Twentieth-Century Music in the West

This is the first introductory survey of twentieth-century music in the West to address popular music, art music and jazz on equal terms. It treats those forms as inextricably intertwined and sets them in a wide variety of social and critical contexts. The book comprises four sections – Histories, Techniques and Technologies, Mediation, Identities – with sixteen thematic chapters. Each of these explores a musical or cultural topic as it developed over many years, and as it appeared across a diversity of musical practices. In this way, the text introduces both key musical repertoire and critical-musicological approaches to that work. It historicises music and musical thinking, opening up debate in the present rather than offering a new but closed narrative of the past. In each chapter, an overview of the topic’s chronology and main issues is illustrated by two detailed case studies.


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Twentieth-Century Music in the West

An Introduction

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Acknowledgements

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