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The Operas Of Puccini (Cornell Paperbacks)



Synopsis

The performance history of each of Puccini's operas are reviewed and related to events in his life.

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Customer Reviews

William Ashbrook's "The Operas of Puccini" is an accurate, gracefully written, and thoroughly interesting account of its subject. For each opera, Ashbrook methodically examines literary sources, discusses relevant biographical evidence, and analyzes musical "fingerprints" of Puccini's style. Ashbrook clearly loves his subject (which cannot be said for Charles Osborne, whose similar but extremely sour account cannot hold a candle to Ashbrook's). I frequently return to Ashbrook's text to check some detail or merely to reacquaint myself with an opera I haven't seen recently, and I always come away from the book with renewed respect for its author and subject. In the tradition of Ashbrook's magisterial account of the life of Donizetti, "The Operas of Puccini" is a cornerstone text for opera fans.

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