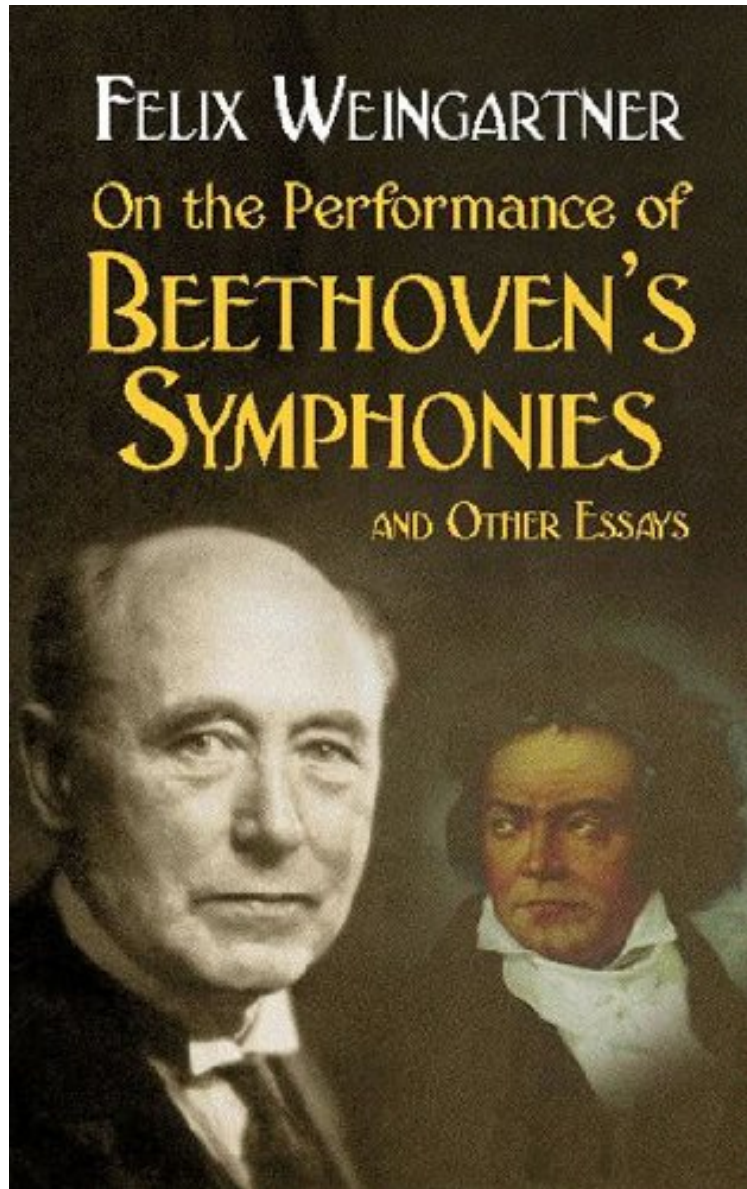


(Download) On the Performance of Beethoven's Symphonies and Other Essays (Dover Books on Music)

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Felix Weingartner

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Felix Weingartner : On the Performance of Beethoven's Symphonies and Other Essays (Dover Books on Music) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised On the Performance of Beethoven's Symphonies and Other Essays (Dover Books on Music):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Superb musical analysis and criticism
By George Goldberg
Weingartner was one of the great conductors of his generation. That's many generations ago (1863-1942 - which means he was 34 years old when Brahms died) and both his style and his opinions are old fashioned. But, in my opinion, they are the best of his time, though he does get involved in some of the disputes which seemed crucial then but have pretty much been forgotten. He is very erudite in general, not just in music, and has a style I find highly satisfying. His discussions on the performance of Beethoven symphonies are technical, often isolating just a few measures for analysis and suggestions. His other essays, especially those on Wagner, are more general and, to my mind, exciting. Highly recommended but, while not absolutely necessary, it does help if you read music as there are quite a few examples.
0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent book
By Facundo
Este libro es uno de los mejores trabajos realizados sobre las sinfonas de Beethoven, muy recomendable para quienes tengan que trabajar con estas obras
4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. 5 Stars are not Enough!
By Ralph J. Steinberg
Lover of German Music
This is a truly exciting book, and my hat is off to Dover for reprinting it. All the lucidity and commitment that one hears in Weingartner's recorded performances is here translated into words that bring forth not only insights into his musical mind, but into the works which he discusses. Weingartner was one of the very few musicians who reveled in profundity and had little use for empty virtuosity (Schnabel, Furtwaengler and Landowska were some of the others). I think though, that some who are well acquainted with his recordings will find a few instances in which he disregards his own advice and follows a much freer interpretive course than what he prescribes. But then again, the greater the artist, the less he can fully pinpoint all of his gifts on page; rather, they are lived in performance.

This volume contains English translations of three important literary works by Austrian conductor Felix Weingartner (1863-1942). The title essay is a detailed account of specific performing difficulties and questions of interpretation in each of the nine symphonies, a comprehensive treatment that will be indispensable to music students. Additional features include "On Conducting" and "The Symphony Since Beethoven," both of which attest to the author's belief that art is at its best when an "exceedingly delicate balance is attained between the feeling and the intellect." Weingartner's wealth of observations on music and musicians will fascinate anyone interested in symphonic traditions.