

Mp3 Fredrick Hoffer - Cd# 2 Piano Suite Number One



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The first in a series to be called "A Celebration of the Piano." 14 MP3 Songs CLASSICAL: Contemporary, BLUES: Piano Blues Details: A "Celebration of the Piano" will consist of twenty new CD's of piano music, plus the ones I have already given you, making somewhere around twenty five CD's. That's over a full day of continuous music, about 350 pieces in all. I hope to put them out at two week intervals, but that depends on how many changes I have to make to get them recorded properly. I already have all the music ready to record, and some of them are ready to go. However, this present CD required twelve different masters before I got it right. I hope that will be an exception to the rule. I don't expect that you will like all of the music, nor do I expect that you will buy all of the CD's. However, CDBaby allows me to post two minute clips of the music as samples, and I will post five examples from each CD. That will allow you to follow along without making an investment. No longer much in favor, the piano is a unique instrument. It sings softly, and it shouts imperiously. It can play a love song or a stirring march. It can play harmoniously or discordantly, and it all sounds good. It has the power of a full orchestra, and many composers have used it to block out their orchestral compositions, because it encompasses the ranges of all the instruments. Some consider the piano to be a percussive instrument, but it is also a string instrument, and the notes can flow one after the other softly, like a precious essence. I love the piano. I hope you do, too. The present CD is composed of two parts. They are separated by 15 seconds of silence, so don't turn off your player yet. The first part is easy listening and sort of bluesey, not truly "the blues" you understand, because the people who decide these things have some pretty rigid rules about what makes "the blues." There are one or two scales you have to use, and each psrt has to have a fixed number of measures, etc. I am fairly sure that the people who originated the blues didn't do that, at least not consciously, and I haven't either. The second part is where things get a little harder to take. It is more

related to Goethe's "Sturm und Drang" writings than it is to his later, more classical works. It starts out with "A Time of Troubles." I am sure that most of us have gone through a period like this, and it is frightful. It's like being in a tremendous storm, crushed by overwhelming thunder punctuated by flashes of blue lightning, drenched to the bone by waves of piercing rain, and accompanied by a desperate attempt to maintain some sort of balance. By the time the second part comes, we know we have lost everything that we value. This is the time of "The Funeral March." This is the time for grief, and the gradual, unwilling acceptance of God's Will, for we have no other choice. In the third part, "The Sun Comes Out." There is beauty after all, and life is worth living. We have not forgotten, but we somehow have come through our trial, and we now gratefully acknowledge the precious gifts that we still have.

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