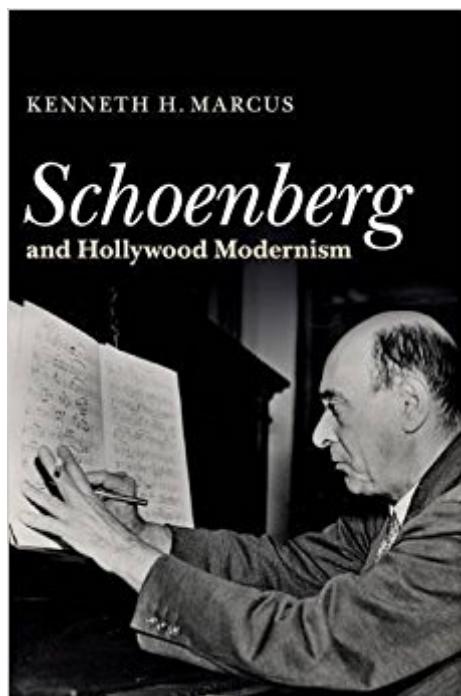


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Schoenberg And Hollywood Modernism



Synopsis

Schoenberg is often viewed as an isolated composer who was ill-at-ease in exile. In this book Kenneth H. Marcus shows that in fact Schoenberg's connections to Hollywood ran deep, and most of the composer's exile compositions had some connection to the cultural and intellectual environment in which he found himself. He was friends with numerous successful film industry figures, including George Gershwin, Oscar Levant, David Raksin and Alfred Newman, and each contributed to the composer's life and work in different ways: helping him to obtain students, making recordings of his music, and arranging commissions. While teaching at both the University of Southern California and the University of California, Los Angeles, Schoenberg was able to bridge two utterly different worlds: the film industry and the academy. Marcus shows that alongside Schoenberg's vital impact upon Southern California Modernism through his pedagogy, compositions and texts, he also taught students who became central to American musical modernism, including John Cage and Lou Harrison.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Schoenberg is often viewed as an isolated composer who was ill-at-ease in exile. Kenneth H. Marcus shows that, contrary to this perception, Schoenberg was deeply involved in the cultural and intellectual environment in which he found himself, and had multiple connections in Hollywood as well as within academia.

Kenneth H. Marcus is Professor of History and Chair of the International Studies Program at the University of La Verne, California. An historian, musician and composer, he has published over forty articles, book chapters, encyclopedia entries and book reviews and has recorded CDs of music for piano, guitar, voice, and organ. His two previous books are *Musical Metropolis: Los Angeles and the Creation of a Music Culture, 1880-1940* (2004) and *Politics of Power: Elites of an Early Modern State in Germany* (2000). In spring 2013, he was Fulbright Senior Professor in American Culture at Leiden University, the Netherlands.

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