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978-1-107-02268-3 - The Legacy of Johann Strauss: Political Influence and
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Zoë Alexis Lang
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THE LEGACY OF JOHANN STRAUSS

To this day, Johann Strauss Jr. remains one of the most popular composers in his native city of Vienna. In *The Legacy of Johann Strauss*, Zoë Lang examines how the reception of Strauss's waltzes played a key role in the construction of twentieth-century Austrian identity. Using press coverage from the centennial celebration of Strauss's birth in Vienna, Lang argues that his music remained popular because it continued to be revitalized by Austrians seeking to define their culture. Revealing the origins of the Vienna Philharmonic's New Year's Concert, Lang considers how Strauss was appropriated as a National Socialist icon in the 1930s and 1940s and explores the Strauss family's Jewish ancestry, along with the infamous forgery of paperwork about their lineage during the 1940s. This book also includes a case study of Strauss's *Emperor Waltz*, considering its variegated usage in concerts and films from 1925 to 1953.

ZOË ALEXIS LANG is Assistant Professor of Musicology in the School of Music at the University of South Florida. She graduated in 2005 from Harvard University with a dissertation that examined the importance of Johann Strauss Jr. in conceptions of Austrian identity during the inter-war period. Her article about Johann Strauss Sr.'s *Radetzky March* appeared in the *Journal of the Royal Musical Association*. Her research has been funded by the Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies and the National Endowment of the Humanities. Beyond Strauss and Austrian identity, her other research interests include the phenomenon of *Hausmusik* in German culture and popular music during World War I.

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*Political Influence and
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ZOË ALEXIS LANG

University of South Florida



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Acknowledgments

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