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Singing Archaeology - Philip Glass's Akhnaten

By RICHARDSON, John

U.S.A / Wesleyan University Press, 1999. Soft cover. Book Condition: New. No Jacket. The author's in-depth examination shows how the third opera of Glass's famous trilogy, the story of an androgynous monarch who authored radical social and religious reforms, encapsulates Glass's ideational orientation at the time, both in terms of his unique conception of music theater and with regard to broader social questions. Glass's nontraditional musical syntax, his experimental, minimalist approach, and his highly ambiguous tonality have resisted interpretation, but Richardson overcomes those difficulties by developing new theoretical models through which to analyze both the work and its genesis. With careful explanations of theory and compositional strategies, close readings of the work itself, consideration of the collaborative aspects of the opera's evolution, and incorporation of previously unpublished interviews with Glass himself combine to illuminate both a landmark work of contemporary musical theater and a dominant figure on the American musical landscape. With some illustrations. A 1st edition paperback in new condition. (295 pages & 14 pages of introduction).



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