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Richard Strauss: Salome (Cambridge Opera Handbooks)



Synopsis

This full-length study of *Salome* is the first in English since Lawrence Gilman's introductory guide of 1907. The handbook presents an informative collection of historical, critical and analytical studies of one of Strauss's most familiar operas. Classic essays by Mario Praz and Richard Ellmann cover the literary background. How Strauss adopted Wilde's play for his libretto is discussed by Roland Tenschert in a fascinating essay which has been updated by Derrick Puffett. In three central analytical chapters, Derrick Puffett considers *Salome* in relation to Wagnerian music drama, Tethys Carpenter examines its tonal and dramatic structure, and Craig Ayrey analyses the final monologue. The last part of the book moves from analysis to criticism, with a review by John Williamson of the opera's critical reception and an interpretative essay by Robin Holloway. The book also contains a synopsis, bibliography, and discography; Strauss's little-known scenario for the 'Dance of the Seven Veils' is reprinted as an appendix.

Book Information

Series: Cambridge Opera Handbooks

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: Cambridge University Press; F First Edition edition (November 24, 1989)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0521359708

ISBN-13: 978-0521359702

Product Dimensions: 5.4 x 0.5 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.3 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,532,258 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #48 in [Books > Humor & Entertainment > Sheet Music & Scores > Composers > Strauss, Richard](#) #4214 in [Books > Humor & Entertainment > Sheet Music & Scores > Forms & Genres > Opera](#) #5444 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Musical Genres > Opera](#)

Customer Reviews

"This extraordinary book (in the highly respected 'Cambridge Opera Handbooks' series) is the first full-length study of *Salome* in English since Lawrence Gilman's *Strauss' 'Salome'*, (1907)...Very clear and appropriate musical examples, appendixes...extensive notes for each chapter, a bibliography, discography, and index, and several black-and-white plates. Indispensable." J. Rayburn, Choice

This first full-length study of Salome in English since Lawrence Gilman's (1907) moves from historical and literary analysis to critical appraisal and includes a synopsis, bibliography and discography.

This is not a book for the masses. It is a book about the opera, not about the Salome from the first century. As such it is very well researched, but the reader is expected to have a more than basic understanding of the theory of music. I don't, and I was struggling with the parts of the book that dealt with symphonic constructions. Nevertheless a very interesting book, but not for the dentist's waiting room.

This is exactly what I had hoped to receive. I also received it in a very short amount of time. What more could anyone ask for? Thank you for a great product and superb service. Sincerely, Randano1

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