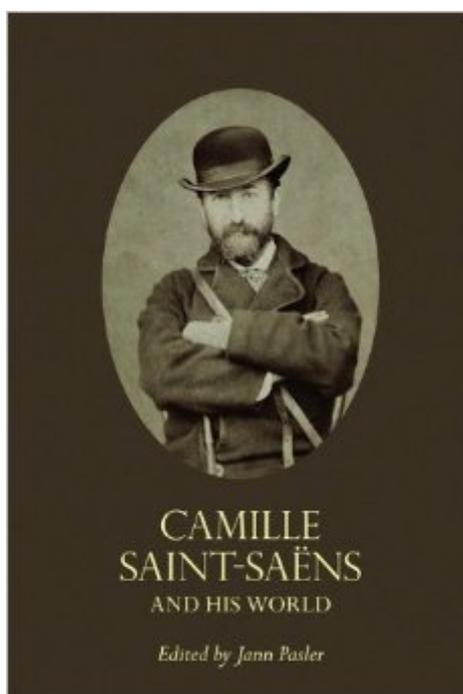


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Camille Saint-Saëns And His World (The Bard Music Festival)



Synopsis

Camille Saint-Saëns--perhaps the foremost French musical figure of the late nineteenth century and a composer who wrote in nearly every musical genre, from opera and the symphony to film music--is now being rediscovered after a century of modernism overshadowed his earlier importance. In a wide-ranging and trenchant series of essays, articles, and documents, *Camille Saint-Saëns and His World* deconstructs the multiple realities behind the man and his music. Topics range from intimate glimpses of the private and playful Saint-Saëns, to the composer's interest in astronomy and republican politics, his performances of Mozart and Rameau over eight decades, and his extensive travels around the world. This collection also analyzes the role he played in various musical societies and his complicated relationship with such composers as Liszt, Massenet, Wagner, and Ravel. Featuring the best contemporary scholarship on this crucial, formative period in French music, *Camille Saint-Saëns and His World* restores the composer to his vital role as innovator and curator of Western music. The contributors are Byron Adams, Leon Botstein, Jean-Christophe Branger, Michel Duchesneau, Katharine Ellis, Annegret Fauser, Yves Gérard, Dana Gooley, Carolyn Guzski, Carol Hess, D. Kern Holoman, Léo Houziaux, Florence Launay, Stéphane Leteur, Martin Marks, Mitchell Morris, Jann Pasler, William Peterson, Michael Puri, Sabina Teller Ratner, Laure Schnapper, Marie-Gabrielle Soret, Michael Stegemann, and Michael Strasser.

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Customer Reviews

Princeton University Press has recently published twenty three (23) collections of scholarly writing on classical music composers and their world. This 400 page volume, devoted to Camille Saint Saens, comprises thirty eight (38) individual essays on this most fascinating French composer, who if he had not been known for his brilliant music compositions, would have been known as an extraordinary polymath, knowledgeable in science, a world traveler, an organist par excellence and a brilliant pianist. The subjects deal with Saint Saens' compositions, his writings, his acceptance in Germany, England and the United States, his performances worldwide, analysis of some of his better known works, his preeminent position as a French cultural leader straddling the centuries, his competition with Massenet and his influence on Ravel, Faure, Debussy and D'Indy. The contributors are French, German and American including Leon Botstein and D. Kern Holoman, the author of "The Orchestra, A Short Introduction." This is a welcome addition to anyone interested in Camille Saint Saens whether musicologist or lay person.

Great!

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