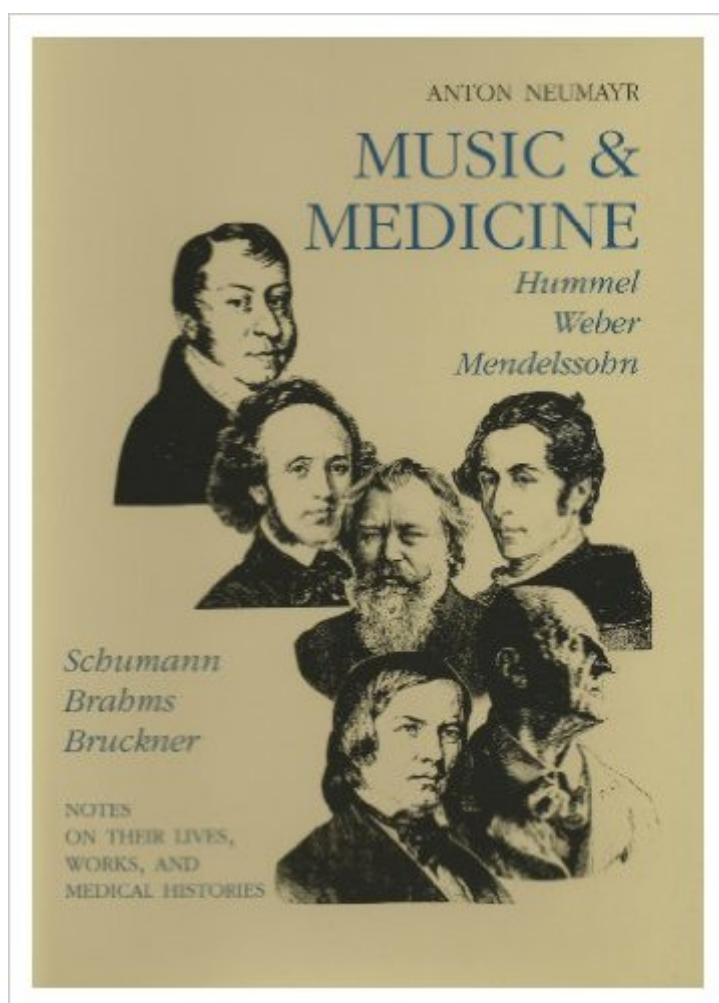


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Music And Medicine: Hummel, Weber, Mendelssohn, Schumann, Brahms, Bruckner: On Their Lives, Works, And Medical Histories



Synopsis

In this second volume of the 3-volume Music & Medicine series, Neumayr investigates the lives, music, and medical histories of Johann Nepomuk Hummel, Carl Maria von Weber, Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy, Robert Schumann, Johannes Brahms, and Anton Bruckner. Neumayr, a world-recognized physician and scientist, presents biographies of these master composers, with special attention to their illnesses and diagnostic interpretations. With great acumen, he scrutinizes the sources and the statements of contemporaries, gathering memories and facts, studying theories on their deaths. In many cases, he contradicts with expert competence his medical colleagues who died long ago, for although he has consulted letters and documents contemporary to the musicians themselves, his diagnoses are based on the medical knowledge of the present day, knowledge not available to the doctors of those days.

Book Information

Hardcover: 600 pages

Publisher: Medi-Ed Press; 1st edition (December 1, 1995)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0936741074

ISBN-13: 978-0936741079

Product Dimensions: 1.5 x 6.2 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (1 customer review)

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Very good book that analyzes the careers of these musical genius, the influences on each other and many times learn about their rivalries, and most notably as the book intends, examine their intersections with infirmities that allow us to see the human side of them and better understand the effects of these setbacks on their musical works. In addition it quotes many useful references for each composer. Easy and very enjoyable book to read.

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