

[Mobile pdf] A Beethoven Enigma (American University Studies)

A Beethoven Enigma (American University Studies)

Joanna Goldstein

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Joanna Goldstein : A Beethoven Enigma (American University Studies) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Beethoven Enigma (American University Studies):

Music is an immediate and transient art which relies upon performance for its transformation from notational symbols into the sonatas we hear. However, because music notation is an inexact language, performers' interpretations of the

musical score present a variety of expressive meanings in a work which can illuminate different melodic, harmonic, and formal relationships. A Beethoven Enigma explores the process of performance analysis which reveals a work in its ever-changing form, and discusses three recorded performances of one of the more enigmatic works of the piano repertoire, Beethoven's Sonata in C minor, Opus 111. The contrasting interpretative insights of Brendel, Michelangeli, and Ashkenazy clarify many formal ambiguities, offer solutions to pianistic difficulties, and illustrate how this method for critical listening may serve as a model for the study of other works as they reveal themselves in performance.

A close and extensive analysis of the interpretative structure of performances by Brendel, Michelangeli, and Ashkenazy is designed to provide insight into each pianist's effectiveness and an increased understanding of the musical work and its interpretative possibilities. (The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism, Winter 1989) Such an authoritative and enlightening presentation, delving into so many different fields, could have been written only by a true scholar/performer. Goldstein is both a theorist and a performing pianist; it shows. (Choice, September 1989)