



# Essays Before a Sonata, The Majority, and Other Writings

*Charles Ives*

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**Ives's second piano sonata, *Concord, Mass., 1845*, stands among the masterpieces of American music.**

The *Essays Before a Sonata* was conceived by Ives as a preface of sorts to the composition. Ives's musings also explore the nature of music, discuss the source of a composer's impulses and inspiration, and offer some biting comments on celebrated masters. The writings in this collection—now featuring a comprehensive index—allow readers entry into the brilliant mind that produced some of America's most innovative musical works.

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