



George Gershwin (20th Century Composers)

By Rodney Greenberg

Download now

Read Online →

George Gershwin (20th Century Composers) By Rodney Greenberg

During his short but prolific career, George Gershwin (1898-1937) produced a varied body of work that combined symphonic composition with the musical styles popular in his era, including jazz and African-American spirituals. Known primarily for his jazz-tinged orchestral work *Rhapsody in Blue*, his folk opera *Porgy and Bess*, and his many wonderful songs featured in the films of Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers, Gershwin and his lyricist brother Ira were key figures in the songwriting circles of pre-war America. Rodney Greenberg's lively biography paints a vivid picture of this exciting era in the development of American music, and places Gershwin's life and career within the social and cultural contexts in which he flourished.

George Gershwin is part of Phaidon's successful *20th Century Composers* series, which presents authoritative and engaging biographies of the great creative musicians of our time, augmented by striking visual material and essential reference information. This edition of the book features a whimsical new cover by Jean-Jacques Sempé, the world-renowned illustrator and cartoonist.

↓ [Download George Gershwin \(20th Century Composers\) ...pdf](#)

📄 [Read Online George Gershwin \(20th Century Composers\) ...pdf](#)

George Gershwin (20th Century Composers)

By Rodney Greenberg

George Gershwin (20th Century Composers) By Rodney Greenberg

During his short but prolific career, George Gershwin (1898-1937) produced a varied body of work that combined symphonic composition with the musical styles popular in his era, including jazz and African-American spirituals. Known primarily for his jazz-tinged orchestral work *Rhapsody in Blue*, his folk opera *Porgy and Bess*, and his many wonderful songs featured in the films of Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers, Gershwin and his lyricist brother Ira were key figures in the songwriting circles of pre-war America. Rodney Greenberg's lively biography paints a vivid picture of this exciting era in the development of American music, and places Gershwin's life and career within the social and cultural contexts in which he flourished.

George Gershwin is part of Phaidon's successful *20th Century Composers* series, which presents authoritative and engaging biographies of the great creative musicians of our time, augmented by striking visual material and essential reference information. This edition of the book features a whimsical new cover by Jean-Jacques Sempé, the world-renowned illustrator and cartoonist.

George Gershwin (20th Century Composers) By Rodney Greenberg Bibliography

- Rank: #3419907 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Phaidon Press Inc.
- Published on: 2008-04-23
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.75" h x .75" w x 6.25" l, .77 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 240 pages

 [Download George Gershwin \(20th Century Composers\) ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online George Gershwin \(20th Century Composers\) ...pdf](#)

Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

As part of its 20th Century Composers series, Phaidon commissioned noted producer and director of television music programs Rodney Greenberg to write a biography of one of the century's most popular composers--George Gershwin, a man who in a regrettably short life (he died in 1937 at the age of 38) sought to straddle the worlds of popular and symphonic music.

"Music," Gershwin once said, "must reflect the thoughts and aspirations of the people and the time. My people are American. My time is today." Gershwin's life, from his days as a "songplugger" in New York's Tin Pan Alley to fame and fortune with Broadway shows and symphonic composition, followed the evolution of American popular music. But he was as much an influence on his time as he was influenced by it. Charismatic, brilliant, and vastly egotistical, his struggle to be recognized as a serious composer was always at odds with the fame and money such songs as "Fascinating Rhythm" and "Lady Be Good" brought him.

While Greenberg's biography is serviceable as an introduction to the composer's life, his analysis of the music is what raises this elegantly short book to the realm of the exceptional. Gershwin's body of work is surprisingly small, considering its lasting influence, and this gives the author the opportunity to discuss at length not only such landmark works as *Rhapsody in Blue* and *Porgy and Bess*, but also minor pieces like "Lullaby" and "Someone to Watch Over Me." Indeed, Greenberg argues that Gershwin's gifts, like those of Cole Porter but also Chopin and Grieg, were best expressed through his shorter compositions, and while he never stopped working to achieve a significant work of length, it was his instinct for 32-bar and shorter pieces that ensured his place in musical history. --*John Longenbaugh*

Review

"An excellent critical account of Gershwin's musical development in the social and musical context of the first three decades of the century."-BBC Music Magazine "Sharply observed..."-Billboard "...An insightful, well written book..."-Jewish Chronicle "A handsome, illustrated Gershwin biography."-Daily Telegraph "My best tip for Xmas stockings would be Rodney Greenberg's concise and well organised study of the life and music of everybody's centennial hero, George Gershwin."-BBC Music Magazine On the 20th Century Composers Series "As a series, Phaidon's 20th Century Composers has brought remarkable variety and a welter of information, both necessary and delightfully trivial. Intended both for the general reader and for the more enthusiastically musical."-The Scotsman

About the Author

Rodney Greenberg has produced and directed over 300 television music programs in Europe and America. Formerly executive producer of the BBC 'Masterclass' series and of the televised Promenade Concerts, he has directed the Last Night of the Proms eight times. Among other honors, he has won multiple Emmy awards for live NBC telecasts in New York.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Keith Taylor:

What do you consider book? It is just for students since they are still students or it for all people in the world,

the particular best subject for that? Merely you can be answered for that problem above. Every person has different personality and hobby for every single other. Don't to be forced someone or something that they don't would like do that. You must know how great and also important the book George Gershwin (20th Century Composers). All type of book would you see on many options. You can look for the internet sources or other social media.

Jennifer Jones:

What do you with regards to book? It is not important to you? Or just adding material when you want something to explain what yours problem? How about your time? Or are you busy particular person? If you don't have spare time to perform others business, it is gives you the sense of being bored faster. And you have spare time? What did you do? Everyone has many questions above. They need to answer that question since just their can do that will. It said that about book. Book is familiar in each person. Yes, it is suitable. Because start from on jardín de infancia until university need this specific George Gershwin (20th Century Composers) to read.

Paul Kindig:

Here thing why this specific George Gershwin (20th Century Composers) are different and trusted to be yours. First of all reading a book is good but it really depends in the content from it which is the content is as tasty as food or not. George Gershwin (20th Century Composers) giving you information deeper as different ways, you can find any publication out there but there is no publication that similar with George Gershwin (20th Century Composers). It gives you thrill reading through journey, its open up your current eyes about the thing in which happened in the world which is probably can be happened around you. You can bring everywhere like in park, café, or even in your technique home by train. For anyone who is having difficulties in bringing the paper book maybe the form of George Gershwin (20th Century Composers) in e-book can be your substitute.

Sherrie Beardsley:

The guide with title George Gershwin (20th Century Composers) has lot of information that you can learn it. You can get a lot of profit after read this book. This kind of book exist new know-how the information that exist in this reserve represented the condition of the world now. That is important to yo7u to understand how the improvement of the world. That book will bring you in new era of the globalization. You can read the e-book with your smart phone, so you can read the idea anywhere you want.

Download and Read Online George Gershwin (20th Century Composers) By Rodney Greenberg #BZ02VFH8ISP

Read George Gershwin (20th Century Composers) By Rodney Greenberg for online ebook

George Gershwin (20th Century Composers) By Rodney Greenberg Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read George Gershwin (20th Century Composers) By Rodney Greenberg books to read online.

Online George Gershwin (20th Century Composers) By Rodney Greenberg ebook PDF download

George Gershwin (20th Century Composers) By Rodney Greenberg Doc

George Gershwin (20th Century Composers) By Rodney Greenberg Mobipocket

George Gershwin (20th Century Composers) By Rodney Greenberg EPub