) (3099) 1839

Composed 1838–39

Brown 107

Chominski & Turlo 166

Paris: Catelin (560) [= 1839]

28-Ca-1

M22.C54 P93

Livre 1 (preludes 1–12)

24 | PRÉLUDES | POUR | le Piano, | dédiés à son ami | CAMILLE PLEYEL, | PAR | FRÉD. CHOPIN |
[handwritten “1^{er}”] Livre. « » Prix 7^f 50. | Divisés en deux Livres | PARIS, chez AD. CATELIN et C^{IE}
Editeurs des Compositeurs réunis, Rue Grange Batelière, N^o 26. | Londres, chez Wessel et C^o «
Ad. C. (560) et C^{IE} » Leipzig, chez Breitkopf et Haertel. | Gravé par A. Vialon.

10 leaves (340 x 255 mm): pp. [i] engr title page, [ii, 1] blank, 2–17 engr music, [18] blank.

CAPTION TITLE: p. 2, ‘F. CHOPIN. « » 24 PRÉLUDES.’

SUB-CAPTION: p. 2, ‘I.’; and so on through p. 16, ‘XII.’

FOOTLINE: pp. 2–16, ‘1^{er} Liv: « Ad^e C. (560) & C^{ie} ’; p. 17, ‘1^{er} Liv: Ad^e CATELIN & C^{ie} « Ad^e C. (560) & C^{ie} » 26. Rue Grange Batelière.’

Livre 2 (preludes 13–24)

The title page is identical to that of Livre 1, except for the handwritten volume number.

14 leaves (340 x 255 mm): pp. [i] engr title page, [ii, 1] blank, 2–25 engr music, [26] blank.

CAPTION TITLE: none.

SUB-CAPTION: p. 2, ‘XIII.’; and so on through p. 23, ‘XXIV.’

FOOTLINE: p. 2, ‘2^d Liv: des 24 études [sic] de Chopin. « Ad^e C. (560) & C^{ie} ’; p. 3, ‘2^{er} Liv: Ad^e CATELIN & C^{ie} « Ad^e C. (560) & C^{ie} » 26. Rue Grange Batelière.’; pp. 4–24, ‘2^d Liv: « Ad^e C. (560) & C^{ie} ’; p. 25, same as p. 3.

STAMPS: publisher, style Ca/A on each title page; dealer, Ferrara, Nice (blind stamp, on each title page).

BOUND WITH: 10-Lu-1 and 25-Lu-1.

BINDING: contemporary (?) quarter calf.

1. *Date*: first-edition inference (date code fe).

2. Grabowski (1994, p. 21) found two impressions of the Catelin first edition, of which 28-Ca-1 is the second. The first has “J. CHOPIN” in the caption title and roman numerals for the number of preludes. He does not comment on the price, which presumably is the same in the two impressions.

3. Hob-298 (Livre 2 only), although dated as a first edition, has a price of 9 f, and according to Grabowski (1994, p. 33) is in fact the first of several issues by Brandus, who acquired the copyright in 1846.

4. In the first editions, the opus number appeared only in that of Breitkopf & Härtel (28-BH-1).

Paris: Brandus (4594) [after 1850]

28-Bra-1

M25.C54 P806

Livre 1 (preludes 1–12)

24 | PRÉLUDES | POUR | Le Piano, | *dédiés à son ami* | CAMILLE PLEYEL, | PAR | FRÉD. CHOPIN |
Op: 28. « » Prix 9^f. | Divisés en deux Livres | N^o [blank] | PARIS, | chez BRANDUS et C^{ie} Editeurs.
103. Rue Richelieu. | S^t Petersbourg, Maison Brandus. | Londres, chez Wessel et C^o « B. et C^{ie} 4594. »
Leipzig, chez Breitkoff [sic] et Haertel. | Gravé par A. Vialon.

10 leaves (333 x 256 mm): pp. [i] engr title page, [ii, 1] blank, 2–17 engr music, [18] blank.

CAPTION TITLE: p. 2, 'F. CHOPIN. « » 24 PRELUDES.'

SUB-CAPTION: p. 2, 'I.'; and so on through p. 16, 'XII.'

FOOTLINE: p. 2, plate too worn to read, but see Livre 2; pp. 3–16, '1^{er} Liv: « B. et C^{ie} 4594.'; p. 17, '1^{er} Liv: Brandus et C^{ie} « B. et C^{ie} 4594. » 97 rue Richelieu.'

PLATES: The plates are those of the Catelin edition, 28-Ca-1, with changes (on the title page and in the footline) required by the Brandus republication.

Livre 2 (preludes 13–24)

The title page is identical to that of Livre 1.

14 leaves (333 x 256 mm): pp. [i] engr title page, [ii, 1] blank, 2–25 engr music, [26] blank.

CAPTION TITLE: none.

SUB-CAPTION: p. 2, 'XIII.'; and so on through p. 23, 'XXIV.'

FOOTLINE: p. 2, '2^d Liv: des 24 études [sic] de Chopin. « B. et C^{ie} 4594.'; pp. 3–24, '2^d Liv: « B. et C^{ie} 4594.'; p. 25, '2^d Liv: « B. et C^{ie} 4594. » Brandus et C^{ie} 97 rue Richelieu.'

PLATES: see Livre I.

STAMPS: publisher, style Bra/A on Livre 1.

ANNOTATIONS: handwritten leaf numbers 152–161 on recto pages of Livre I, and 162–175 on Livre II.

BOUND WITH: The two books are in the same enclosure.

1. *Date*: based on the address on the title page.

2. The title page is consistent with impression "e" in the list of six described by Grabowski (1994, p. 34), dated by him 1852–54.

PRELUDES, Opus 28

Leipzig: Breitkopf & Härtel (6088) [= 1839]

28-BH-1

M25.C54 P8

Vingt-quatre | PRÉLUDES | pour le Piano | dédiés à son ami | J. C. KESSLER | par | FRÉD. CHOPIN. |
Oeuvre 28. « Propriété des Editeurs. » Pr. 2 Rthlr. | *Leipsic, chez Breitkopf & Härtel.* | *Paris, chez Pleyel & C*
? | 6088. | *Enregistré dans l'Archive de l'Union.*

20 leaves (317 x 258 mm): pp. [1] lith title page, [2, 3] blank, 4–39 engr music, [40] blank.

CAPTION TITLE: p. 4, '» F. CHOPIN. Op. 28.'

SUB-CAPTION: p. 4, 'N^o 1.'; and so on through p. 36, 'N^o 24.'

FOOTLINE: pp. 4–39, '6088.'

IMPOSITION: This score consists of bifolia gathered as (in sequence) one section in 2s (one bifolium), four sections in 4s (each two bifolia), and one section in 2s (one bifolium). The first and last sections are tipped to their adjacent neighbors.

STAMPS: publisher, style BH/D; dealer, Holtz, St. Petersburg.

1. *Date*: first-edition inference (date code fe).

2. Only Breitkopf & Härtel issued Op. 28 in one volume.

3. This score corresponds to Hob-295 (strictly 296 with no wrapper); there is also a later variant (Hob-297).

PRELUDES, Opus 28

Leipzig: Breitkopf & Härtel (6088) [after 1839]

28-BH-3

M25.C54 P802

Vingt-quatre | PRÉLUDES | pour le Piano | dédiés à son ami | J. C. KESSLER | par |
FRÉDÉRIC CHOPIN. | Op, 28. | Propriété des Editeurs. | *Leipsig, chez Breitkopf & Härtel.* |
Paris, chez Pleyel & C^o | *Pr. 2 Thlr.* | *Enregistré aux Archives de l'Union.* | 6088.

20 leaves (329 x 260 mm): pp. [1] lith title page, [2, 3] blank, 4–39 lith music, [40] blank.

CAPTION TITLE: p. 4, '» F. CHOPIN. Op. 28.'

SUB-CAPTION: p. 4, 'N^o 1.'; and so on through p. 36, 'N^o 24.'

FOOTLINE: pp. 4–39, '6088.'

IMPOSITION: This score consists of one standard gathering of 10 nested bifolia.

STAMPS: publisher, none; dealer, Roothaan, Amsterdam.

1. *Date*: This score is lithographed and differs from the first edition in various ways, but to my knowledge there is no other evidence of a date (except that the currency indicates a date before 1872).
 2. Only Breitkopf & Härtel issued Op. 28 in one volume.
 3. This score corresponds to Hob-297.
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PRELUDES, Opus 28

Leipzig: Breitkopf & Härtel (6088) [1872–73]

28-BH-2

M25.C54 P801

Vingt-quatre | PRÉLUDES | pour le Piano | DÉDIÉS À SON AMI | J. C. KESSLER |
par | FRÉDÉRIC CHOPIN. | Op. 28. | En quatre Cahiers. | Propriété des Editeurs. |
Leipzig, chez Breitkopf & Härtel. | *Paris, chez Pleyel & Co.* | *Cah. I.* [Pr. 15 Ngr. ÷ Mk. 1.50.]
Cah. II. [Pr. 15 Ngr. ÷ Mk. 1.50.] *Cah. III.* [Pr. 20 Ngr. ÷ Mk. 2.–] *Cah. IV.* [Pr. 15 Ngr. ÷ Mk. 1.50.] |
Enregistré aux Archives de l'Union. | 6088. (1 – 4)

8 leaves (326 x 258 mm): pp. [1] lith title page, [2] blank, 3–15 lith music, [16] blank.

CAPTION TITLE: none.

SUB-CAPTION: p. 3, 'N^o 13.'; and so on through p. 15, 'N^o 18.'

FOOTLINE: pp. 3–15, '6088.'

STAMPS: none.

1. *Date*: currency inference (date code c2).

2. This score is Cahier III. Op. 28 was published in four books also by Jurgenson (28-Jur-1).

London: Wessel (3098) [= 1839]

28-W-1

M25.C54 P805 v. 1

Book 1 (preludes 1–14)

Book [handwritten "1"] of | *Twenty Four* | GRAND PRELUDES. | *through all Keys.* | *for the* | Piano Forte. | PERFORMED ÷ BY THE AUTHOR « *Dedicated to his Friend,* » AT THE COURT ÷ OF ST CLOUD. | Camille Pleyel, | BY | FRED. CHOPIN. | *Copyright of the Publishers.* | OP. [blank] « *Ent. Sta. Hall.* » *Price 6/- ea.* | THIS WORK FORMS BOOK 5. & 6. OF CHOPIN'S GRAND STUDIES. | LONDON, | WESSEL & C^o *Importers of Foreign Music & Publishers of all the Works of* | CHOPIN, KUHLAU, HUMMEL, &c. | N^o 67, Frith Street, Corner of Soho Square. | *Paris, Catelin & C^o Leipzig, Breitkopf[sic] & C^o*

11 leaves (340 x 250 mm): pp. [i] engr title page, [ii, 1] blank, 2–20 engr music.

CAPTION TITLE: p. 2, 'TWENTY FOUR GRAND PRELUDES, BY FREDERIC CHOPIN. | DEDICATED to CAMILLE PLEYEL.'

SUB-CAPTION: p. 2, 'N^o 1.'; and so on through p. 20, 'N^o 14.'

FOOTLINE: p. 2, 'BOOK 1. « (W & C^o N^o 3098.)'; pp. 3–19, 'CHOPIN. 24 Grand Preludes. Bk: 1. « (W & C^o N^o 3098.)'; p. 20, 'CHOPIN. 24 Grand Preludes. Bk: 1. « WESSEL & C^o N^o 67, FRITH ST CORNER OF SOHO SQUARE. » (N^o 3098.)'

IMPOSITION: This copy of Book 1 is disbound, but appears to be gathered in single bifolia. Which leaf is a singleton is not clear, but probably a final blank leaf is missing.

Book 2 (preludes 15–24)

not present in this copy

STAMPS: publisher, style W/C.

1. *Date*: first-edition inference (date code fe).
 2. In the first editions of this work, the opus number appeared only in that of Breitkopf & Härtel (see 28-BH-1).
 3. It is curious that Wessel put 14 preludes into Book 1, leaving only 10 for Book 2. Perhaps this was done because it gives the two books about the same number of pages.
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PRELUDES, Opus 28

London: Wessel (3098) (3099) [1848–56]

28-W-2

M25.C54 P804

Book 1 (preludes 1–14)

N^o [handwritten “28”] OF | WESSEL & C^o’S COMPLETE COLLECTION | OF | *the Compositions* | OF | FREDERIC CHOPIN | FOR THE | Piano Forte. | Solo & Duet | [list of works, Wessel 1–27] | 28 TWENTY FOUR GRAND PRELUDES *through all Keys* | 5th Set of Studies. Op. 28. 6 /– | 29 IDEM 6th Set of Studies. Op. 28. 6 /– | [list of works, Wessel 30–71] | Ent. Sta. Hall. « Copyrights. » Price . Solo [handwritten “6 /”] ÷ “ Duet [blank] | LONDON, | WESSEL & C^o Importers and Publishers of FOREIGN MUSIC, | (*by special Appointment*) to H.R.H. the Duchess of Kent. | N^o 229, Regent Street, Corner of Hanover Street.

11 leaves (346 x 252 mm): pp. [i] engr title page, [ii] blank, [1] advt, 2–20 engr music.

CAPTION TITLE: p. 2, ‘BOOK 1, of | TWENTY FOUR GRAND PRELUDES, BY FREDERIC CHOPIN. | DEDICATED to CAMILLE PLEYEL.’

SUB-CAPTION: p. 2, ‘N^o 1.’; and so on through p. 20, ‘N^o 14.’

FOOTLINE: p. 2, ‘BOOK 1. « (W. & C^o N^o 3098.)’; pp. 3–19, ‘CHOPIN. 24 Grand Preludes. Bk: 1. « (W. & C^o N^o 3098.)’; p. 20, ‘CHOPIN. 24 Grand Preludes. Bk: 1. « WESSEL & C^o » (N^o 3098.)’. The imprint on p. 20 is worn and is not fully legible (or perhaps the address was removed).

ADVT: p. [1], ‘PAGE A. | CATALOGUE OF WESSEL AND CO.’S CHOICE PUBLICATIONS OF MODERN PIANO-FORTE MUSIC.’ The lists include Chopin works through op. 27 (entry 84 in the series “L’Amateur Pianiste”).

IMPOSITION: The title leaf is tipped to leaf 2. Its blank conjugate was removed, perhaps in binding. There is no singleton.

Book 2 (preludes 15–24)

The title page is identical to that of Book 1, except with handwritten “29” instead of “28” (first line).

14 leaves (346 x 255 mm): pp. [i] engr title page, [ii] blank, [1] advt, 2–24 engr music, [25, 26] blank.

CAPTION TITLE: p. 2, ‘TWENTY FOUR GRAND PRELUDES, BY FREDERIC CHOPIN. | DEDICATED TO CAMILLE PLEYEL.’

SUB-CAPTION: p. 2, ‘N^o 15.’; and so on through p. 21, ‘N^o 24.’

FOOTLINE: p. 2, ‘BOOK 2. « (W. & C^o N^o 3099.)’; p. 3, ‘CHOPIN. 24 Grand Preludes. Book: 2. « (W. & C^o N^o 3099.)’; pp. 4–6, ‘CHOPIN. 24 Grand Preludes. « (W. & C^o N^o 3099.)’; p. 7, ‘CHOPIN. 24 Grand Preludes. Bk: 2. « (W. & C^o N^o 3099.)’; pp. 8–16, same as p. 3; pp. 17–23, same as p. 7; p. 24, ‘CHOPIN. 24 Grand Preludes. Bk: 2. « WESSEL & C^o » (N^o 3099.)’. The imprint on p. 24 is worn and is not fully legible (or the address was removed).

ADVT: p. [1], same as in Book 1.

STAMPS: publisher, style W/D on each title page.

BOUND WITH: The two books are in the same enclosure.

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

Moscow: Jurgenson (2004a) (2004b) 1875

28-Jur-1

M25.C54 P84

Livres 1, 2 (preludes 1–12)

EDITION JURGENSON. | OEUVRES DE FR. CHOPIN. | REVUES DOIGTÉES ET
SOIGNEUSEMENT | CORRIGÉES D'APRÈS LES ÉDITIONS | DE PARIS, LONDRES ET LEIPSIC |
PAR CHARLES KLINDWORTH | SEULE ÉDITION AUTHENTIQUE. |

[list of Chopin pianoforte works (see notes 3 and 4 below), including the following entry in Tome III:]

„ [Op.] 28. Vingt-quatre Préludes	1 [Rs.] 35 [K.]
Livr. 1. C dur, A moll, G dur, E moll, D dur, H moll	— 30
„ 2. A dur, Fis moll, E dur, Cis moll, H dur, Gis moll	— 35
„ 3. Fis dur, Es moll, Des dur, B moll, As dur, F moll	— 50
„ 4. Es dur, C moll, B dur, G moll, F dur, D moll	— 45

[Livres 1, 2 (preludes 1–12) are present in this copy, but Livres 3, 4 are not.]

Prix de six volumes Rb. 15. | Moscou chez P. Jurgenson. | St. Petersburg J. Jurgenson. |
NEW YORK & PHILADELPHIA, EDW. SCHUBERTH & C^o. | [ten agents in other locations, including
Stanley Lucas, Weber & C^o in London] | [transliteration of bottom line (in Cyrillic):] Dozvokheno
tsenzuroyu. Moskva, 15 anvary 1875 g. « » Tipografiya A. I. Mamontova i K^o, Leont'evskiy per., N^o 5.]

7 leaves (323 x 255 mm): pp. [1] lith title page, 2–14 lith music.

CAPTION TITLE: p. 2, 'A M^f J. C. Kessler. « | VINGT QUATRE PRÉLUDES. | » Liv. I. ÷ Fr. Chopin,
Op. 28.'

SUB-CAPTION: p. 2, 'N^o 1.'; and so on through p. 13, 'N^o 12.'

FOOTLINE: p. 2, 'Gravé et Impr. chez P. Jurgenson à Moscou. « 2004^a »; pp. 3–7, '2004^a »; pp. 8–14,
2004^b '.

IMPOSITION: The original blank leaf at the end is missing; a replacement has been supplied by a
conservator.

STAMPS: agent, Stanley Lucas, Weber, London.

1. *Date*: The date is given explicitly on the bottom line of the title page.
2. Translation of bottom line on title page: 'Authorized by the censor. Moscow, 15 January 1875 « » Printed by A. I. Mamontov & C^o, Leontevsky St., N^o 5.'
3. The collective title page of this score has three columns that list six volumes, each with a range of Chopin works in opus-number order. The volumes' six ranges of opus numbers are: 1–11, 12–21, 22–30, 31–45, 46–58, 59–72. At the end of the sixth volume are the Variations in E major (presumably B14), 'Trois Nouvelles Etudes' (B130), two Mazurkas in A minor (B134 and B140), and three works of doubtful authenticity (two mazurkas and a waltz).
4. The above title-page transcription shows only the entry for Op. 28 in volume III. It indicates that Op. 28 was issued in four books, each with a group of six preludes. This score has the first two groups, with two plate numbers, as shown in the imprint above, but with continuous pagination and no caption title for the second group. As it lacks the original, presumably blank leaf conjugate to the title page, perhaps it is half of an issue of the complete work.

PRELUDES, Opus 28

Milan: Lucca (2274) [ca 1839]

28-Lu-1

M25.C54 P803 v.2

Livre I (preludes 1–12)
not present in this copy

Livre II (preludes 13–24)

24 | PRÉLUDES | POUR | le Piano | dédiés à son ami | CAMILLE PLEYEL, |
PAR | FRÉD. CHOPIN | Divisés en deux Livres | N^o 2273–74 « » Liv. 1 F.4 ÷ Liv.2 [sic] F. 6 |
MILAN | Chez F. Lucca S. Marguerite N. 1131

14 leaves (332 x 247 mm): pp. [i] engr title page, [ii, 1] blank, 2–25 engr music, [26] blank.

CAPTION TITLE: none.

SUB-CAPTION: p. 2, 'XIII.'; and so on through p. 23, 'XXIV.'.

FOOTLINE: pp. 2–25, '2274'.

STAMPS: none.

I. *Date:* Chominski & Turlo, p. 272.
