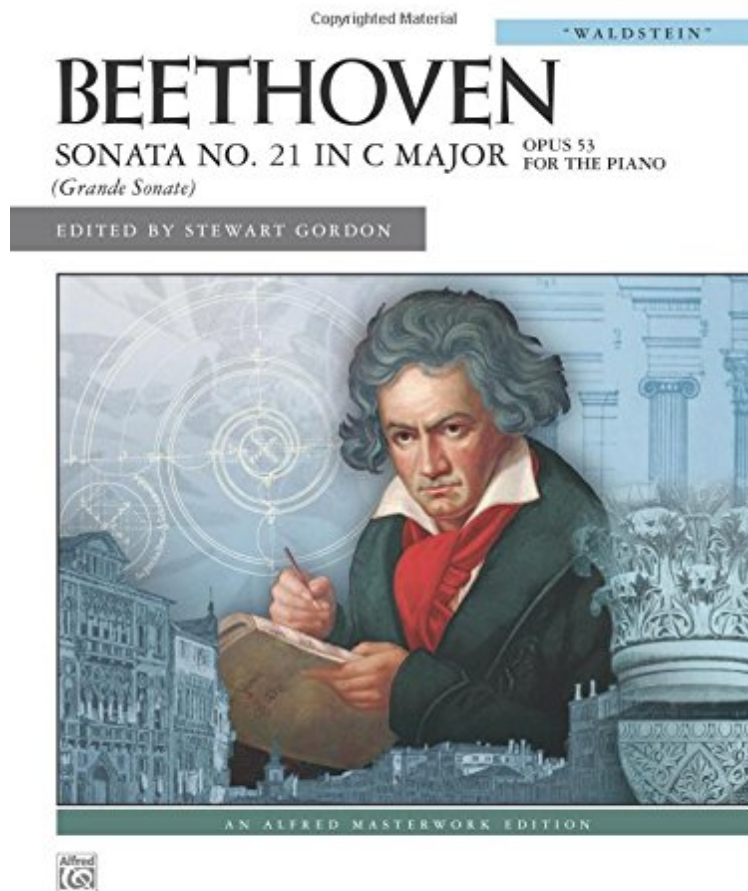


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Count Ferdinand Ernest Gabriel von Waldstein, to whom the Sonata No. 21 in C Major, Op. 53, is dedicated, was a longtime patron of the composer. Waldstein wrote to Beethoven, "May you receive the spirit of Mozart through the hands of Haydn." The opening theme of repeated chords begins the excitement found throughout this work. Dr.

Stewart Gordon's editions of Beethoven's most popular piano sonatas provide the key to a stylistic performance. Thorough research of the earliest available sources has enabled Dr. Gordon to produce the most accurate reflection of the composer's intent. Each sonata contains helpful fingering suggestions and performance recommendations. Other editors' conclusions are noted where performance options are open to interpretation.