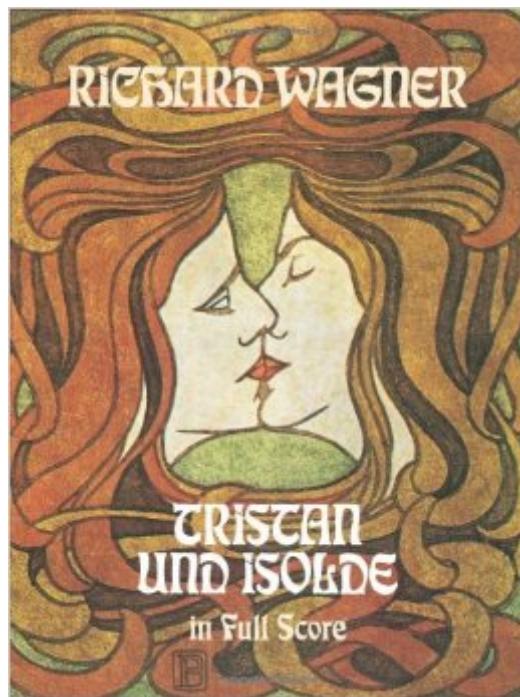


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Tristan Und Isolde In Full Score (Dover Music Scores)



Synopsis

Among musicologists and serious lovers of music, Wagner's *Tristan und Isolde* is generally considered the high point of orchestration in the musical tradition of nineteenth-century Europe. It shows in most successful form Wagner's unsurpassed gift for using the instruments of the orchestra, and generations of students have worked with it to learn its technique. *Tristan und Isolde* also has a remarkable historical position. It was the opera that most of the post-Wagnerians used to build upon, and it was also the opera that the anti-Wagnerians seized upon very frequently for their attacks and for their attempts to move musically away from Wagnerism. Accepted or rejected, it has been the work with which late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century musicians had to come to terms, and much musical history of this period can be understood through it. This edition reproduces the full orchestral score in a clear, modern engraving for easy reading and piano study, with large legible notation. Do not confuse this with a piano rendering; it is a full orchestral score. In addition to its obvious uses for study, this score is also an indispensable associate for anyone listening to recordings. In no other manner can the listener keep full awareness of the incredible orchestral richness of this opera.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This Dover publication offers a complete orchestral and vocal score of one of the most complex and difficult musical works ever written, one that is even now ahead of other contemporary operatic

works in its total effectiveness and impact. It requires large orchestral and vocal contributions, and its score offers nearly as much music as Beethoven's 9 symphonies. The Dover edition is a thick 655 page volume in which there are as many as 24 separate instrumental lines for the 100 orchestral players, plus three or four for the singers. It is 655 pages long, 8.5 by 11 inches in extent, roughly the size of the Tampa Bay Metro (pop 3.3 million) phone book. Its size allows the type to be easily read and the music to be followed when listening to a recorded source, for example, and to be easily read and understood in almost any context, other than that of actually conducting a performance. It is obviously not intended for the local high school musical, though (and I am not just making this up) an amateur Tarpon Springs (pop.20,000) music group recently staged a complete performance of Wagner's four Ring Operas, with piano musical accompaniment this year! If you're determined to go this route with Tristan, you need this score, badly! I have found it useful in my role as record reviewer, in resolving certain difficult questions I have come up against here and there in this deep and difficult work. Indeed, it is fine for anyone who has any unresolved question about the music. It is sturdily paperbound, and it is well worth the modest asking price. Much of the text, however, is reprinted directly from German sources, so an elementary understanding of that language is helpful. That is all I can think of on the downside, and in summary I found this work not only authoritative but also user-friendly.

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