

Paul McNulty  
FORTEPIANOS

**Fortepiano  
after A. Walter ca. 1792**

*Walter*



FF – g3  
after Walter ca. 1792

Moderator and sustaining knee  
levers, walnut

Options: cherry, yew, pyramid  
mahogany, intarsia

(about 221 cm/99 cm/31 cm,  
about 90 kg)



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Anton Walter (1752–1826), who had the title of “Chamber Organ Builder and Instrument Maker in Vienna,” was considered to be the most famous fortepiano maker of his time. His improvements in the Viennese pianoforte action remained a standard for many years. His instruments were praised for their quality by Mozart, who bought a Walter in 1782, and by Beethoven, who nearly succeeded in buying one in 1802. According to Mozart’s son Carl: “Most remarkable is the wing-shaped Pianoforte for which my father had a special preference to such a degree that he not only wanted to have it in his study all the time, but exclusively used this and no other instrument in all his concerts, regardless of whether they took place in court, in the palaces of noblemen or in theatres or other public places.”

Anton Walter was born near Stuttgart in 1752 and became active in Vienna in the early 1770s. When in 1800 his stepson joined the company, the firm name was changed from ‘Anton Walter’ to ‘Anton Walter und Sohn.’ The keyboard compass increased, but the basic proportions and tonal concept were retained until his death 1826.

*Walter*



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