



Sounding Authentic: The Rural Miniature & Musical Modernism

By Walden, Joshua S.

Oxford. 1 Cloth(s), 2014. hard. Book Condition: New. Exploring the intersecting influences of nationalism, modernism, and technological innovation on representations of ethnic and national identities in 20th-century art music, Peabody Institute musicologist Joshua Walden discusses these forces through the prism of what he terms the rural miniature—short violin and piano pieces based on folk song and dance styles, particularly the folk music of Hungary, the Jewish diaspora, and Spain. Walden persuasively demonstrates how rural miniatures represented folk and rural cultures in a manner that was perceived as authentic, even while they involved significant modification of the original sources. He also links them to the impulse toward realism in developing technologies of photography, film, and sound recording. "Walden makes us nostalgic for a genre whose very appeal relies on nostalgia. Furthermore, he has found an intellectually substantial language with which to critique an inherently light genre—a major achievement in our discipline." *Journal of the American Musicological Society* 308.



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