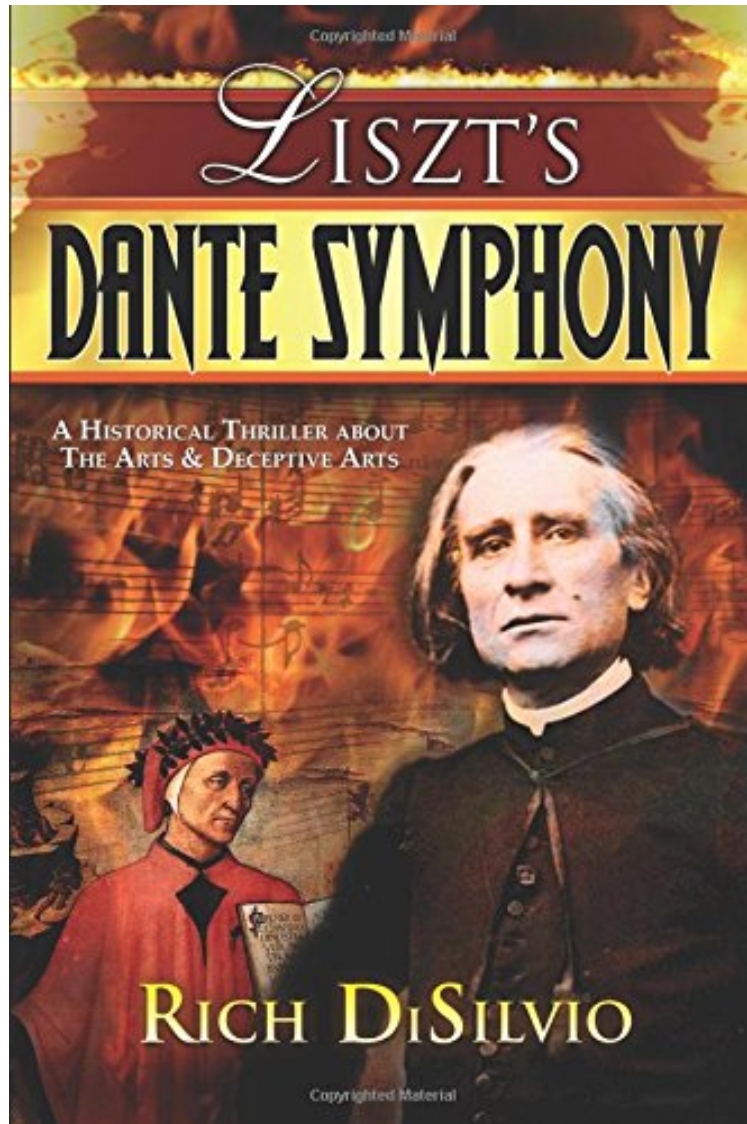


[Free] Liszt's Dante Symphony: A Historical Thriller about the Arts Deceptive Arts

## Liszt's Dante Symphony: A Historical Thriller about the Arts Deceptive Arts

*Rich DiSilvio*

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**Rich DiSilvio : Liszt's Dante Symphony: A Historical Thriller about the Arts Deceptive Arts** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Liszt's Dante Symphony: A Historical Thriller about the Arts Deceptive Arts:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Peter R. Zuzolo By Peter R. Zuzolo "Liszt's Dante Symphony" is a thrilling tale of murder and covert spy rings amid the turbulent rise of Bismarck's Prussia, thus leading to Hitler's

brutal Third Reich. This novel features an Italian as the main character whose mission to uncover his father's mysterious death while combating Adolph Hitler's Nazi Germany imparts a heroic and positive image for Italians and a universally sound message of the will of the human spirit and its triumph over evil. Following the lives of a student of Liszt's, named Angelo Di Purezza, and his son, the reader is taken on a journey of suspense that cascades over two generations. During those years Europe would experience numerous revolutions, the unification of Italy, and witness two World Wars that would feature ghastly chemical weapons, atomic bombs, and insidious poison gas called Zyklon-B. A huge cast of historical characters joins Franz Liszt, including Napoleon III, Pope Pius IX, Rossini, Saint-Sans, Gustave Dore, Victor Hugo, Albert Einstein, Adolf Hitler and many others. The tale is an exciting amalgamation of history, politics, religion, music, the fine arts, secret codes, murder, suspense, sacrifices, and even romance. DiSilvio's prior expansive historical tome on Western civilization, "The Winds of Time", has met with rave reviews from professors, journalists and the general public. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Enjoyable Historical Fiction. By Bill B. A wonderful book, written in historical fiction, that I highly recommend. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Unique Historical Fiction. By RJ Myers. Liszt's Dante Symphony is, at its heart, a tale of a father and son, and the sacrifices we make for our ideals and our families. The story is cleverly ensconced in the world of classical music, particularly that of 19th century composer Franz Liszt. It is one of the most unique plot devices I have seen used in historical fiction. It may seem that Liszt is an unusual choice to focus on, as there are other, more recognizable names that could make a connection with a readership that, like myself, may be largely ignorant of the world of classical music. However, the authors admiration for Franz Liszt jumps off the pages and it soon becomes clear why Liszt is vital to the story. The eponymous Dante Symphony is an actual composition of Franz Liszt; the musical embodiment of Dante Alighieris The Divine Comedy. It is not possible to read this novel and not want to listen to this musical score. To entice a reader into expanding their horizons and experiencing something new is a great accomplishment. That alone makes this book a success. But Liszt's Dante Symphony goes beyond that. The Divine Comedy describes Dantes fictional travels through Hell, Purgatory, and ultimately Paradise. It is an allegory of the souls journey toward God. Liszt's Dante Symphony describes the separate travels of a father and son in a world each saw degenerating into a version of Hell on Earth. For the father, it was the expansion of German unification under Prussian King Wilhelm I leading to the Franco-Prussian War. For the son, it was the rise of Adolph Hitler and the Nazi Party leading to World War II. The father, Angelo Di Purezza Sr., was a student of Franz Liszt, with a shared political ideology. They, along with a small band of compatriots, conspired to embed secret codes in the musical scores of Liszt's Dante Symphony to aid Emperor Napoleon III of France in efforts to curtail the German expansion. These slightly altered scores would be sent to the conductors of symphonies in various cities to transmit the encoded messages. These actions put their lives in danger. The son, Angelo Di Purezza Jr., grew up without his father, believing him murdered by his enemies. His father was holding a copy of the Dante Symphony when he died and Angelo Jr. believes this to be relevant. Now grown and working as a mathematician at the Kaiser Institute in Berlin, Angelo seeks to uncover secrets he believes are contained within the musical score that will aid him in tracking down the killer. Simultaneously, Hitler and the Nazi Party are rising to power and leading Germany, and the rest of the world, to war. Liszt's Dante Symphony left me wanting more. To me that is a sign of a successful novel. How Liszt embedded secret codes into various scores of his Dante Symphony is alluded to, but never actually demonstrated. All that was missing was the details of an actual mission that originated from the transmission of these messages and its resulting impact. Though, I do realize that would be tangential to what I believe to be the father-and-son core of this story. Liszt's Dante Symphony is the story of a father and son; each in their own era witnessing a world degenerating into death and war. It is the story of their travels through these worlds, and their efforts to manifest that allegorical journey toward God. Historical fiction at its finest.

Liszt's Dante Symphony" is an enigmatic tale of murder and covert spy rings amid the turbulent rise of Bismarck's Prussia, which leads to Hitler's infernal Third Reich. Following the life of Angelo Di Purezza Jr., whose father was a student and (unbeknownst to him) fellow spy of Liszt's, the reader is taken on a journey of suspense and intrigue that cascades over two generations. During those years Europe would experience numerous revolutions and witness two World Wars, thus emulating the horrors foretold in Dantes Inferno and Liszt's symphony, as Hitler's poison gas and human incinerators, coupled with a fiery barrage of weapons, turned the world into a Hellish cauldron of death and destruction. A stellar cast of historical characters fill the pages, including Franz Liszt, Napoleon III, Pope Pius IX, Rossini, Saint-Sans, Gustave Dore, Albert Einstein, a string of Nazi commanders, and their diabolical leader, Adolf Hitler. DiSilvio's mastery of history and the arts shines, making this tale an exciting amalgamation of politics, religion, classical music, and the visual arts, coupled with secret codes, murder, suspense, sacrifices, and ample doses of wit, humor and even romance.

"Author Rich DiSilvio delivers a tale of intrigue and mystery and takes his readers to another time and place in his novel Liszt's Dante Symphony. The story is set in the years preceding World War II and the author does a masterful job of bringing to life historical characters including Franz Liszt, Napoleon III and Albert Einstein. DiSilvio's

command of history lends credibility to this work of historical fiction and leaves readers thinking; why couldn't it have happened that way? The author captures his readers with a brisk and intelligent writing style from the start as he weaves together the threads of a first class mystery in this well written story. I enjoyed Liszt's Dante Symphony and recommend it as a quick paced, thought provoking, enjoyable reading experience." - Michael Gandolfo, History Teacher, Florida

About the Author Rich DiSilvio is an author of both fiction and nonfiction. He has written books, historical articles and commentaries for magazines and online resources. His historical tome on Western civilization, *The Winds of Time*, has received accolades from professors, journalists and the general public. DiSilvio personally pioneered and programmed the first interactive CD-ROM learning software for autism in 1999, the Autism Academy, which offered an ABA program. DiSilvio's work in the music and entertainment industries includes commentaries on the great composers, while his artwork and new media advertisements have graced the projects of many star celebrities and supergroups, such as Cher, Pink Floyd, Yes, Moody Blues, John Lennon, Willy Nelson, Jewel, Sheryl Crow and many others. He has also worked on special interest projects, such as "Killing Hitler", "The Lost Tomb of Jesus" and others.