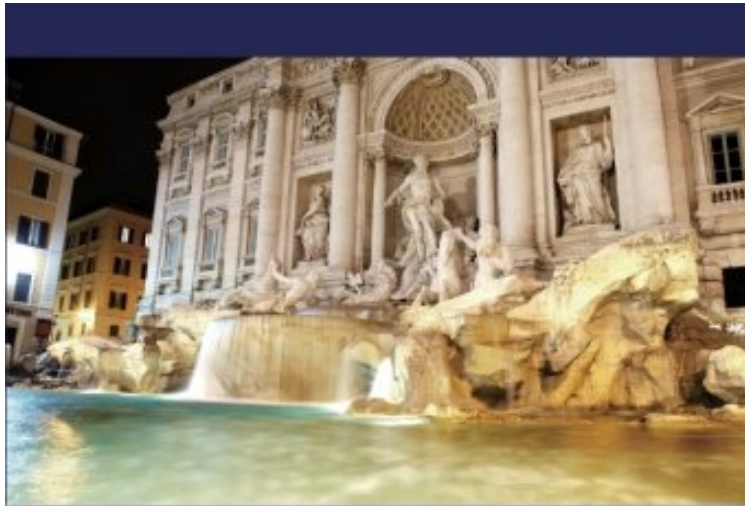


[Library ebook] Franz Liszt - THE DANTE SONATA: The origin, the form and the significance of the Dante Sonata

## **Franz Liszt - THE DANTE SONATA: The origin, the form and the significance of the Dante Sonata**

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The origin, the form and the significance of the Dante Sonata



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The present document is a reflection upon Liszt's most important piece, the Dante Sonata from the cycle *Annes de Pelrinage*. It represents the pinnacle achievement of the Italian Years and it is considered one of the most difficult pieces to play from the standard repertoire. The first chapter, *A Foray through Liszt's Annes de Pelrinage*, is a brief description of all pieces comprised in all volumes of the cycle. The second chapter, *The Origin of the Dante Sonata*, clarifies the circumstances of the compositional inspiration and explains the controversy of the piece as related to Victor Hugo's poem. The third chapter, *The Form and its Significance*, emphasizes the fantasy elements contained in the sonata. The fourth chapter, *A Selective Musical Analysis*, is a detailed analysis of four major musical components: the triton motive, the thematic transformations of the themes, the rhythmical pattern and the harmonic structure. The commentary in the Afterword defends my personal opinion that the piece possesses an non-programmatic character despite its allusive title *Après une lecture du Dante*.