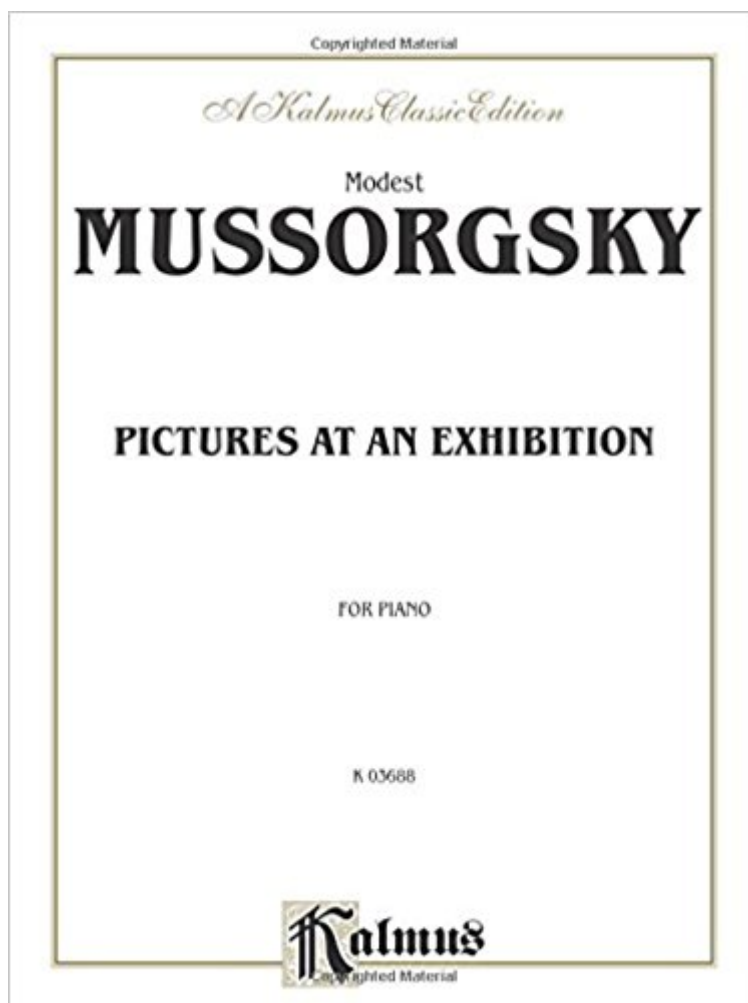


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# Pictures At An Exhibition (Kalmus Edition)



## Synopsis

The inspiration for Mussorgsky's most famous work came from his friend Victor Hartmann, an artist and architect. When Hartmann died at the early age of 39, Mussorgsky and the rest of the Russian artistic community were stunned, so they organized a memorial exhibit of his work. From that showing came Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition, based on the sketches, watercolors, and architectural designs displayed at the exhibition, as well as a few private canvases that Mussorgsky had seen earlier. Each selection in this stunning masterpiece is connected by "Promenade" which moves between 5/4 and 6/4, representing the uneven gait of Mussorgsky walking to the next picture. Titles: Promenade \* 1. The Gnome \* Promenade \* 2. The Old Castle \* Promenade \* 3. Tuileries: Children Quarreling at Play \* 4. Bydlo \* Promenade \* 5. Ballet of Unhatched Chickens \* 6. Samuel Goldenberg and Schmuyle \* Promenade \* 7. The Market Place at Limoges \* 8. Catacombs \* Lingua Mortua \* 9. Hut of the Baba-Yaga \* 10. The Great Gate of Kiev.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Alfred Masterwork Editions are always tough for me to review. For the price, they're excellent, but that's just it: for the price. Compared to urtext editions (in this case, the Henle urtext)...well, there really is no comparison. The Henle has better paper, printing, and, most importantly, fealty to Mussorgsky's directions. The Alfred is chock-full of editorial suggestions you may or may not agree with, and overall it just isn't as fine a volume. If you're a serious pianist, skip this and go with Henle.

Of course, any serious pianist already knows this and doesn't mind spending the \$20+ for an urtext edition. If you're a casual pianist looking to play a couple of the pieces, the Alfred edition is fine, and for the price, it's a great deal. I bought this for a student who just wanted to learn one piece (Il vecchio castello), and price was definitely a concern. It's actually been a great exercise comparing the Henle edition to this one - seeing where Alfred adds "improvements" and such. I'll close with this: I don't think you'll find a better edition for under \$10.

I'm really enjoying learning to play these pieces. Some of the editing is a bit odd (weird fingerings and sometimes half of the page is taken up by notes), but the notes at the beginning are good and the edition appears to be good, especially for the price. Too bad Mussorgsky didn't have a bit more formal training (way too many double flats and double sharps in these pieces and I think he could have avoided some of them) and definitely too bad he didn't live longer, but I'm glad he wrote what he did.

What can be said - this book is perfect for playing this wonderful classic. The layout is very good, the notes are easy to read and the introduction is very interesting. A great piece of music that would do well for any pianist.

I've always been a fan of the Alfred Masterworks Library. They're well-edited and -engraved, and the scholarship behind them rivals that of the most expensive and renowned editions currently available. This is the best bang for your buck.

This edition is very well commented. I really enjoyed.

Straight forward sheet music. What more can be said

Excellent piano score!

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