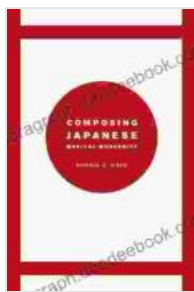


Composing Japanese Musical Modernity

Chicago Studies in Ethnomusicology: Volume 25

Author: J. Lawrence Witzleben

Publisher: University of Chicago Press



Composing Japanese Musical Modernity (Chicago Studies in Ethnomusicology) by Bonnie C. Wade

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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Overview

Composing Japanese Musical Modernity explores the role of Western musical traditions in the development of modern Japanese music. Focusing on the work of four Japanese composers—Yoshimatsu Takeishi, Takemitsu Tōru, Yuasa Jōji, and Matsudaira Yori-Aki—the book shows how these composers used Western musical forms and techniques to create new and distinctive works of music that reflected both the traditional and modern aspects of Japanese culture.

Drawing on archival research, interviews with the composers themselves, and detailed musical analysis, Witzleben argues that these composers were not simply imitating Western music, but rather were engaging in a creative dialogue with it. They used Western music as a starting point for their own explorations of musical form, melody, and harmony, and in the process they created a new and unique body of music that has become an important part of the Japanese musical landscape.

Contents

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2. Yoshimatsu Takeishi: Tradition and Innovation in Japanese Music
3. Takemitsu Tōru: Modernist Soundscapes
4. Yuasa Jōji: Experimentalism and the Avant-Garde
5. Matsudaira Yori-Aki: The Search for a New Japanese Music
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Reviews

“A meticulously researched and beautifully written book that provides a fascinating account of the development of modern Japanese music. Witzleben’s insights into the work of these four composers are invaluable, and his book is a major contribution to the study of Japanese music and culture.”

—*Mark Morris, University of California, Los Angeles*

“This book is a must-read for anyone interested in modern Japanese music. Witzleben’s analysis of the work of these four composers is deeply informed and insightful, and his book provides a valuable overview of the development of Japanese music in the 20th century.”

—*Timothy Taylor, University of California, Santa Barbara*

About the Author

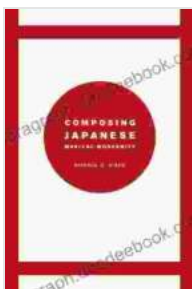
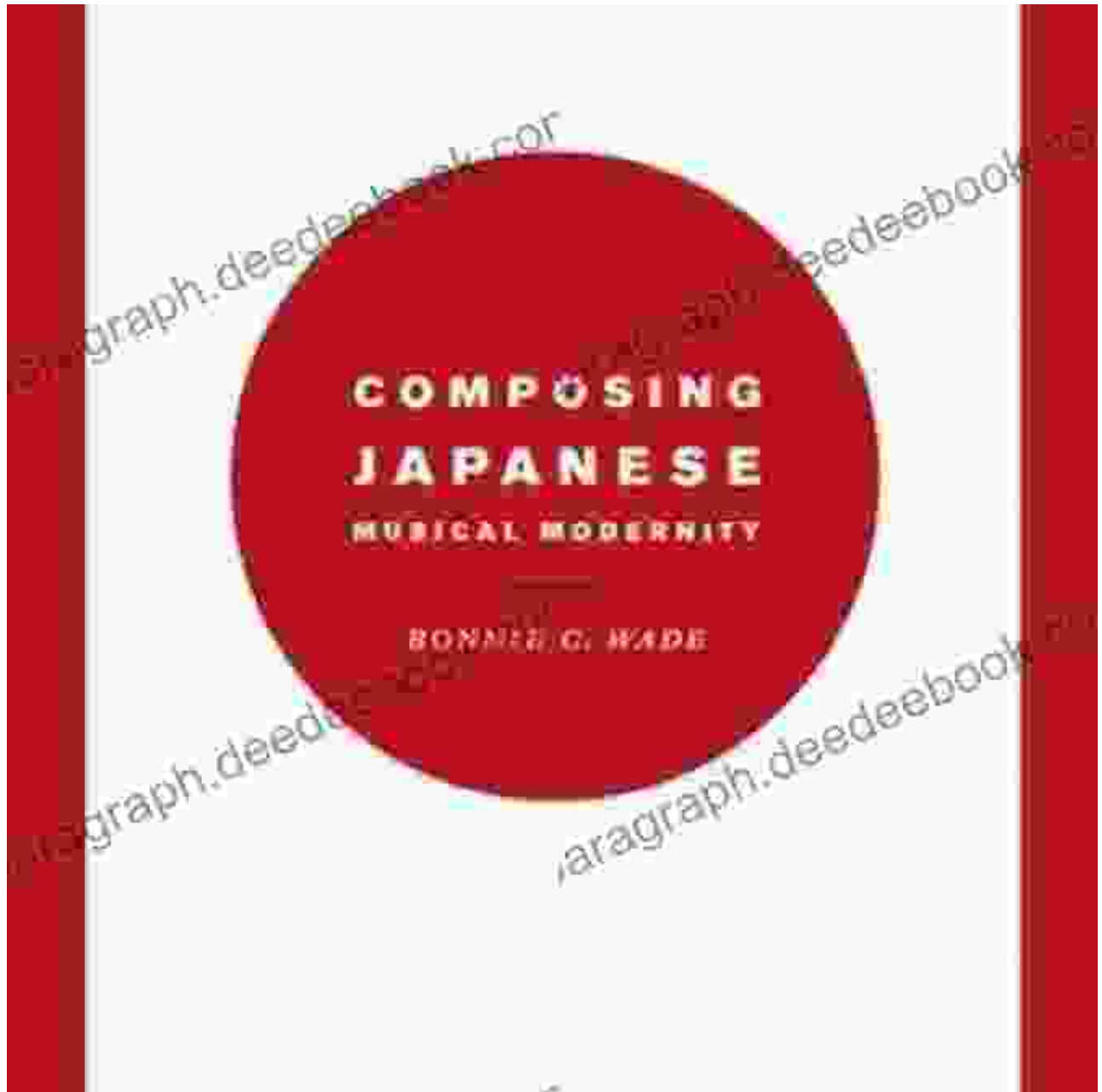
J. Lawrence Witzleben is Associate Professor of Music at the University of California, Davis. His research focuses on the history of Western and Japanese music, with a particular emphasis on the relationship between the two. He is the author of numerous articles and book chapters on Japanese music, and he is the editor of the journal *The World of Music*.

Additional Information

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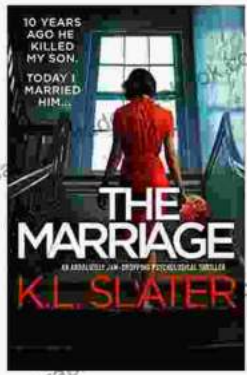


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