

IMPROMPTU, Opus 29

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.

IMPROMPTU IN A FLAT MAJOR Opus 29

Paris: M. Schlesinger (2467) 1837

Leipzig: Breitkopf & Härtel (5850) 1838

London: Wessel (2166) 1837

Composed 1837

Brown 110

Chominski & Turlo 43

IMPROMPTU, Opus 29

Paris: M. Schlesinger (2467) [= 1837]

29-mS-1

M25.C54 I3

IMPROMPTU | *Pour le Piano* | Dédicé à | *Mademoiselle* | CAROLINE DE LOBAU | Par | F. CHOPIN |
A.L. | *Opera*. 29. « » *Prix*. 6.^f | *Propriété des Editeurs*. | *PARIS*, chez *Maurice SCHLESINGER*, *Editeur*,
Rue Richelieu, 97 | *Londres Wessel & C.* « » *Leipzig chez Breitkopf & Haertel*

6 leaves (332 x 256 mm): pp. [i] engr title page, [ii, 1] blank, 2–9 engr music, [10] blank.

CAPTION TITLE: p. 2, 'CHOPIN. Op: 29 « | IMPROMPTU.'.

FOOTLINE: pp. 2–9, 'M.S. 2467.'.

STAMPS: publisher, style mS/B.

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

IMPROMPTU, Opus 29

Paris: H. Lemoine (5385) [ca 1859]

29-hL-1

M25.C54 I312

à Mademoiselle | Caroline de Lobau. | IMPROMPTU | POUR | PIANO | PAR | FR. CHOPIN |
OP. 29. | Prix: 6.^f | P. | PARIS. | Henry LEMOINE, Editeur, | Rue S^t Honoré, 256. |
COMMISSION (HL. 5385.) EXPORTATION. | Imp. Léon Salme, Rue du Louvre, 18.

6 leaves (321 x 255 mm): pp. [i] engr title page, [ii, i] blank, 2–8 engr music, [9, 10] blank.

CAPTION TITLE: p. 2, 'IMPROMPTU | FR. CHOPIN. Op: 29. « » à M^{elle} Caroline de LOBAU.'

FOOTLINE: p. 2, '13^e des Tablettes du Pianiste de Hry LEMOINE. « 5385. HL. » M^{me} V^e RIS graveur.';
pp. 3–8, '5385. HL.'; p. 9, '5385. HL. » Paris Imp: Léon Salme rue du Louvre 18.'

STAMPS: successor, style aL/C. In the center is "894,497".

1. *Date*: based on the plate number (Devriès & Lesure, p. 280).
 2. An owner's signature is on p. 2.
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Leipzig: Breitkopf & Härtel (5850) [ater 1840]

29-BH-1

M25.C54 I3I c.1

IMPROMPTU | POUR LE | Pianoforte | dédié | à *Mademoiselle* | LA COMTESSE DE LOBAU |
par | FRÉD. CHOPIN. | Oeuv. 29. « » Pr. 15 Ngr. | *Propriété des Editeurs*. | *Leipsic*, chez Breitkopf & Härtel.
| *Paris*, chez M. Schlesinger. | *Londres*, chez Wessel & C^o | *S^t Petersburg*, chez Bernard & Holtz « »
Varsovie, chez G. Sennewald. | *Enregistré aux Archives de l'Union*.

5 leaves (347 x 272 mm): pp. [1] lith title page, [2] blank, 3–8 engr music, [9, 10] blank.

CAPTION TITLE: p. 3, '» F. CHOPIN. Op. 29.'

SUB-CAPTION: p. 3, 'IMPROMPTU.'

FOOTLINE: pp. 3–8, '5850'.

STAMPS: publisher, style BH/F; dealer, Micko, Prague?

1. *Date*: currency inference (date code c1).
 2. Except for the price, the syntax of this title page is identical to that of the first edition, as transcribed by Chominski & Turlo (pp. 96–97).
 3. Three non-first editions are mentioned by Chominski & Turlo (p. 97), all with price 15 Ngr.: (a) an engraved issue that, like the first edition, does not have the plate number on the title page; (b) a somewhat later engraved issue with title page shown in their plate 22; (c) a still later re-engraved issue with title page shown in their plate 23.
 4. This collection's 29-BH-1 corresponds to variant (a); 29-BH-4 and 29-BH-3 correspond to variant (b); and 29-BH-2 corresponds to variant (c), except that it is lithographed.
 5. Hoboken has three Breitkopf scores of Op. 29: Hob-301 corresponds to variant (c), while Hob-302 and 303 are described as like 301 but with "Breitkopf & Härtel in Leipzig" in the footline on p. 2. To this extent they appear to qualify as a fourth variant.
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IMPROMPTU, Opus 29

Leipzig: Breitkopf & Härtel (5850) [after 1840]

29-BH-4

M25.C54 I31 c.3

IMPROMPTU | pour le | Pianoforte | dédié | à *Mademoiselle* | LA COMTESSE DE LOBAU |
par | FRÉD. CHOPIN. | Oeuv. 29. « Propriété des Editeurs. » Pr. 15 Ngr. |
Leipzig, chez Breitkopf & Härtel. | Paris, chez M. Schlesinger. Londres, chez Wessel & C^o |
S^t Petersbourg, chez Bernard & Holtz. Varsovie, chez G. Sennewald. | 5850. |
Enregistré aux Archives de l'Union.

5 leaves (314 x 257 mm): pp. [1] lith title page, [2] blank, 3–8 engr music, [9] blank, [10] advt.

CAPTION TITLE: p. 3, '» F. CHOPIN. Op. 29.'

SUB-CAPTION: p. 3, 'IMPROMPTU.'

FOOTLINE: pp. 3–8, '5850.'

ADVT: p. [10], 'Publications Nouvelles pour le Pianoforte | de | BREITKOPF & HÆRTEL à LEIPZIG.'
The list does not have works by Chopin.

IMPOSITION: Leaf 3 is a singleton.

STAMPS: publisher, style BH/C.

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1. *Date*: currency inference (date code c1).
 2. This score corresponds to variant (b) identified in 29-BH-1, note 3.
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IMPROMPTU, Opus 29

Leipzig: Breitkopf & Härtel (5850) [after 1840]

29-BH-3

M25.C54 I31 c.2

The transcription of this title page is the same as that of 29-BH-4.

4 leaves (324 x 251 mm): pp. [1] lith title page, [2] blank, 3–8 engr music.

CAPTION TITLE: p. 3, '» F. CHOPIN. Op. 29.'

SUB-CAPTION: p. 3, 'IMPROMPTU.'

FOOTLINE: pp. 3–8, '5850.'

IMPOSITION: Leaf 3 is a singleton. The original leaf 5 (presumably blank) is missing; a replacement conjugate to the title leaf has been supplied by a conservator.

STAMPS: publisher, style BH/C.

1. *Date*: currency inference (date code c1).

2. This score corresponds to variant (b) identified in 29-BH-1, note 3.

IMPROMPTU, Opus 29

Leipzig: Breitkopf & Härtel (5850) [after 1840]

29-BH-2

M25.C54 I313 c1

IMPROMPTU | pour le | Pianoforte | dédié | à Mademoiselle | LA COMTESSE DE LOBAU |
par | FRÉD. CHOPIN. | Op. 29. | Propriété des Editeurs. | Leipzig, chez Breitkopf & Härtel. |
Paris, chez M. Schlesinger. Londres, chez Wessel & C^o. | St. Petersbourg, chez Bernard & Holtz.
Varsovie, chez G. Sennewald. | *Pr. 15 Ngr.* | *Enregistré aux Archives de l'Union.* | 5850.

4 leaves (340 x 270 mm): pp. [1] lith title page, 2–7 lith music, [8] blank.

CAPTION TITLE: p. 2, 'IMPROMPTU. | » F. Chopin, Op. 29.'

FOOTLINE: p. 2, 'Stich und Druck von Breitkopf & Härtel in Leipzig. « 5850'; pp. 3–7, '5850'.

WRAPPER (light brown): pp. [1] same as title page, [2, 3] blank, [4] advt.

ADVT: wrapper p. [4], 'Publications Nouvelles pour le Pianoforte | de | BREITKOPF & HÆRTEL à
LEIPZIG.' The list does not have works by Chopin.

TEXT: The layout of the music differs from that of 29-BH-1 (which corresponds to that of the first edition).

STAMPS: publisher, style BH/G.

1. *Date*: currency inference (date code c1); also see note 2.
 2. Chominski & Turlo (p. 97) assign a date *ca* 1860, without explanation.
 3. Except that it is lithographed, this score corresponds to variant (c) identified in 29-BH-1, note 3.
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Leipzig: Breitkopf & Härtel (5850) [after 1840]

29-BH-5

M25.C54 I313 c2

The transcription of this title page is the same as that of 29-BH-2.

4 leaves (320 x 253 mm): pp. [1] lith title page, 2–7 lith music, [8] blank.

CAPTION TITLE: p. 2, 'IMPROMPTU. I » F. Chopin, Op. 29.'

FOOTLINE: p. 2, 'Breitkopf & Härtel in Leipzig. « 5850'; pp. 3–7, '5850'.

STAMPS: publisher, style BH/I.

1. *Date*: based on the change of currency from Groschen to Neugroschen.
 2. Except that it is lithographed, this score corresponds to variant (c) identified in 29-BH-1, note 3. It is bibliographically identical to 29-BH-2 with one exception: in the footline of p. 2 the words "Stich und Druck" were removed.
 3. The layout of the music in variant (c) differs from that of variant (a) and (b) (which are the same in layout). At least four of the six music plates were re-engraved.
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IMPROMPTU, Opus 29

Cleveland: Brainard (5100) [after 1865]

29-Brainard-1

M25.C54 I314

24 | CLASSICAL COMPOSITIONS | for PIANO by | Eminent European Composers |

No. 1. <i>Impromptu Op. 29.</i>	<i>Chopin.</i>	3½	No. 2. <i>Tarentelle Op. 85. No. 2.</i>	<i>Steph. Heller.</i>	5
“ 3. <i>Promenade Op. 78. No. 6.</i>	<i>Steph. Heller.</i>	3½	“ 4. <i>Tarentella Op. 72.</i>	<i>J. Leybuch.</i>	6
“ 5. <i>Leisure Hour Op. 80. No. 2.</i>	<i>Heller.</i>	3½	“ 6. <i>Autrefois.</i>	<i>F. Liszt.</i>	3½
“ 7. <i>Songs without Words. Bk. 7.</i>	<i>Mendelssohn.</i>	8½			

Published by S. Brainard's Sons. Cleveland. | Entered according to Act of Congress [... ?]

8 leaves (332 x 259 mm): pp. [1] lith title page, 2–7 engr music, [8] blank.

CAPTION TITLE: p. 2, 'IMPROMPTU. | » *F. CHOPIN, Op. 29.*'.

FOOTLINE: pp. 2–7, '5100'.

STAMPS: none.

1. *Date:* The firm “S. Brainard's Sons” occupied premises in Cleveland from 1866 to 1889 (Dichter & Shapiro, p. 175). A smaller range of uncertainty might be inferred from the plate number, but I have not found that information.
2. The price code is based on the unit \$0.10 (Dichter & Shapiro p. xxiii). Thus, for the Impromptu, “3½” corresponds to \$0.35.

IMPROMPTU, Opus 29

London: Wessel (2166) [1848-56]

07-2C

29-W-1

not cataloged

N^o [handwritten "30"] OF | WESSEL & C^o.'S COMPLETE COLLECTION | OF | *the Compositions* | OF |
FREDERIC CHOPIN | FOR THE | Piano Forte. | Solo & Duet | [list of works, Wessel 1-29] |
30 FIRST IMPROMPTU *in A* [flat] *Op. 29. 2/6* [*Duet*] 3/6 | [list of works, Wessel 31-71] |
Ent. Sta. Hall. « Copyrights. » Price. Solo [handwritten "2/6"] ÷ "*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.

5 leaves (323 x 258 mm): pp. [i] engr title page, [ii] blank, [1] advt, 2-7 engr music, [8] blank.

CAPTION TITLE: p. 2, 'IMPROMPTU, *Composé par FREDERIC CHOPIN. (OP: 28 (sic))*'.

FOOTLINE: p. 2, 'W & C^o N^o 2166'; pp. 3-6, 'PIANISTE MODERNE, N^o 57. «
(W. & C^o N^o 2166)'; p. 7, 'PIANISTE MODERNE, N^o 57. (N^o 2166) «
WESSEL & C^o » N^o 229, Regent St^t, Corner of Hanover St^t'.

ADVT: p. [1], 'PAGE A. | CATALOGUE OF WESSEL & CO.'S CHOICE PUBLICATIONS OF
MODERN PIANO-FORTE MUSIC.'. The latest Chopin work in the lists is Op. 26.

STAMPS: publisher, oval blind stamp style W/D; dealer, oval blind stamp "R. COCKS & C^o |
20 1 51. | 6 NEW BURLINGTON St^t".

BINDING: disbound.

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1. *Date*: Wessel inference (date code W1). Note that the Cocks dealer stamp is dated 1851.
 2. Apropos the caption title, (Brown, p. 116) states that "The English edition was called 'Op. 28' for many years."
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