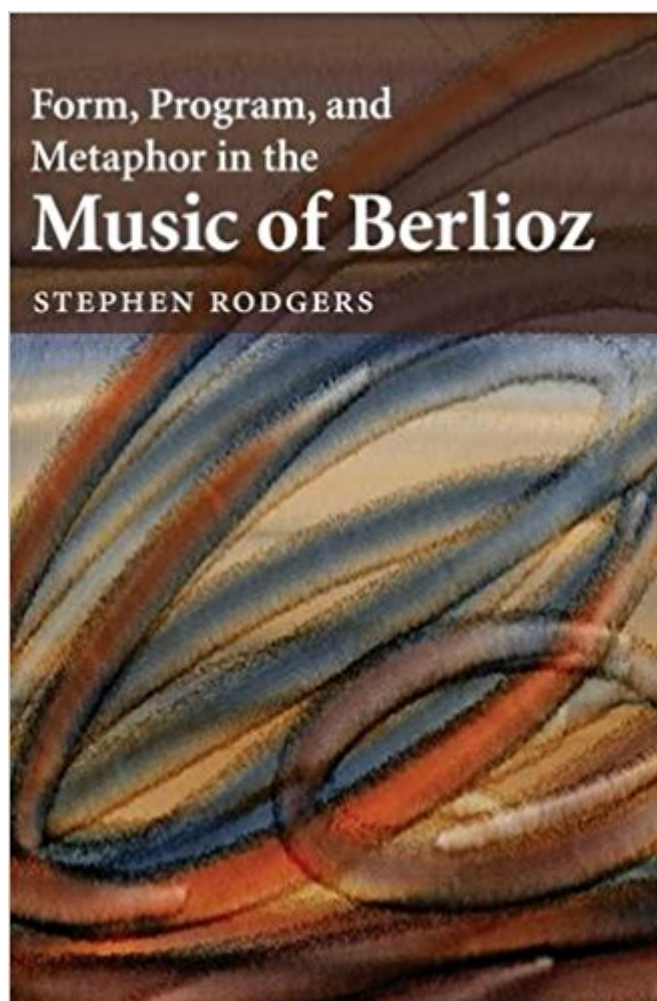


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Form, Program, And Metaphor In The Music Of Berlioz



Synopsis

Few aspects of Berlioz's style are more idiosyncratic than his handling of musical form. This book, the first devoted solely to the topic, explores how his formal strategies are related to the poetic and dramatic sentiments that were his very reason for being. Rodgers draws upon Berlioz's ideas about musical representation and on the ideas that would have influenced him, arguing that the relationship between musical and extra-musical narrative in Berlioz's music is best construed as metaphorical rather than literal - 'intimate' but 'indirect' in Berlioz's words. Focusing on a type of varied-repetitive form that Berlioz used to evoke poetic ideas such as mania, obsession, and meditation, the book shows how, far from disregarding form when pushing the limits of musical evocation, Berlioz harnessed its powers to convey these ideas even more vividly.

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Customer Reviews

Berlioz was a pioneer in the genre of 'program music' - music that draws its inspiration from the world of literature, theatre, and other arts. This book explores how Berlioz's music is related to the stories it conveys, demonstrating how he manipulated musical forms to depict emotions such as madness or love.

Stephen Rodgers is an Assistant Professor of Music Theory at the University of Oregon. He received his Ph.D. from Yale University in 2005. His research focuses on the music of Hector Berlioz but also covers such topics as film music, the intersection of music theory and literary

theory, and the music of Fanny Hensel.

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