

Literature as Opera

Gary Schmidgall

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Gary Schmidgall : Literature as Opera before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Literature as Opera:

The author examines the fascinating circumstances in which composers have found works of literature suitable for opera, how they have transmuted into musical dramatic terms the essential features of works that in some cases may not ever have been plays. Each work here described has proved a classic both in its original form on the musical stage - the book illustrates 9 different genres. There are musical examples some photos throughout the book. Main chapters: *An opening perspective *Handel: Orlando, Ariodante, Alcina *Mozart: The Marriage of Figaro *Conizetti: Maria Stuarda Lucia de Lammermoor *Berlioz: Benvenuto Cellini *Verdi: Macbeth *Tchaikovsky: Eugene Onegin *Strauss: Salome *Alban Berg: Wozzeck *Benjamin Britten: Death in Venice *Afterword