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978-1-009-41545-3 — Louise Farrenc: Nonet for Winds and Strings

Marie Sumner Lott

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LOUISE FARRENC: NONET FOR WINDS AND STRINGS

As well as being a virtuoso pianist, Louise Farrenc became the first woman to hold a permanent position as professor at the Paris Conservatoire while continuing to compose symphonic and chamber music. This handbook introduces readers to Farrenc and her contemporaries with a focus on professional women musicians in nineteenth-century Paris. Farrenc's music was much admired by her contemporaries, including Robert Schumann and Hector Berlioz. The acclaimed Nonet (1849) incorporated playful dialogue within the ensemble, virtuosic display, and an artful balance of newer and older compositional methods, garnering critical and artistic success and official recognition for the composer. Its performance history shows how musicians managed the logistics of professional life: forming and sustaining relationships, organizing concerts and tours, and promoting their work in the musical press. The book's nuanced analytical approach and historical insights will allow students, performers, and listeners a fresh appreciation of Farrenc's work.

MARIE SUMNER LOTT is an Associate Professor in the School of Music at Georgia State University. She is the author of *The Social Worlds of Nineteenth-Century Chamber Music* (2015), which was awarded the AMS 75 PAYS publication subvention from the American Musicological Society, and over a dozen articles and book chapters on nineteenth-century chamber music.

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