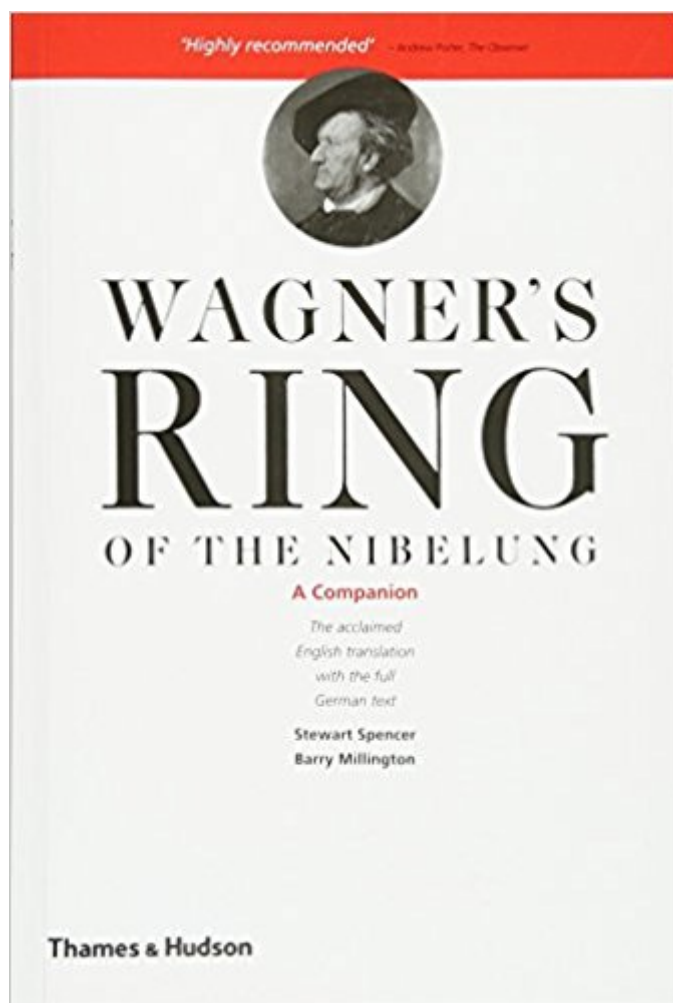


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Wagner's Ring Of The Nibelung: A Companion



Synopsis

"An important work for Wagnerites and musical scholars." *Choice* There had long been a need for a modern English translation of Wagner's Ring cycle a version that would be reliable and readable yet at the same time be a true reflection of the literary quality of the German libretto. First published in 1993, this acclaimed translation, which follows the verse form of the original exactly, filled that niche. It reads smoothly and idiomatically, yet is the result of prolonged thought and deep background knowledge. The translation is accompanied by Stewart Spencer's introductory essay on the libretto and a series of specially commissioned texts by Barry Millington, Roger Hollinrake, Elizabeth Magee, and Warren Darcy that discuss the cycle's musical structure, philosophical implications, medieval sources, and Wagner's own changing attitude to its meaning. With a glossary of names, a review of audio and video recordings, and a select bibliography, this book is an essential complement to Wagner's great epic. 16 black-and-white illustrations

Book Information

Paperback: 384 pages

Publisher: Thames & Hudson; Revised edition (October 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0500281947

ISBN-13: 978-0500281949

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 1.4 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 25 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #79,708 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Sheet Music & Scores > Composers > Wagner #4 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Sheet Music & Scores > Historical Period > Late Romantic #101 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Sheet Music & Scores > Forms & Genres > Opera

Customer Reviews

An important work. -- *Choice* Superb new translation. -- *Wagner Notes*

Text: English, German (translation) Original Language: German --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I love everything about Wagner.

The introductory materials and commentary are useful to whatever extent the reader wants those things (apparently some reviewers here don't), but I'd guess most buy this book for the excellent English translation of the librettos. I bought the Kindle edition primarily because I thought it would be a handy way to follow the libretto as I listen to the music, but I do also find the various commentary sections, synopses, references, etc., very interesting & useful. However, there is a huge....HUGE....problem with the Kindle edition! There is absolutely no table of contents, no index, no navigational aids or references whatsoever. I've never seen a Kindle book so poorly structured - a 384 page book (that's 18,268 "locations" with small text and wide margins) without navigation. ("Cover" and "Beginning" are the only two jump points.) It makes this ebook virtually unusable as delivered. I've started the slow, tedious process of going through and placing bookmarks at each chapter start and on other important pages, but this is a very cumbersome solution, as you can't even edit the bookmarks into brief descriptive titles or organize them into an outline format. You end up with an extremely long list of marks that are essentially the first couple lines of text on the referenced page; it's a bit like scanning through your email when all you have are those two-line blurbs. Anything so precise as, say, jumping directly to a particular scene in one of the operas is out of the question. This is beyond an oversight, beyond an inconvenience. I consider it a fundamental flaw and I may try to get my money back. For \$14+, I don't expect some cut-rate, half-a**ed scan of a real book, but that's what I got. I'm pretty annoyed. (If that's not obvious by now.) requires you to select between one and five stars before posting a review, so I selected one. But honestly, I give the Kindle edition NO stars....it's the worst Kindle book I've ever purchased and I'd strongly urge others to avoid it until the publisher releases a restructured version.

A very good book about Wagner

Very informative and thorough

i bought this because I am a theatre director and am getting ready to direct the farce DAS BBQ which is VERY loosely based on Wagner's Ring Cycle. This book was a good review to give me some background.

Delivered as promised. Thank you!

Purchasing was easy as pie. Also, I had a stroke and lost half of my eyesight. One easy phonecall and I was readily accommodated in regard to seating. One FUNNY note: I thought the performances were this year, but they're not. Just gives me more time to read the scripts before seeing the operas. Kudods to the agent who informed me, artfully, that the performances weren't until next year.

This is a very useful set of libretti and translations. The introductory material and the synopses are also of great use.

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