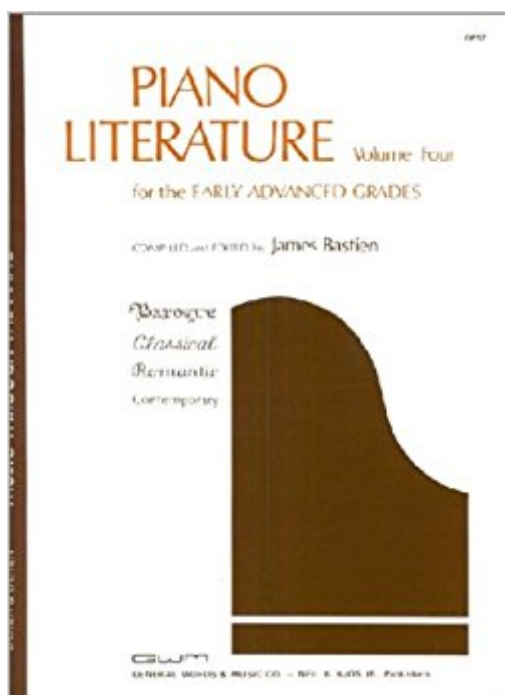


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GP57 - Piano Literature - Volume 4 - Bastien (Music Through The Piano)



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Customer Reviews

James Bastien was born in Bellingham, Washington, on April 10, 1934. His father, Clarence, was musical and played the violin. His mother, Dorothy, was a writer and a high school Latin and

journalism instructor. After living in Seattle and Florida, the family moved to Portland, Oregon, where Jim began his piano studies with Frances Mulkey North. Subsequently, Jim studied with the late Ariel Rubstein, the late Louis Artau, and the late Gyorgy Sandor. Jim received his undergraduate and masters degrees from Southern Methodist University. He was a former member of the faculties of Notre Dame University, Tulane University, Loyola University (New Orleans), and the summer faculties of Tanglewood and the National Music Camp at Interlochen, Michigan. Jim met his wife Jane Smisor in New Orleans in 1960. They performed as the duo-piano team, Smisor and Bastien. In addition, Jim was a Columbia Artist accompanist whose collaborative career included appearances with Richard Tucker and John Alexander. During this time Jim and Jane started writing music to address the needs of their students. This was the beginning of the Bastien piano books that have inspired so many piano students and teachers. The Bastien piano books have been published worldwide by the Neil A. Kjos Music Company since 1963 and are now translated into 14 languages. In 1999, The Music Teachers National Association presented Jim and Jane with the Lifetime Achievement Award, the association's highest honor, in recognition of their outstanding career in music and contribution to the music profession. James W. Bastien, loving husband and father, and a passionate piano pedagogue and musician, passed away on December 7, 2005, in La Jolla, California. During his long career, Jim became internationally known through his contributions to piano teaching, composing, writing, adjudication, and performing. With more than 300 publications to his credit, the Bastien name has become synonymous with innovative piano pedagogy.

My piano teacher recommended this book and I understand it has been around for awhile, reason being, this is a good one. Also of note, the print is large and legible. You do not always get that in a music book and I for one appreciate not having to strain my eyes trying to decipher small print. It has a nice variety in it and chances are you will find several pieces very much to your liking.

This is a wonderful collection of pieces if you are interested in the classics. Some of the pieces are a bit difficult for me, but I love them regardless and will keep picking away at them. I had played for about ten years, then stopped for five so I am a bit rusty. These are great pieces for improving hand strength and speed also if your looking for a showy piece.

It has the music I was looking for. It is a spiral bound book, which is easy to open and keep straight. The previous editions were not spiral bound, according to my piano teacher. Also, the print is large

enough for easy reading.

Great for intermediate to advanced students

Nice selection of classical pieces!

Wonderful music in a clear format. Spiral binding helps the music lay open. Nice selection. The levels are accurate for the most part. Highly recommended.

The side binding is great. The selections are said to be in their original forms with helpful fingering, phrasing, etc. The length of some of the selections was new to me, but is no doubt consistent with the original form. An enjoyable challenge.

These are getting harder to find...a must to add to any piano library and do NOT let any teacher or student write in them and ruin them. Photo copy only!

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