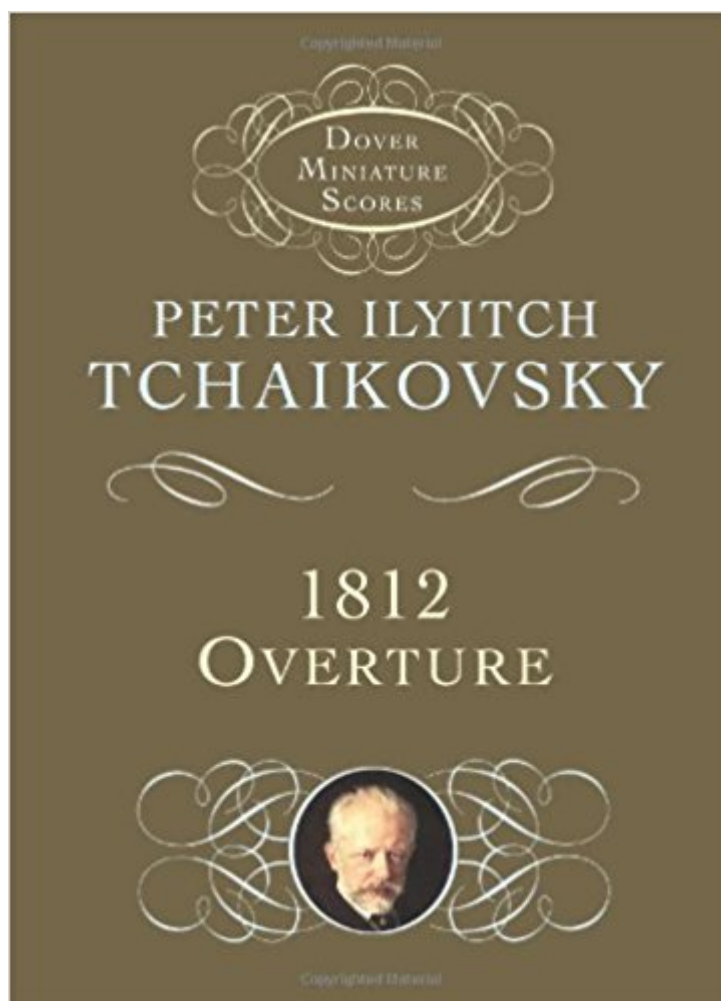


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1812 Overture, Op. 49 (Dover Miniature Music Scores)



Synopsis

Commissioned to mark the 1882 All-Russia Exhibition of Arts and Crafts, this extraordinarily popular work was premiered at the consecration of the Kremlin's Cathedral of the Redeemer--the monument built to commemorate the Russian defeat of the Napoleonic invasion in 1812. A colorful musical tapestry of nationalistic themes and battle scenes, performances of the "1812" â " with cannons thundering and bells pealing â " have remained an electrifying outdoor event at patriotic concerts worldwide.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This miniature score, "1812 Overture, Op. 49 (Dover Miniature Music Scores)", is well printed and is apparently more genuine than the full-size score: "1812 Overture, Marche Slave and Francesca da Rimini in Full Score (Dover Music Scores)". More than one reviewer for the big score has commented that the Russian edition has been corrupted for political reasons. Therefore this Eulenberg-based miniature score is preferable because it is (apparently) the correct score as written by the composer. The printing is good, and sight-singers can easily locate the sections with the well-known melodies. It's enjoyable to sing it from the page. After hearing this piece so often, it's great to see the orchestral parts, especially for the "Canon", which is presumably the Cannon, and the "Cloches", which must be the church bells. Reading the score, I can hear it in my mind. The cannon is fired 5 times in bars 328 to 332, and then later 11 times starting in bar 388 on page 83.

That wouldn't come cheap, 16 cannon balls! It seems to me that the score is complete, no pages missing, and despite the slight fuzziness of the printing, it's all readable. Considering the very low price, and the fact that this is almost certainly one of the top 10 most exciting pieces of music ever written, it's a total bargain which I think anyone who can read music should have a copy of. On page 88 in bar 404, there seems to be a typesetting error. The cannon and church bell labels are erroneously swapped, and there's a strange-looking splodge under these parts in bar 405. Maybe someone marked the error and then scribbled out their correction.

The 1812 Overture would most likely appear in many greatest pieces of music of all time lists. This miniature score is an invaluable resource for such a cheap price. Although you can't conduct an orchestra with this, the printing is of such fine quality that despite the size, you can easily distinguish all notes, dynamics, articulations, etc. If you're planning a seriously intense analysis, the margins may get a bit cramped, but otherwise this edition will not disappoint even the most avid fans (like myself) of Tchaikovsky's masterpiece.

Love It. Very happy!!

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