

Forty-seven years ago, Daniel Hertz signed a contract to write an “Introduction to Classic Music” for the Norton Introduction to Music series. The story of how the contract for a modest one-volume survey led to the recently completed trilogy of more than 2600 pages that represents the crowning achievement of Hertz’s distinguished career is one of the remarkable scholarly odysseys of our times. Hertz has recounted the whole story, and it is a saga well worth reading for what it reveals both about the history of eighteenth-century music and about the realities of scholarly life.