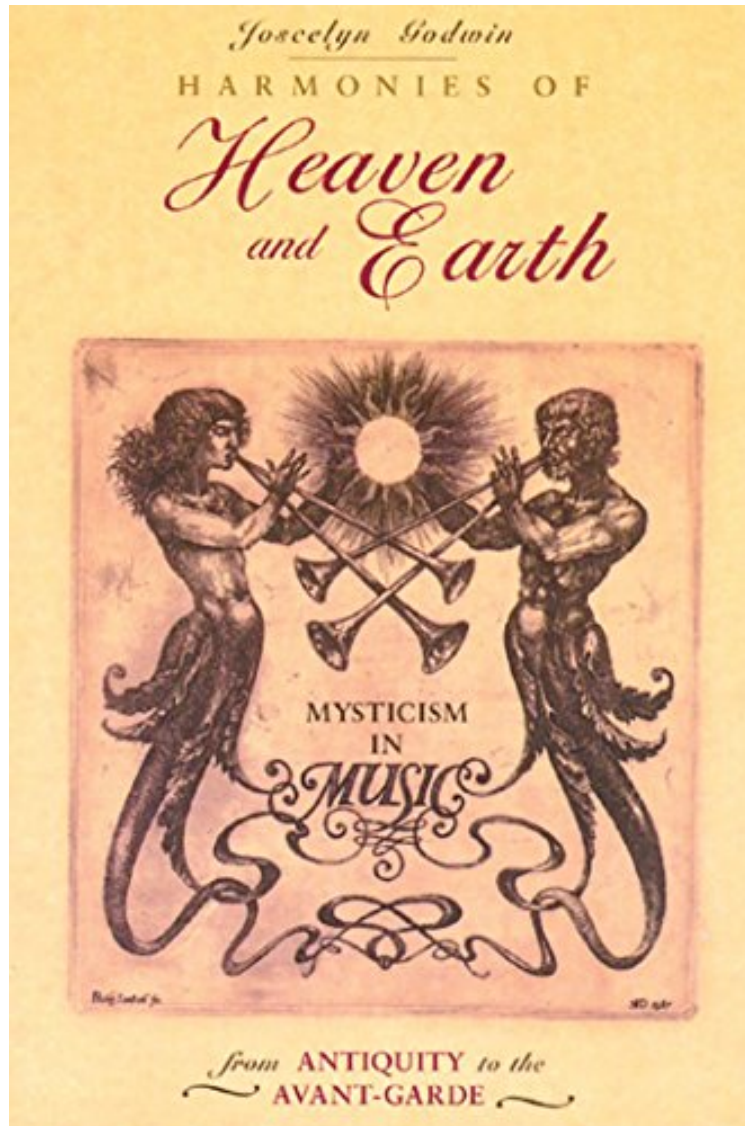


Harmonies of Heaven and Earth: Mysticism in Music from Antiquity to the Avant-Garde

Joscelyn Godwin

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#653426 in Books Joscelyn Godwin 1987-11-01 1987-11-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.00 x .50 x 6.00, .62 #File Name: 0892815000208 pages Harmonies of Heaven and Earth Mysticism in Music from Antiquity to the Avant Garde | File size: 64.Mb

Joscelyn Godwin : Harmonies of Heaven and Earth: Mysticism in Music from Antiquity to the Avant-Garde before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Harmonies of Heaven and Earth: Mysticism in Music from Antiquity to the Avant-Garde:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Interesting insights into the Medieval Worldview By Trevor

Neal Harmonies of Heaven and Earth is an intriguing read if you are musically inclined and have a background knowledge of both music and medieval metaphysics. For the lay person it is a little more difficult to wade through. Still, a lay person can gain an appreciation for both music and speculative knowledge of its effects on matter through a perusal of this book. The author, Mr. Joscelyn Godwin, applies knowledge from folklore, and mysticism to the subject of music, introducing several themes including the linkage of music on matter, living things, and their behavior. He explores the affinity between music and the soul, and then he turns to medieval metaphysics, exploring the 'Chain of Being,' the birth place of music in higher realms of being and its descent to earth. In his final chapters he discusses the musical scale and its correlations to planets, utilizing medieval conceptions of cosmology and their notions of the 'spheres.' For me, the most compelling part of this book was it gave insight into the medieval worldview and its ideal of a unified conception of the universe; a conception that was first shattered by Copernicus, then Einstein and the quantum physicists. We still await the unified theory that the medievalists believed they held in their grasps. The downside of this book is there is little information on recent advances in science and the ways it would compel a re-conceptualization of music and its effects on matter. Instead, the reader wades through speculations on where Gurdjieff obtained his law of seven from, among other anecdotes that are not current science. Still if one is interested in alchemy, hermetic knowledge, and esoteric lore this will make a nice edition to the library. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Geozim An enjoyable read on a fascinating topic. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Harmonies of Heaven and Earth By purple otter This is an excellent book for those who are interested in the metaphysical, transcendent power of music! As a professional music therapist who sees the power that music has to facilitate changes within people on a daily basis, I highly recommend it!

Joscelyn Godwin explores music's effects on matter, living things, and human behavior. Turning to metaphysical accounts of the higher worlds and theories of celestial harmony, the author follows the path of musical inspiration on its descent to Earth, illuminating the archetypal currents that lie beneath Western musical history.

"Through a rich, eclectic mix of mythological, philosophical, literary, and scientific references, the deeper meanings of sound and music are revealed." (Gnosis) From the Back Cover MUSIC / PHILOSOPHY What lies beneath the surface of music and what gives it its transcendent power? For many people, music is the primary catalyst for experiences of expanded consciousness. Musicians and lovers of music--all those who have ever reflected on its inner reality--feel that a true philosophy of music cannot deal with physics and psychology alone. It must include the universal and mystical aspect of which Plato, Kepler, Rameau, and Novalis wrote, and of which Wagner said: I feel that I am one with this vibrating Force, that it is omniscient, and that I can draw upon it to an extent that is limited only by my own capacity. The spiritual power of music surfaces in folklore, myth, and mystical experience, embracing heaven and earth, heard as well as unheard harmonies. Joscelyn Godwin explores music's perceived effects on matter, living things, and human behavior. He then turns to metaphysical accounts of the higher worlds that are the birthplace of Harmony, following the path of musical inspiration on its descent to Earth, and illuminating the archetypal currents that lie beneath Western musical history. A final section gives the fullest account ever published of theories of celestial harmony, from Pythagoras to Rudolf Steiner and Marius Schneider. JOSCELYN GODWIN, Professor of Music at Colgate University, is the author of *The Harmony of the Spheres*, *Arktos: The Polar Myth*, *The Theosophical Enlightenment*, and many other books on music and esoteric traditions. About the Author Joscelyn Godwin, Professor of Music at Colgate University, is the author of *The Harmony of Spheres*, *Arktos: The Polar Myth*, *The Theosophical Enlightenment*, and many other books on music and esoteric traditions.