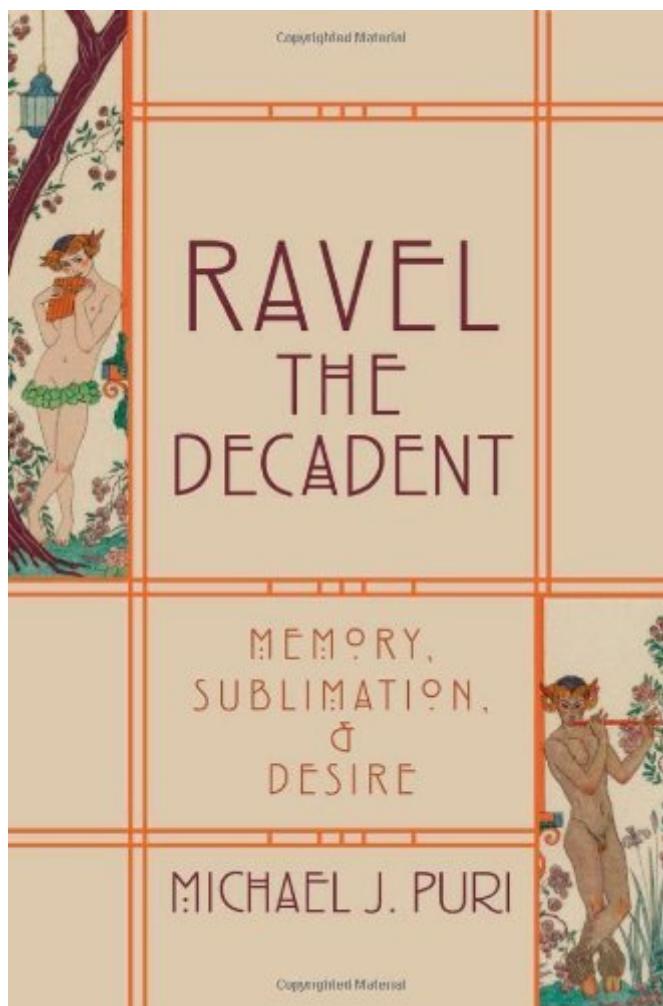


The book was found

Ravel The Decadent: Memory, Sublimation, And Desire



Synopsis

The music of Maurice Ravel (1875-1937), beloved by musicians and audiences since its debut, has been a difficult topic for scholars. The traditional stylistic categories of impressionism, symbolism, and neoclassicism, while relevant, have offered too little purchase on this fascinating but enigmatic work. In *Ravel the Decadent*, author Michael Puri provides an innovative and productive solution by locating the aesthetic origins of this music in the French Decadence and demonstrating the extension of this influence across the length of his oeuvre. From an array of Decadent topics Puri selects three--memory, sublimation, and desire--and uses them to delineate the content of this music, pinpoint its overlap with contemporary cultural discourse, and link it to its biographical context, as well as to create new methods altogether for the analysis and interpretation of music. *Ravel the Decadent* opens by defining the main concepts, giving particular attention to memory and decadence. It then stakes out contrasting modes of memory in this music: a nostalgic mode that views the past as forever lost, and a more optimistic one that imagines its resurrection and reanimation. Acknowledging Ravel's lifelong identity as a dandy--a figure that embodies the Decadence and its aspiration toward the sublime--Puri identifies possible moments of musical self-portraiture before stepping back to theorize dandyism in European musical modernism at large. He then addresses the dialectic between desire and its sublimation in the pairing of two genres--the bacchanal and the idyl--and leverages the central trio of concepts to offer provocative readings of Ravel's two waltz sets, the *Valses nobles et sentimentales* and *La valse*. Puri concludes by invoking the same terms to identify a topic of "faun music" that promises to create new common ground between Ravel and Debussy. Rife with close readings that will satisfy the musicologist, *Ravel the Decadent* also suits a more general reader through its broadly humanistic key concepts, immersion in contemporary art and literature, and clarity of language.

Book Information

File Size: 5007 KB

Print Length: 272 pages

Publisher: Oxford University Press; 1 edition (March 27, 2012)

Publication Date: March 27, 2012

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B007PRZS3U

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Not Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Not Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #1,474,938 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #63
in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Sheet Music & Scores > Composers > Ravel #522
in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Arts & Photography > Music > Theory, Composition &
Performance > Theory #1688 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Arts & Photography > Music >
History & Criticism

Customer Reviews

Not infrequently writers who attempt to make literal the ethereal music of composers fall into the quandary of 'how can musical meaning be expressed in words?' Most audiences continue to swoon during performances of Maurice Ravel's 'La Valse,' 'Boléro,' 'Gaspard de la nuit,' 'Daphnis and Chloé,' 'Shéhérazade,' 'Ma Mère l'Oye,' 'Valses nobles et sentimentales,' the piano concerti, 'Le Tombeau de Couperin,' etc are inclined to respond to the rapturous moods he created. But in this book by Michael J. Puri the intent is to step into academia and explain the works of the composer in terms of the event and tenor of the times. According to Puri, a graduate of Harvard, Yale, and the Music Academy in Basel, Switzerland, a musicologist and concert pianist who first encountered Ravel through his beautiful but technically challenging music for piano. Puri's research into Ravel grew beyond the piano music to include the composer's entire output, Ravel (1875 - 1937) was a decadent, in that generation of artists - painters, writers and musicians who produced from the end of the 19th century through the years between World Wars I and II - concerned with both internal psychology and external aesthetics. Dandyism, or the adoption of a fashionable public persona that was an artistic expression in itself, was part of this movement. "I saw that there were gaps in the way historians accounted for late 19th- and early 20th-century music. Ravel's music remains very popular for classical musicians and audiences, but for various reasons he's been neglected in these narratives. It occurred to me that I had the opportunity to think new thoughts about a major repertoire." What follows is a dissection of each of Ravel's works, which, according to Puri, can be explained by the composer's memory, sublimation, obsession with the past and with fantasies of desire, and decadence. It is a tough read in that the writing style is dry and more a dissertation than a memoir. But there is a lot of information here that few of us have ever considered. The book will likely find a permanent place in the libraries of institutions of learning. It is

a bit tedious. Grady Harp, January 13

very fast, receive it next day, fine. help me a lot. it is a very useful tool, It's so sharp. I cut myself the first time I used it.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Ravel the Decadent: Memory, Sublimation, and Desire Memory Exercises: Memory Exercises Unleashed: Top 12 Memory Exercises To Remember Work And Life In 24 Hours With The Definitive Memory Exercises Guide! (memory exercises, memory, brain training) Memory Training: Train your brain to improve your memory (Unlimited Memory, Mental Health, Memory Techniques, Education & Reference, Study Skills, Memory Improvement Book 1) Better Memory Now: Memory Training Tips to Creatively Learn Anything Quickly, Improve Memory, & Ability to Focus for Students, Professionals, and Everyone Else who wants Memory Improvement Memory Repair Protocol - Improve Your Memory: Powerful Strategies To Enhance Your Memory - The Ultimate Guide to Unleash Your Brain's Potential (memory loss Book 1) Memory: Boost Your Memory with Easy Exercises - Improve Your Mental Focus in Everyday Life (FREE BONUS INCLUDED) (Improve memory, improving memory, remembering more, productivity improvement) String Quartets by Debussy and Ravel: Quartet in G Minor, Op. 10/Debussy; Quartet in F Major/Ravel (Dover Chamber Music Scores) Ravel According to Ravel How to Improve Your Memory and Remember Anything: Flash Cards, Memory Palaces, Mnemonics (50+ Powerful Hacks for Amazing Memory Improvement) (The Learning Development Book Series 7) Quantum Memory: Learn to Improve Your Memory with The World Memory Champion! Sex and Marriage: How to Guide for Sex and Passion and Desire for Married Couples: Discover the 10 Ways to Turn Your Sex Life From Routine to Lustful Desire Sex and Marriage: More Sex, Passion and Desire for Married Couples: Discover the 10 Ways to Turn Your Sex Life From Routine to Lustful Desire (Sex Tips, ... Marriage, Marriage Advice, Marriage Help) Desire's Promise: The Desire Series Book 1 The Comfort Women: Sexual Violence and Postcolonial Memory in Korea and Japan (Worlds of Desire: The Chicago Series on Sexuality, Gender, and Culture) Decadent Gluten-Free Vegan Baking: Delicious, Gluten-, Egg- and Dairy-Free Treats and Sweets Low-Sodium Recipes: Decadent Sodium Free, Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner and More (The Easy Recipe) Vegan Chocolate: Unapologetically Luscious and Decadent Dairy-Free Desserts The Complete Cuisinart Homemade Frozen Yogurt, Sorbet, Gelato, Ice Cream Maker Book: 100 Decadent and Fun Recipes for your 2-Quart ICE-30BC New York City's Five Points The Most Dangerous and Decadent Neighborhood Ever! Coconut Flour Recipes 2.0 - A Decadent Gluten-Free, Low-Carb Alternative To Wheat (The Easy Recipe Book 37)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)