

MESSIAEN IN CONTEXT

Exploring the many dimensions of Messiaen's life, thought, and music, this book provides fresh perspectives on the contexts within which the composer worked, the intellectual currents that influenced him, and the influence he himself exerted on twentieth-century music. It enables a holistic understanding of this 'mondial' French composer in relation to the wider world, including his engagement with and refiguration of theology through music, the performance and reception of his work, the ways in which his aesthetics and conceptual universe have been understood by his students, and how his legacy continues to evolve. Reappraising known facts and adding new interpretations from a variety of inter-disciplinary and multidisciplinary viewpoints, *Messiaen in Context* provides a fresh understanding and engagement with one of the most significant musicians of the twentieth century.

ROBERT SHOLL teaches at the Royal Academy of Music and the University of West London. He is the editor of *Messiaen Studies* (2007), *James MacMillan Studies* (with George Parsons, 2021), and *Contemporary Music and Spirituality* (with Sander van Maas, 2017). As a performer, he has played all of Messiaen's organ music, recorded improvisations to film on the organ and piano, and given recitals at major venues in London and Paris.

COMPOSERS IN CONTEXT

Understanding and appreciation of musical works is greatly enhanced by knowledge of the context within which their composers lived and worked. Each of these volumes focusses on an individual composer, offering lively, accessible and concise essays by leading scholars on the many contexts – professional, political, intellectual, social and cultural – that have a bearing on his or her work. Biographical and musical influences, performance and publishing history and the creative afterlife of each composer's work are also addressed, providing readers with a multi-faceted view of how the composers' output and careers were shaped by the world around them.

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MESSIAEN IN CONTEXT

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Abbreviations

Throughout this volume two works of Messiaen are abbreviated:

TMLM refers to *Technique de mon langage musical*, trans. John Satterfield (Paris: Leduc, 2001). Some authors have used the 1956 edition in 2 vols., trans. John Satterfield (Paris: Leduc, 1956).

TRCO refers to the 7 tomes of the *Traité de rythme, de couleur, et d'ornithologie* (Paris: Leduc, 1994–2002).