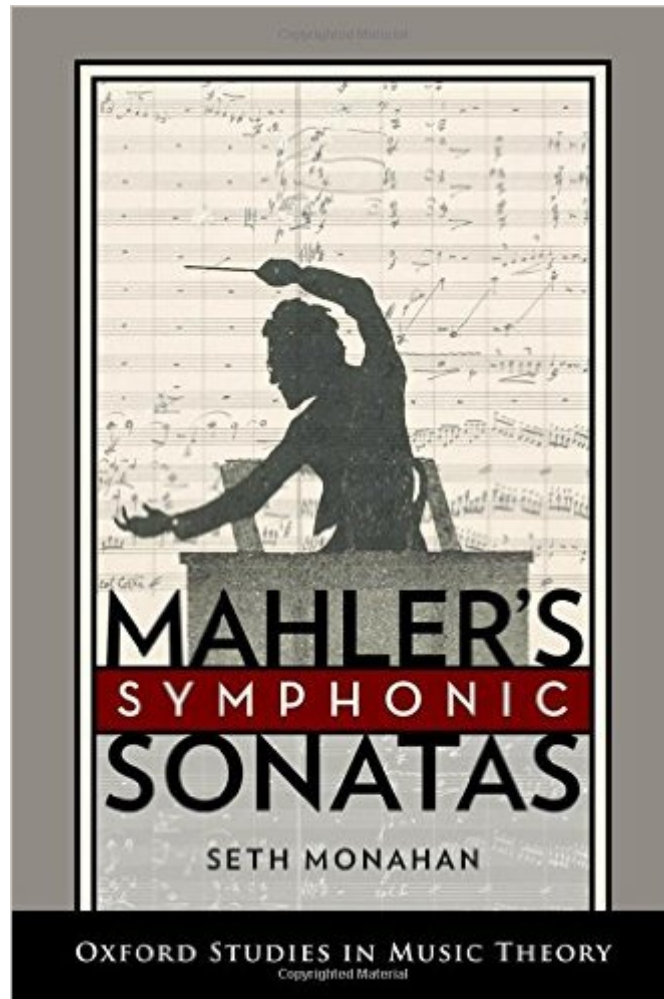# Mahler's Symphonic Sonatas (Oxford Studies In Music Theory)

Synopsis

Why would Gustav Mahler (1860-1911), modernist titan and so-called prophet of the New Music, commit himself time and again to the venerable sonata-allegro form of Mozart and Beethoven? How could so gifted a symphonic storyteller be drawn to a framework that many have dismissed as antiquated and dramatically inert? Mahler's Symphonic Sonatas offers a striking new take on this old dilemma. Indeed, it poses these questions seriously for the first time. Rather than downplaying Mahler's sonata designs as distracting anachronisms or innocuous groundplans, author Seth Monahan argues that for much of his career, Mahler used the inner, goal-directed dynamics of sonata form as the basis for some of his most gripping symphonic stories.Laying bare the deeper narrative/processual grammar of Mahler's evolving sonata corpus, Monahan pays particular attention to its recycling of large-scale rhetorical devices and its consistent linkage of tonal plot and affect. He then sets forth an interpretive framework that combines the visionary insights of Theodor W. Adorno-whose Mahler writings are examined here lucidly and at length-with elements of Hepokoski and Darcy's renowned Sonata Theory. What emerges is a tensely dialectical image of Mahler's sonata forms, one that hears the genre's compulsion for tonal/rhetorical closure in full collision with the spontaneous narrative needs of the surrounding music and of the overarching symphonic totality. It is a practice that calls forth sonata form not as a rigid mold, but as a dynamic process-rich with historical resonances and subject to a vast range of complications, curtailments, and catastrophes.With its expert balance of riveting analytical narration and thoughtful methodological reflection, Mahler's Symphonic Sonatas promises to be a landmark text of Mahler reception, and one that will reward scholars and students of the late-Romantic symphony for years to come.

Book Information

Mahler's Symphonic Sonatas (Oxford Studies in Music Theory) The Symphonic Repertoire: Volume 4. The Second Golden Age of the Viennese Symphony: Brahms, Bruckner, Dvork, Mahler, and Selected Contemporaries Gustav Mahler's Symphonic Landscapes Mahler's Sixth Symphony: A Study in Musical Semiotics (Cambridge Studies in Music Theory and Analysis) Metric Manipulations in Haydn and Mozart: Chamber Music for Strings, 1787-1791 (Oxford Studies in Music Theory) Mahler Studies (Cambridge Composer Studies) Symphonic Dances, Op. 64, in Full Score (Dover Music Scores) La Mer (the Sea): Three Symphonic Sketches (Dover Miniature Music Scores) Reading Mahler (Studies in German Literature Linguistics and Culture) Mahler: Das Lied von der Erde (The Song of the Earth) (Cambridge Music Handbooks) The Cambridge Companion to Mahler (Cambridge Companions to Music) Mahler and His World (The Bard Music Festival) Doctor Mozart Music Theory Workbook for Older Beginners: In-Depth Piano Theory Fun for Children's Music Lessons and HomeSchooling: Highly Effective for Beginners Learning a Musical Instrument Haydn's 'Farewell' Symphony and the Idea of Classical Style: Through-Composition and Cyclic Integration in his Instrumental Music (Cambridge Studies in Music Theory and Analysis) Stravinsky's Late Music (Cambridge Studies in Music Theory and Analysis) The Oxford Handbook of Random Matrix Theory (Oxford Handbooks) Complete Sonatas for Violin and Piano: With Separate Violin Part (Chamber Music Scores) Handel Six Sonatas For Violin& Piano: No1 In A Maj/No2 In G Min/No3 In F Maj Bk/CD (Music Minus One (Numbered)) Complete Sonatas and Fantasies for Solo Piano (Dover Music for Piano) Schubert Piano Sonatas (Music Guides)