

The Flute (Yale Musical Instrument Series)

By Ardal Powell

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The Flute (Yale Musical Instrument Series) By Ardal Powell

This book tells the story of the flute in the musical life of Europe and North America from the twelfth century to the present day. It is the first history to illustrate the relationship that has bound the instrument, its music, and performance technique together through eight centuries of shifting musical tastes and practices.

In a comprehensive and authoritative account of the flute's development, Ardal Powell takes full account of recent research: on military flutes and fifes of the fifteenth century, the renaissance consort flute, baroque and classical instruments, mechanically advanced nineteenth-century designs by Theobald Boehm and others, and further innovations that led to the modern flute.

All these transformations are related to revolutions in playing style and repertoire, in the lives of flute players and makers, and in the uses of the instrument to play military, religious, consort, solo, chamber, opera, symphony, jazz, popular, and flute band music. For the first time the role of amateur flutists receives due consideration alongside the influence of famous players and teachers. The ultimate guide to the heritage of the flute, this volume will delight both those who play the flute and those who love its music.

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Editorial Review

From Library Journal
With these two volumes, the publisher launches its promising "Musical Instrument" series, in which noted scholars/ performers discuss instruments in light of the newest research. Forthcoming titles will cover the piano, the clarinet, the cello, the violin, and the trumpet. Montagu has played timpani and percussion professionally for more than 50 years and oversaw the Bate Collection of Musical Instruments at Oxford, and Powell is a noted solo flautist and president of Folkers & Powell, Makers of Historical Flutes, in Hudson, NY. Each has written an informative and authoritative guide for those with previous background in these instruments and a serious desire to understand their place in history. Taking a chronological approach, the authors trace the instruments from earliest known records and discuss the changes in construction, social context, and repertory, as well as notable performers and makers. Montagu's appendixes include information about playing techniques and the construction of percussion instruments, and Powell's reference section contains extremely valuable coverage of past and current scholarship on flutes. In addition to being well written, the books are sturdy and beautifully illustrated. Highly recommended for academic libraries, public libraries where an interest in music is strong, and upper-level music students generally. Timothy J. McGee, Univ. of Toronto
Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Review
"Nobody but the renowned Ardal Powell could write such a comprehensive, engaging history of the flute.... His writing is clear and scholarly, but also active and fluent. This important resource is an achievement that ought to find its way to a wide audience."

From the Publisher
Yale Musical Instrument Series

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Sandra Hughes:

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Suzanne Cicero:

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Joan Ortega:

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