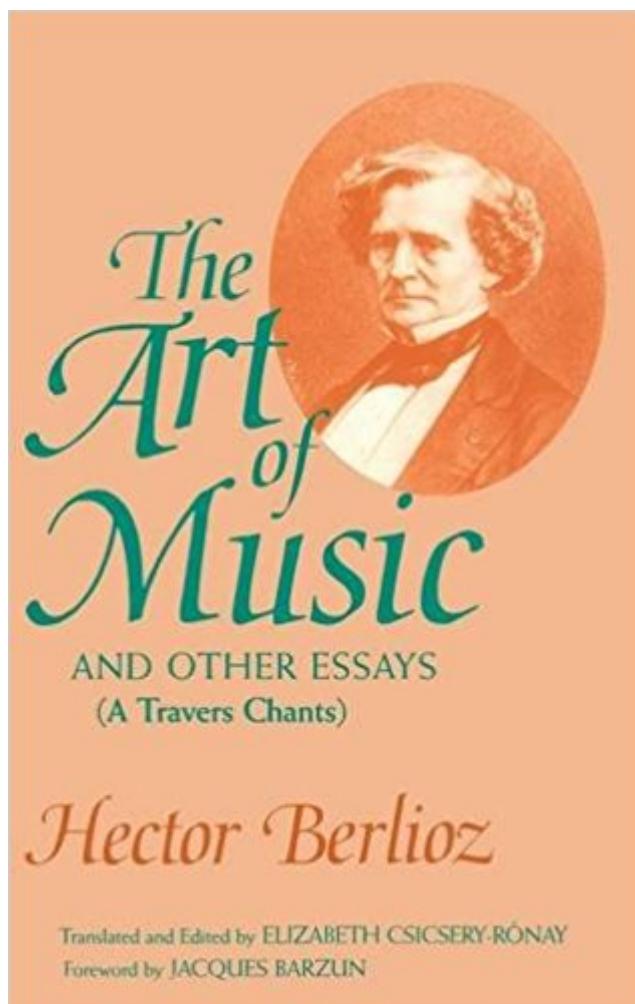


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# The Art Of Music And Other Essays: (A Travers Chants)



## Synopsis

"Berlioz the person-composer-writer is the sensitive child of his century and a most passionate voice of his time." •The Opera Quarterly"Berlioz could hardly have been better served than by the translator of this English edition... It is an invaluable and long-overdue addition to the Berlioz literature in English. Elisabeth Csicsery-Rá nay has given us an A travers chants for the millennium." •Music and LettersHector Berlioz (1803-1869) was equally prominent as composer and music critic. A Travers Chants is the collection of writings he himself selected from his thirty-odd years of musical journalism. This new translation, phrased in lively, idiomatic English and annotated for the twentieth-century reader, is illustrated with lithographs and drawings from Berliozâ ™s lifetime.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Text: English (translation) Original Language: French

Hector Berlioz (1803-1869) was equally prominent as composer and author. According to Harold Schonberg, he was the "foremost music critic of his time, possibly of all time". A Travers Chants is the collection of writings he himself selected from his thirty-odd years of musical journalism. These essays cover a wide spectrum of intellectual inquiry: Beethoven's nine symphonies and his opera, Fidelio; Wagner and the partisans of the "Music of the Future"; Berlioz's idols - Gluck, Weber, and

Mozart. There is an eloquent plea to stop the constant rise in concert pitch (an issue still discussed today), a serious piece on the place of music in church, and a humorous and imaginative account of musical customs in China. But Berlioz's writings also contain biting satire and ridicule - of opera singers, of the Academy, of dilettantism. This new translation, phrased in lively, idiomatic English and annotated for the twentieth-century reader, is illustrated with lithographs and drawings from Berlioz's lifetime. Berlioz's writings are a treasure-house of information on nineteenth-century musical life, performance practice, and taste.|Hector Berlioz (1803-1869) was equally prominent as composer and author. According to Harold Schonberg, he was the ""foremost music critic of his time, possibly of all time.""  
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What a joy to read the musical insights of one of the most wonderful composers in the world. The essay on Gluck alone is worth the price of the book. I just gave this as a gift to another Berlioz-lover. He was thrilled and started to read it right away.I'm still waiting to know what the original title in French means (A Travers Chants). "Through songs"??

Hector Berlioz is remembered mainly as the composer of Symphony Fantastique, but he was also a gifted music critic and writer. This collection of essays is entertaining and witty; Berlioz's satirical and biting humor is liberally spread throughout. This book is accessible to amateurs and professionals alike, filled with anecdotes and insight into the mind of a creative genius.

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