

Recent Books on Music and Politics

COMPILED BY EUNICE SCHROEDER

The books listed in this column address music as political expression or focus to a significant degree on relationships between individual musicians or musical communities and a governing authority. Most of the works listed were published within the previous half year. In some cases, brief annotations are provided to indicate political themes not implied by the titles. The list was compiled from a variety of bibliographic tools such as databases of book vendors, online catalogs, and Global Books in Print. Readers are welcome to submit additional titles to my attention (schroeder@library.ucsb.edu) for possible inclusion in the next issue.

Balkan Popular Culture and the Ottoman Ecumene: Music, Image, and Regional Political Discourse. Edited by Donna A. Buchanan. (Europea: Ethnomusicologies and Modernities, 6.) Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow Press, 2007. [xxviii, 441 p. + 1 VCD. ISBN 0-8108-6021-X. \$85.]

Black Women and Music: More Than the Blues. Edited by Eileen M. Hayes and Linda F. Williams. (African American Music in Global Perspective.) Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2007. [x, 261 p. ISBN 0-252-03184-9, \$65 (hbk.); 0-252-07426-2, \$25 (pbk.).]

'Blerwytirhwng?': The Place of Welsh Pop Music. By Sarah Hill. (Ashgate Popular and Folk Music Series.) Aldershot, England: Ashgate, 2007. [vi, 236 p. ISBN 0-7546-5898-8. \$99.95.] Examines the development of Welsh popular music and national identity, and the resulting tensions in relation to the Anglo-American cultural mainstream.

Cette chanson qui emmerde le Front national. By Baptiste Vignol. Paris: Tournon, 2007. [124 p. ISBN 2-35144-047-6. €10.] Chronological survey of French popular music as political expression against the extreme right wing in France.

Class Act: The Cultural and Political Life of Ewan MacColl. By Ben Harker. London: Pluto Press, 2007. [348 p. ISBN 0-7453-2166-6, \$75 (hbk.); 0-7453-2165-8, \$24.95 (pbk.).]

The Early Tudor Court and International Musical Relations. By Theodor Dumitrescu. Aldershot, England: Ashgate, 2007. [xix, 330 p. ISBN 0-7546-5542-3. \$99.95.]

Edward Elgar and His World. Edited by Byron Adams. (Bard Music Festival Series.) Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2007. [xxi, 426 p. ISBN 0-691-13445-6, \$60 (hbk.); 0-691-13446-4, \$22.95 (pbk.).] Themes addressed include Elgar's encounters with class prejudice, his attitudes toward British colonialism, and his reactions to World War I.

Eredità della musica: David J. Bach e i concerti sinfonici dei lavoratori viennesi, 1905-1934. By Piero Violante. (La nuova diagonale, 68.) Palermo: Sellerio, 2007. [227 p. ISBN 88-389-2244-6. €16.]

- Fashionable Acts: Opera and Elite Culture in London, 1780-1880.* By Jennifer Hall-Witt. (Becoming Modern.) Durham: University of New Hampshire Press; Hanover, N.H.: University Press of New England, 2007. [ix, 390 p. ISBN 1-58465-625-5. \$50.] “[E]xplores the nexus between the opera, elite society, and British political culture from 1780 to 1880, arguing that the opera served as a particularly sensitive barometer of the aristocracy’s power during a century when its authority was changing in character and diminishing in strength” (p. [3]).
- A Garden of Eden in Hell: The Life of Alice Herz-Sommer.* By Melissa Müller and Reinhard Piechocki. London: Macmillan, 2007. [xiv, 341 p. ISBN 0-230-52802-3. £18.99.] Biography of a Prague pianist who was deported to Theresienstadt in 1943 and performed over a hundred concerts while in the camp.
- Governing Sound: The Cultural Politics of Trinidad's Carnival Musics.* By Jocelyne Guilbault. (Chicago Studies in Ethnomusicology.) Chicago : University of Chicago Press, 2007. [xii, 343 p. + 1 CD. ISBN 0-226-31059-0, \$63 (hbk); 0-226-31060-4, \$25 (pbk).]
- How Political Singers Facilitated the Spanish Transition to Democracy, 1960-1982: The Cultural Construction of a New Identity.* By Esther Perez-Villalba. Lewiston, N.Y.: Edwin Mellen, 2007. [ii, 401 p. ISBN 0-7734-5417-9. \$129.95.]
- Juan Bautista Plaza and Musical Nationalism in Venezuela.* By Marie Elizabeth Labonville. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2007. [xvi, 322 p. ISBN 0-253-34876-5. \$49.95.]
- Kennedy's Blues: African-American Blues and Gospel Songs on JFK.* By Guido van Rijn. (American Made Music Series.) Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2007. [xxvi, 220 p. ISBN 1-57806-957-2. \$50.]
- Know What I Mean?: Reflections on Hip Hop.* By Michael Eric Dyson. New York: Basic Civitas, 2007. [xviii, 171 p. ISBN 0-465-01716-9. \$19.95.] Considers political as well as social, cultural, and economic aspects of hip hop.
- Ligeti, Kurtág, and Hungarian Music during the Cold War.* By Rachel Beckles Willson. (Music in the Twentieth Century.) New York: Cambridge University Press, 2007. [xvii, 282 p. ISBN 0-521-82733-7. \$95.]
- Mendelssohn, Goethe, and the Walpurgis Night: The Heathen Muse in European Culture, 1700-1850.* By John Michael Cooper. (Eastman Studies in Music, 43.) Rochester, N.Y.: University of Rochester Press, 2007. [xvi, 284 p. ISBN 1-58046-252-9. \$75.]
- Music and Orientalism in the British Empire, 1780s-1940s: Portrayal of the East.* Edited by Martin Clayton. (Music in Nineteenth-Century Britain.) Aldershot, England: Ashgate, 2007. [xv, 347 p. ISBN 0-7546-5604-7. \$99.95.]
- Music Divided: Bartok's Legacy in Cold War Culture.* By Danielle Fosler-Lussier. (California Studies in 20th-Century Music, 7.) Berkeley: University of California Press, 2007. [xx, 229 p. ISBN 0-520-24965-8. \$34.95.]

- Music from behind the Bridge: Steelband Spirit and Politics in Trinidad and Tobago.* By Shannon Dudley. New York: Oxford University Press, 2007. [xiv, 311 p. ISBN 0-19-517547-6, \$99 (hbk.); 0-19-532123-5, \$27.95 (pbk).]
- Music in the Post-9/11 World.* Edited by Jonathan Ritter and J. Martin Daughtry. New York: Routledge, 2007. [xxxii, 328 p. ISBN 0-415-97806-8, \$95 (hbk.); 0-415-97807-6 (pbk.), \$24.95.]
- Music, National Identity, and the Politics of Location: Between the Global and the Local.* Edited by Ian Biddle and Vanessa Knights. (Ashgate Popular and Folk Music Series.) Aldershot, England: Ashgate, 2007. [xii, 251 p. ISBN 0-7546-4055-8. \$99.95.]
- Opera and Sovereignty: Transforming Myths in Eighteenth-Century Italy.* By Martha Feldman. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2007. [xxv, 545 p. ISBN 0-226-24112-2. \$55.]
- Police Beat: The Emotional Power of Music in Police Work.* By Simone Dennis. Youngstown, N.Y.: Cambria Press, 2007. [xxiii, 223 p. ISBN 1-934043-57-5. \$79.95.]
- The Politics of Romantic Theatricality, 1787-1832: The Road to the Stage.* By David Worrall. (Palgrave Studies in the Enlightenment, Romanticism, and Cultures of Print.) Basingstoke, England: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007. [vi, 266 p. ISBN 0-230-51802-8. \$74.95.]
Argues for the vitality of burletta as the dominant British Romantic-period dramatic genre due to official censorship of spoken-word drama outside the royal patent theaters.
- Popular Culture and Nationalism in Lebanon: The Fairouz and Rahbani Nation.* By Christopher Reed Stone. (Routledge Studies in Middle Eastern Literatures, 18.) London: Routledge, 2007. [xiii, 226 p. ISBN 0-415-77273-7. \$140.]
- Popular Music and the State in the UK: Culture, Trade, or Industry?* By Martin Cloonan. (Ashgate Popular and Folk Music Series.) Aldershot, England: Ashgate, 2007. [xii, 166 p. ISBN 0-7546-5373-8. \$99.95.]
- Protest Song in East and West Germany since the 1960s.* Edited by David Robb. (Studies in German Literature, Linguistics, and Culture.) Rochester, N.Y.: Camden House, 2007. [320 p. ISBN 1-57113-281-3. \$75.]
- Der "Reichsdramaturg": Rainer Schlösser und die Musiktheater-Politik in der NS-Zeit.* By Boris von Haken. Hamburg: Von Bockel, 2007. [234 p. ISBN 3-932696-64-0. €35.]
- Richard Wagner and the New Millennium: Essays in Music and Culture.* Edited by Matthew Bribitzer-Stull, Alex Lubet, and Gottfried Wagner. (Studies in European Culture and History.) Basingstoke, England: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007. [xvi, 216 p. ISBN 1-4039-7321-0. \$75.]
Several essays examine Wagner's political legacy, including chapter 1, "On the Need to Debate Richard Wagner in an Open Society" by Gottfried Wagner.

Richard Wagner's Zurich: The Muse of Place. By Chris Walton. (Studies in German Literature, Linguistics, and Culture.) Rochester, N.Y.: Camden House, 2007. [xii, 295 p. ISBN 1-57113-331-3. \$65.]

Like many other European intellectuals, Wagner fled to Switzerland following the failed revolutions of 1848-49. The author argues that it was the "highly charged environment in Zurich that in fact propelled Wagner on his path of rapid artistic evolution in the years from 1849 to 1858" (p. 34).

The Schenker Project: Culture, Race, and Music Theory in Fin-de-siècle Vienna. By Nicholas Cook. New York: Oxford University Press, 2007. [xi, 355 p. ISBN 0-19-517056-3. \$65.]

This study "places Schenker's work into a variety of contemporary contexts ranging from the artistic... to the broadly political (the tradition of German cultural conservatism, Schenker's position as a Jewish immigrant to Vienna)" (pp. 3-4).

Singing for Freedom: The Hutchinson Family Singers and the Nineteenth-Century Culture of Reform. By Scott Gac. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2007. [xi, 312 p. ISBN 0-300-11198-3. \$45.]

Sofia Gubaidulina: A Biography. Edited by Michael Kurtz and Malcolm Hamrick Brown. (Russian Music Studies.) Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2007. [xviii, 335 p. ISBN 0-253-34907-9. \$39.95.]

Places the composer's "life and the evolution of her work within the broader cultural and political context of the post-Stalin Soviet Union" (book jacket).

A Song for Europe: Popular Music and Politics in the Eurovision Song Contest. Edited by Ivan Raykoff and Robert Deam Tobin. (Ashgate Popular and Folk Music Series.) Aldershot, England: Ashgate, 2007. [xxi, 190 p. ISBN 0-7546-5878-3, \$99.95 (hbk.); 0-7546-5879-1, \$34.95 (pbk.).]

Tonträgerindustrie und Vermittlung von Livemusik in Kuba: Populäre Musik im Kontext ökonomischer Organisationsformen und kulturpolitischer Ideologien. By Cornelius Schlicke. (Populäre Musik und Jazz in der Forschung, 13.) Berlin: LIT, 2007. [x, 512 p. ISBN 3-8258-0240-X. €39.90.]

Transported by Song: Corsican Voices from Oral Tradition to World Stage. By Caroline Bithell. (Europea, 5.) Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow Press, 2007. [xliii, 344 p. ISBN 0-8108-5938-6, \$85 (hbk.); 0-8108-5439-2, \$50 (pbk.).]

The author "maps out the social, cultural, economic, and political climate of Corsica in the 20th and early 21st centuries, offering insights into the way French cultural policy, decentralization legislation, and European Union funding structures have affected musical activity on the island" (book jacket).

The Wagner Clan. By Jonathan Carr. New York: Atlantic Monthly Press, 2007. [xiv, 409 p. ISBN 0-87113-975-8. \$27.50.]

History of the Wagner family against the background of German history and politics in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Western Music and Race. Edited by Julie Brown. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2007. [xxii, 285 p. ISBN 0-521-83887-8. \$95.]

"[P]rovides a snapshot of the ways in which discourse about Western music and race overlapped and became intertwined during the period from Wagner's death to the rise of National Socialism and fascism elsewhere in Europe" (p. [i]).

Warrior, Courtier, Singer: Giulio Cesare Brancaccio and the Performance of Identity in the Late Renaissance. By Richard Wistreich. Aldershot, England: Ashgate, 2007. [xii, 332 p. ISBN 0-7546-5414-1. \$99.95.]

“Illustrates the use of music in the process of ‘self-fashioning’ and the role of performance of all kinds in the construction of male noble identity within court culture, including the nature and currency of honour, chivalric virtù and sixteenth-century notions of gender and virility in relation to musical performance” (book jacket).

Zimbabwean Mbira Music on an International Stage: Chartwell Dutiro's Life in Music. Edited by Chartwell Dutiro and Keith Howard. (SOAS Musicology Series.) Aldershot, England: Ashgate, 2007. [xii, 101 p. ISBN 0-7546-5799-X. \$54.95.]

The essays in this volume “celebrate Chartwell’s musicianship, exploring his musical development and the collaborations he has been involved with, while at the same time focusing in on his personal, political and religious perspectives” (p. ix).