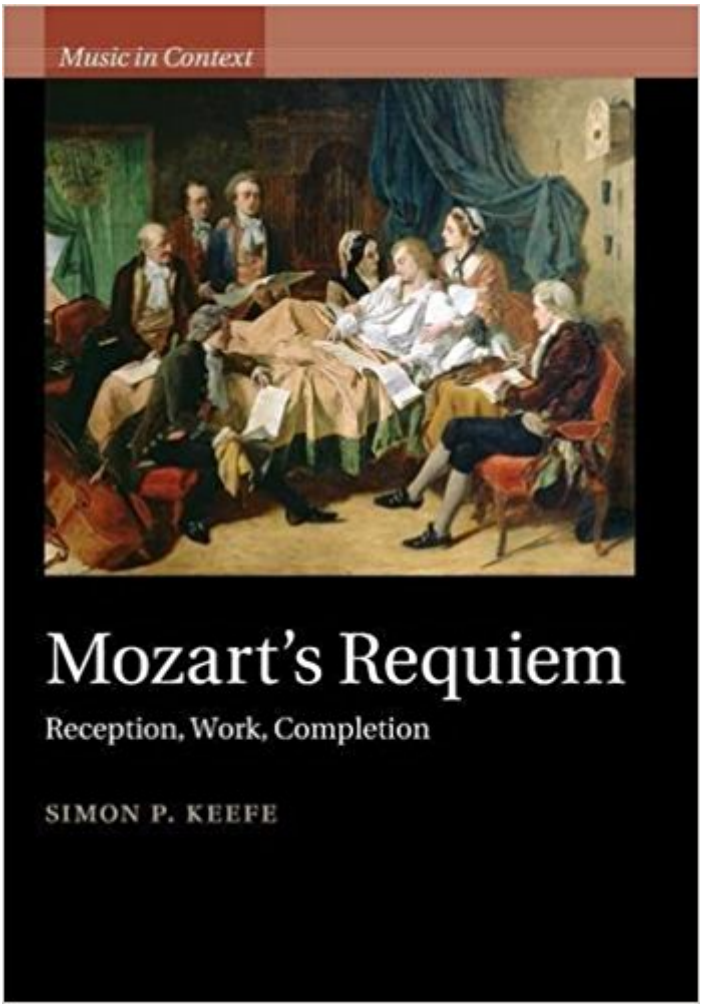
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Mozart's Requiem: Reception, Work, Completion (Music In Context)



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Synopsis

Presenting a fresh interpretation of Mozart’s Requiem, Simon P. Keefe redresses a longstanding scholarly imbalance whereby narrow consideration of the text of this famously incomplete work has taken precedence over consideration of context in the widest sense. Keefe details the reception of the Requiem legend in general writings, fiction, theatre and film, as well as discussing criticism, scholarship and performance. Evaluation of Mozart’s work on the Requiem turns attention to the autograph score, the document in which myths and musical realities collide. Franz Xaver SÃƒÂ ssmayr’s completion (1791-2) is also re-appraised and the ideological underpinnings of modern completions assessed. Overall, the book affirms that Mozart’s Requiem, fascinating for interacting musical, biographical, circumstantial and psychological reasons, cannot be fully appreciated by studying only Mozart’s activities. Broad-ranging hermeneutic approaches to the work, moreover, supersede traditionally limited discursive confines.

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"It is astounding that Keefe opens up new ground in large areas ... A far-reaching book ... All in all, a first-class monograph, outstandingly produced and printed, which will be read cover to cover as well as used for reference." Manfred Hermann Schmid, Mozart-Jahrbuch 2013

Simon Keefe presents a fresh interpretation of one of western music's most celebrated works. The study focuses on historical and current understandings of Mozart's Requiem in fiction, drama, film, criticism and performance, paying special attention to legends surrounding the work, and re-appraises Mozart's musical contributions and completions of the score.

An outstanding summary of the Requiem: musically (including analysis of both Mozart's and Eiblyer's and Sussmayr's contributions), and historically. Well done.

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