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Wagner is often held to have exerted a greater impact on modern culture than any other artist, yet the history of the reception of his works in Russia has until now remained largely unexplored. This book, which draws extensively on unpublished archival materials and other contemporary sources, aims to show that in certain important respects, Wagner's music and ideas found more fertile ground in Russia than anywhere else in Europe. Beginning with the first mention of Wagner's name in the Russian press in 1841, and ending almost 150 years later when the composer was finally rehabilitated during the years of *glasnost*, this study provides the first detailed account of Wagner's visit to Russia in 1863, and a history of the productions of his works in Russia both before and after the Revolution (including radical stagings by Meyerhold and Eisenstein). The book pays special attention to Wagner's important influence on the Russian modernist movement, focussing particularly on his impact on the leading Symbolist writers, Vyacheslav Ivanov, Andrey Bely and Aleksandr Blok.

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'Wagner Gallops into the Future'. Caricature published in *Iskra* (1863).

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WAGNER AND RUSSIA

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Notes on the text

The British system has been used for the transliteration of Russian words, with diacritics omitted. In proper names, *y* has been used for final *ий* and *ый*, *yo* has replaced *ё*, *ie* has replaced *ье*, and the apostrophe for *ь* has been omitted. Exceptions to these rules have been made in cases where there is a more commonly accepted spelling ('Tchaikovsky' has been used rather than 'Chaikovsky', for example), and also in those cases where authors use the romanised as well as the Russian versions of their names ('Medtner' and 'Laroche', for example, instead of 'Metner' and 'Larosh').

All Russian dates before 1 February 1918 are given according to the Old Style (Julian) calendar. All other dates are given according to the New Style (Gregorian) calendar.

Abbreviations

The following abbreviations have been used in the text and notes.

<i>ed. khr.</i>	<i>edinita khraneniya</i>
GATOB	Gosudarstvennyi akademicheskii teatr opery i baleta
<i>Glavrepertkom</i>	<i>Glavnaya repertuarnaya kommissiya</i>
GTsMMK	Gosudarstvennyi tsentral'nyi muzei muzykal'noi kul'tury im. Glinki, Moscow
GUS	Gosudarstvennaya uchenaya kommissiya
<i>k.</i>	<i>karton</i>
<i>LN</i>	<i>Literaturnoe nasledstvo</i>
<i>op.</i>	<i>opis'</i>
<i>Narkompros</i>	<i>Narodnyi kommissariat prosveshcheniya</i>
NEP	New Economic Policy
<i>Persimfans</i>	<i>Pervyi simfonicheskii ansabl'</i>
<i>Proletkul' t</i>	<i>Proletarskaya kul' tura</i>
RGALI	Rossiiskii gosudarstvennyi arkhiv literatury i iskusstva, Moscow
RGB	Rossiiskaya gosudarstvennaya biblioteka, Otdel rukopisei, Moscow
<i>RMG</i>	<i>Russkaya muzykal'naya gazeta</i>
RMS	Russian Musical Society
<i>Vkhutemas</i>	<i>Vysshie gosudarstvennye khudozhestvenno-tekhnicheskie masterskie</i>