



Regentropfen-Prélude, Op. 28. Nr. 15

Frédéric Chopin

🎵 Level 55/100 (Ambitioniert)

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PRELUDE IN D FLAT MAJOR ('RAINDROP')

OP. 28 NO. 15

Born in Poland, Chopin grew up in Warsaw before moving to Paris at the age of 20. This piece is from his Op. 28 set of preludes, which span all 24 keys. Often known as the 'Raindrop' (due to the repeating A flat throughout, which is said to sound like drops of rain), this is the longest prelude of the set. Notice the enharmonic change from A flat to G sharp, signalling a change of mood and key: this thrilling contrasting section in C sharp minor has a threatening, menacing feel, with the *crescendo* increasing the weight of the raindrops. The prelude ends on a note of resignation: hold the pause on the last chord until the sound has completely disappeared. The respiration of the phrases in this piece are important: see *Piano Lessons Book 3* Chapter 5: *Making the piano sing* for more on this.

Frederic François Chopin (1810–1849)

Sostenuto

con Ped.