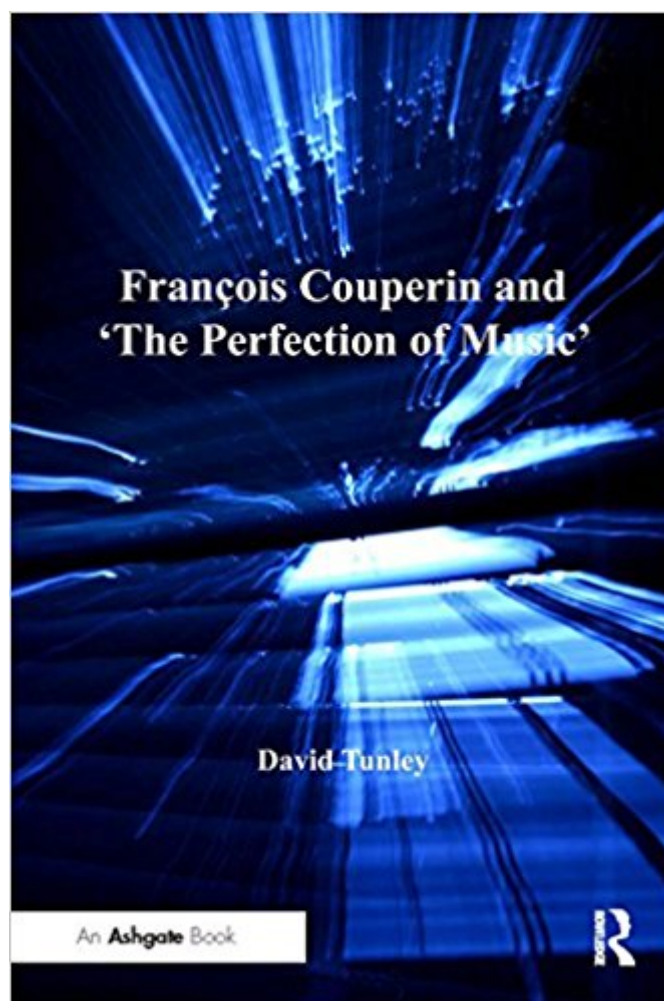


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François Couperin And 'The Perfection Of Music'



Synopsis

François Couperin's contribution to the literature of baroque keyboard music has long been recognized. François Couperin and 'The Perfection of Music' updates and expands upon David Tunley's valuable 1982 BBC Music Guide to the composer, and examines the whole of Couperin's output including the organ masses, motets and chamber music, in addition to the well-known works for harpsichord. Taking as its focal point Couperin's concept of the perfection of music through the union of the French and Italian styles, this book takes a more analytical approach to Couperin's work. Early chapters outline the main contrasting features of the two schools in the seventeenth- and early eighteenth-centuries, and it becomes clear that Couperin's expressive power owed much to his fusion of the polarities of the French classical tradition with that of the Italian baroque. The book features a number of appendices, including the prefaces to Couperin's work both in the original French and in English translation, and a glossary of dances of the French baroque.

Book Information

File Size: 14566 KB

Print Length: 181 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: 0754609286

Simultaneous Device Usage: Up to 4 simultaneous devices, per publisher limits

Publisher: Routledge; Revised edition (April 15, 2016)

Publication Date: April 15, 2016

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B01ENQ04YI

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Not Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #3,500,627 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #28

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