An indispensable reference for every piano lover! The Piano provides a lavishly illustrated history of the instrument, presents a comprehensive survey of its best-known makes and manufacturers, and offers a complete guide to purchasing the right piano, from selection to care and restoration. Pianists and piano enthusiasts will delight in this book's stunning photography and captivating narrative on the modern piano's rich 300-year history, from its conception by Italian harpsicord maker Bartolomeo Cristofori in the 1690s to its evolution during the industrial revolution, from the first efforts at large-scale manufacture to the golden age of piano making and through to the present day. Fans of music history will appreciate the stories about the pianos used by such composers as Bach, Beethoven, Chopin, and Debussy. The Piano also features an all-inclusive survey of the instrument's best-known makes and over 40 manufacturers, offering a unique insight into what differentiates a great instrument from a lesser one. Finally, readers will find practical advice on buying a new or secondhand piano, as well as information on piano care and restoration, and a glossary of key terms.

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