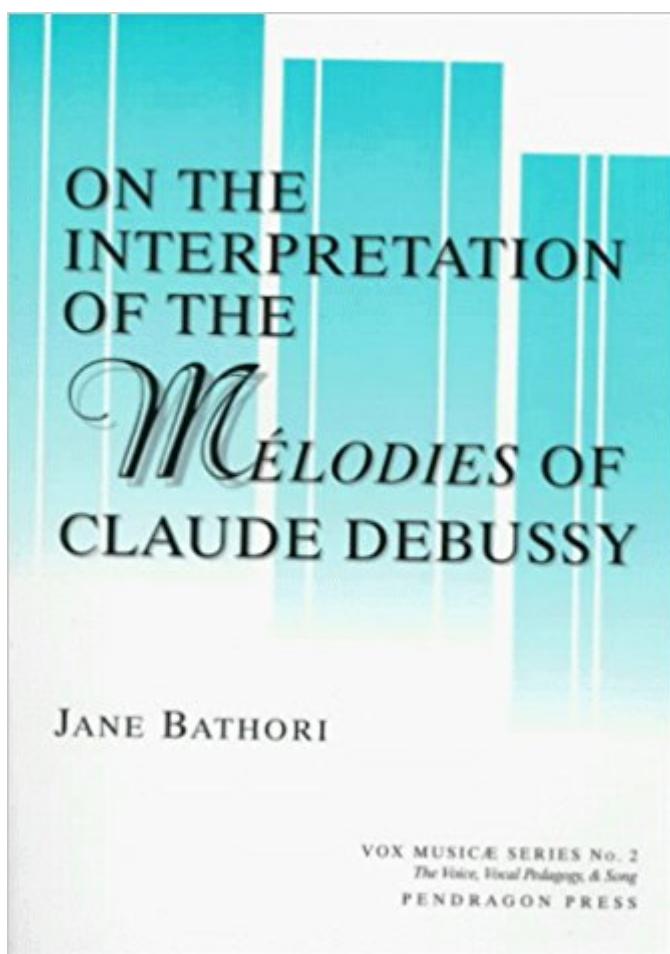


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On The Interpretation Of The Melodies Of Claude Debussy (Vox Musicae Series, No. 2)



Synopsis

The grand and noble traditions of interpretation disappear, are quickly damaged. That is why it is so important to be able to rely upon your testimony and your experience, you who had the immense joy to premier, accompanied by their author, and to interpret so often the vocal works of our great Claude Debussy, our dear Claude de France. -- From the letter preface by Darius Milhaud

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

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Jane Bathori was a catalyst for as well as interpreter of the works of many French composers. In 1904, she met Claude Debussy, played some of his piano pieces for him and sang several of his songs. Their discussions were the basis for her 1953 book, *On the Interpretation of the Melodies of Claude Debussy* which she resolved to write after having heard Debussy's intentions betrayed so many times, and also to encourage singers . . . to study some of the songs which are not known and are never sung, the excuse being that they are so difficult to interpret. Linda Laurent, translator and annotator, is a pianist of repute.

Although interpretation is an elusive term that defies precise definition, Jane Bathori's book on the interpreting the melodies of Debussy must be considered a primary reference to these songs.

Originally published in 1953, this small manual has been translated by Linda Laurent, a distinguished Bathori scholar. Jane Bathori played a tremendous role in the development of 20th century song and was perhaps the most sought-after interpreter of vocal music of her day. She premiered more than 100 songs by many composers, including Debussy. This book, one of the first of its kind written, is an invaluable reference by a fascinating personality in vocal music, and it is good to have it available in an English translation--for good measure, Pendragon has also published the original French text with the English.

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