

the unanswered question charles ives

The Unanswered Question: Charles Ives and the Enigma of His Legacy

Introduction:

Charles Ives. The name conjures images of radical dissonance, innovative harmonies, and a musical landscape utterly unlike anything that came before. He was a revolutionary, a visionary, a composer centuries ahead of his time. Yet, despite his groundbreaking contributions, Ives remained largely unknown during his lifetime. This leaves us with a compelling "unanswered question": Why did such a brilliant composer remain largely ignored, and what is the enduring legacy of his complex and challenging music? This comprehensive exploration delves into Ives' life, his revolutionary compositional techniques, the reasons for his relative obscurity, and the lasting impact he continues to have on the world of music. We'll unravel the mysteries surrounding this enigmatic figure and examine the profound questions his music continues to pose.

I. The Life and Times of Charles Ives: A Biographical Sketch

Charles Ives (1874-1954) lived a life as unconventional as his music. Raised in Danbury, Connecticut, his father, George Ives, a bandmaster and music enthusiast, instilled in him a deep appreciation for diverse musical styles – from traditional hymns to the latest ragtime tunes. This eclectic upbringing shaped Ives' revolutionary approach to composition. He experimented with polytonality (using multiple keys simultaneously), polyrhythms (combining different rhythmic patterns), and microtonal intervals (notes smaller than a half-step). He also seamlessly integrated elements of American folk music, marching band anthems, and even church hymns into his compositions. While studying at Yale University, Ives began composing his most ambitious works, often working in secret due to the unconventional nature of his creations. He worked as an insurance executive, pursuing his musical passions independently, publishing relatively little of his vast output during his lifetime. His dedication to his insurance career, alongside his personal life, ultimately kept his music from being heard by a wider audience while he was alive.

II. Deconstructing the Dissonance: Ives' Revolutionary Compositional Techniques

Ives' music is characterized by its jarring juxtapositions and seemingly chaotic textures. However, a closer look reveals a masterful control and deep intention behind the apparent chaos. His use of polytonality wasn't mere experimentation; it reflected his deep understanding of musical structure and his desire to capture the multifaceted nature of American life. He incorporated elements of contrasting musical styles, representing the diversity and complexities of his experiences. His use of tone clusters, where multiple notes are played simultaneously, created dense and powerful textures, often serving as evocative sonic landscapes. These seemingly abrasive techniques, far from being random, were carefully crafted to express a specific emotion or idea. His use of quotation and collage techniques, borrowing from various musical sources, further highlighted his unique approach to musical creation.

III. The Enigma of Obscurity: Why Ives Remained Largely Unknown During His Lifetime

Despite his innovative techniques, Ives' music remained largely unknown during his lifetime for several reasons. The prevailing musical aesthetics of the early 20th century, dominated by European romanticism and later atonalism, were ill-equipped to understand or appreciate his unconventional style. His rejection of traditional musical forms and his experimental techniques alienated many critics and audiences. The fact that he primarily worked in isolation and did not actively seek recognition contributed to his obscurity. Furthermore, the limited availability of his compositions, with many remaining unpublished, further hindered their reach and recognition. Only in his later years, thanks to the efforts of dedicated musicians and musicologists, did Ives' music start to gain recognition.

IV. The Enduring Legacy: Ives' Influence on Contemporary Music

Despite his late recognition, Ives' influence on contemporary music is undeniable. His experimentation with polytonality, polyrhythms, and other innovative techniques paved the way for later composers to push the boundaries of musical expression. His fearless embrace of dissonance and his integration of diverse musical styles inspired generations of musicians. Ives' unique approach to composition, highlighting his American identity through musical forms, also played a key role in shaping the development of American musical nationalism. His legacy extends beyond mere stylistic influence; his music continues to challenge and inspire audiences and composers alike, prompting a re-evaluation of traditional musical conventions. His work serves as a testament to the power of artistic vision and the enduring impact of a truly unique voice.

V. The Unanswered Questions Remain: Interpretations and Ongoing Debates

Even today, Ives' music continues to spark debate and inspire diverse interpretations. The complexity of his scores, his integration of seemingly disparate elements, and his use of unconventional techniques make it a challenge to definitively analyze and categorize his works. This very ambiguity, however, is a testament to the enduring power of his musical vision. The continuing fascination with Ives and his works lies in the very questions his music raises: What constitutes "musical order"? Can seemingly chaotic sounds create coherent expressions? His legacy lies not only in his compositional achievements but also in the intellectual and emotional engagement his music continues to demand.

Article Outline: The Unanswered Question: Charles Ives and the Enigma of His Legacy

I. Introduction: Hooking the reader and providing an overview of the article's content.

II. Main Chapters:

- A. The Life and Times of Charles Ives: Biographical sketch and formative experiences.
- B. Deconstructing the Dissonance: Analysis of Ives' innovative compositional techniques.
- C. The Enigma of Obscurity: Reasons for Ives' lack of recognition during his lifetime.
- D. The Enduring Legacy: Ives' influence on contemporary music and his lasting impact.
- E. The Unanswered Questions Remain: Ongoing interpretations and debates surrounding Ives' work.

III. Conclusion: Summarizing key points and reflecting on the enduring mystery of Charles Ives.

(Detailed explanation of each point in the outline would be provided in a separate document, mirroring the content above.)

FAQs:

1. What is Charles Ives best known for? Ives is best known for his pioneering use of polytonality, polyrhythms, and the integration of diverse musical styles into his compositions.
2. Why was Charles Ives' music ignored during his lifetime? A combination of factors, including the prevailing musical tastes of the time, his unconventional techniques, and his limited self-promotion, contributed to his obscurity.
3. What is polytonality in music? Polytonality is the simultaneous use of two or more different keys in a musical composition.
4. How did Ives' background influence his music? His upbringing, with its exposure to a wide range of musical styles, significantly shaped his eclectic and revolutionary approach to composition.
5. Who are some composers influenced by Charles Ives? Many contemporary composers, particularly those involved in experimental and avant-garde music, cite Ives as a major influence.
6. Where can I find recordings of Charles Ives' music? Recordings of his works are readily available from various record labels and streaming services.
7. What are some of Ives' most famous compositions? "Three Places in New England," "The Unanswered Question," and "Concord Sonata" are among his most well-known works.
8. Is Ives' music difficult to listen to? The atonal elements and unconventional harmonies may initially challenge listeners unfamiliar with this style, but many find his works ultimately rewarding and deeply moving.
9. What is the significance of "The Unanswered Question"? "The Unanswered Question" is emblematic of Ives' compositional style, showcasing his masterful use of dissonance and juxtaposition, and raising fundamental questions about musical expression itself.

Related Articles:

1. Charles Ives' "The Unanswered Question": A Deep Dive: An in-depth analysis of the composition, exploring its structure, meaning, and historical context.
2. Polytonality in the Music of Charles Ives: A detailed study of Ives' use of polytonality and its significance in his musical language.
3. The Influence of American Folk Music on Charles Ives: Exploring the impact of American folk traditions on Ives' unique compositional style.
4. Charles Ives and American Musical Nationalism: Examining Ives' role in the development of a

distinct American musical identity.

5. The Reception of Charles Ives' Music: A Historical Perspective: A chronological overview of the critical reception of Ives' work from his lifetime to the present.
6. Comparing Ives' Style to Other 20th Century Composers: Drawing comparisons and contrasts between Ives' unique musical approach and that of his contemporaries.
7. The Legacy of Charles Ives in Contemporary Composition: Exploring the enduring influence of Ives' innovative techniques on modern composers.
8. Performing Charles Ives: Challenges and Interpretations: Discussing the specific challenges involved in performing Ives' complex works.
9. Charles Ives and the Avant-Garde: Positioning Ives within the broader context of 20th-century avant-garde musical movements.

the unanswered question charles ives: The Unanswered Question Leonard Bernstein, 1976
Leonard Bernstein's Norton Lectures on the future course of music drew cheers from his Harvard audiences and television viewers. In the re-creation of his talks, the author considers music ranging from Hindu ragas through Mozart and Ravel to Copland, Shoenberg, and Stravinsky.

the unanswered question charles ives: *Dvorak's Prophecy: And the Vexed Fate of Black Classical Music* Joseph Horowitz, 2021-11-23 A Kirkus Reviews Best Nonfiction Book of 2021
A provocative interpretation of why classical music in America stayed white—how it got to be that way and what can be done about it. In 1893 the composer Antonín Dvořák prophesied a “great and noble school” of American classical music based on the “negro melodies” he had excitedly discovered since arriving in the United States a year before. But while Black music would foster popular genres known the world over, it never gained a foothold in the concert hall. Black composers found few opportunities to have their works performed, and white composers mainly rejected Dvořák’s lead. Joseph Horowitz ranges throughout American cultural history, from Frederick Douglass and Huckleberry Finn to George Gershwin’s *Porgy and Bess* and the work of Ralph Ellison, searching for explanations. Challenging the standard narrative for American classical music fashioned by Aaron Copland and Leonard Bernstein, he looks back to literary figures—Emerson, Melville, and Twain—to ponder how American music can connect with a “usable past.” The result is a new paradigm that makes room for Black composers, including Harry Burleigh, Nathaniel Dett, William Levi Dawson, and Florence Price, while giving increased prominence to Charles Ives and George Gershwin. Dvořák’s *Prophecy* arrives in the midst of an important conversation about race in America—a conversation that is taking place in music schools and concert halls as well as capitols and boardrooms. As George Shirley writes in his foreword to the book, “We have been left unprepared for the current cultural moment. [Joseph Horowitz] explains how we got there [and] proposes a bigger world of American classical music than what we have known before. It is more diverse and more equitable. And it is more truthful.”

the unanswered question charles ives: *The Unanswered Question* (1908). Charles Ives, 1953

the unanswered question charles ives: *The unanswered question* Charles Ives, 1985

the unanswered question charles ives: *What Charlie Heard* , 2004-01 Charlie listened all through his boyhood, and as he grew into a man, he found he wanted to re-create in music the sounds that he heard every day. But others couldn't hear what Charlie heard. They didn't hear it as

music--only as noise. In this daring and

the unanswered question charles ives: Listening to Charles Ives J. Peter Burkholder, 2021-02-10 Charles Ives is widely regarded as the first great American composer of classical music. But listening to his music is an adventure—hearing how a piece begins may not prepare you for what comes next, or how it ends. Knowing one Ives piece may not prepare you for another. Award-winning music historian J. Peter Burkholder provides an introduction to the composer's diverse musical output and unusual career to readers of any background, discussing about forty of the best and most characteristic pieces framed with biographical sketches. Burkholder shows how Ives mastered each tradition he encountered, from American popular music to classical European genres, from Protestant church music to his own unique experimental idiom, and then interwove elements from all these traditions in the astonishing works of his maturity. Listening to Charles Ives contains compelling walkthroughs of select pieces and ultimately reveals that there is an Ives piece for everyone.

the unanswered question charles ives: Charles Ives Reconsidered Gayle Sherwood Magee, 2008 An engaging new portrait of the seminal American composer

the unanswered question charles ives: General William Booth Enters Into Heaven Vachel Lindsay, 1913

the unanswered question charles ives: The Rest Is Noise Alex Ross, 2007-10-16 Winner of the 2007 National Book Critics Circle Award for Criticism A New York Times Book Review Top Ten Book of the Year Time magazine Top Ten Nonfiction Book of 2007 Newsweek Favorite Books of 2007 A Washington Post Book World Best Book of 2007 In this sweeping and dramatic narrative, Alex Ross, music critic for The New Yorker, weaves together the histories of the twentieth century and its music, from Vienna before the First World War to Paris in the twenties; from Hitler's Germany and Stalin's Russia to downtown New York in the sixties and seventies up to the present. Taking readers into the labyrinth of modern style, Ross draws revelatory connections between the century's most influential composers and the wider culture. The Rest Is Noise is an astonishing history of the twentieth century as told through its music.

the unanswered question charles ives: "Essays Before a Sonata" Charles Ives, 1920

the unanswered question charles ives: Mad Music Stephen Budiansky, 2014-04-01 Mad Music is the story of Charles Edward Ives (1874-1954), the innovative American composer who achieved international recognition, but only after he'd stopped making music. While many of his best works received little attention in his lifetime, Ives is now appreciated as perhaps the most important American composer of the twentieth century and father of the diverse lines of Aaron Copland and John Cage. Ives was also a famously wealthy crank who made millions in the insurance business and tried hard to establish a reputation as a crusty New Englander. To Stephen Budiansky, Ives's life story is a personification of America emerging as a world power: confident and successful, yet unsure of the role of art and culture in a modernizing nation. Though Ives steadfastly remained an outsider in many ways, his life and times inform us of subjects beyond music, including the mystic movement, progressive anticapitalism, and the initial hesitancy of turn-of-the-century-America modernist intellectuals. Deeply researched and elegantly written, this accessible biography tells a uniquely American story of a hidden genius, disparaged as a dilettante, who would shape the history of music in a profound way. Making use of newly published letters and previously undiscovered archival sources bearing on the longstanding mystery of Ives's health and creative decline, this absorbing volume provides a definitive look at the life and times of a true American original.

the unanswered question charles ives: The Psychoanalytic Study of Society, V. 10 Werner Muensterberger, L. Bryce Boyer, 2019-05-15 First published in 1983. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

the unanswered question charles ives: In the Distance Hernan Diaz, 2024-10-15 FINALIST FOR THE PULITZER PRIZE FINALIST FOR THE PEN/FAULKNER AWARD WINNER OF THE WHITING AWARD WINNER OF THE SAROYAN INTERNATIONAL PRIZE FOR WRITING WINNER OF THE VCU CABELL FIRST NOVELIST AWARD WINNER OF THE NEW AMERICAN VOICES

AWARD A PUBLISHERS WEEKLY TOP 10 BOOK OF THE YEAR The first novel by the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Trust*, an exquisite and blisteringly intelligent story of a young Swedish boy, separated from his brother, who becomes a legend and an outlaw A young Swedish immigrant finds himself penniless and alone in California. The boy travels east in search of his brother, moving on foot against the great current of emigrants pushing west. Driven back again and again, he meets criminals, naturalists, religious fanatics, swindlers, American Indians, and lawmen, and his exploits turn him into a legend. Diaz defies the conventions of historical fiction and genre, offering a probing look at the stereotypes that populate our past and a portrait of radical foreignness.

the unanswered question charles ives: *The Curious Thing: Poems* Sandra Lim, 2021-09-14 In this gorgeous third collection, Sandra Lim investigates desire, sexuality, and dream with sinewy intelligence and a startling freshness. Truthful, sensuous, and intellectually relentless, the poems in *The Curious Thing* are compelling meditations on love, art making, solitude, female fate, and both the mundane and serious principles of life. Sandra Lim's poetry displays stinging wit and a tough-minded approach to her own experiences: She speaks with Jean Rhys about beauty, encounters the dark loneliness that can exist inside a relationship, and discovers a coiled anger on a hot summer day. An extended poem sequence slyly revolves the meanings of finding oneself astray in midlife. A steely strength courses through the volume's myriad discoveries—Lim's lucidity and tenderness form a striking complement to her remarkable metaphors and the emotional clamor of her material. Animated by a sense of reckoning and a piercing inwardness, these anti-sentimental poems nevertheless celebrate the passionate and empathetic subjective life.

the unanswered question charles ives: *Shostakovich and Stalin* Solomon Volkov, 2007-12-18 "Music illuminates a person and provides him with his last hope; even Stalin, a butcher, knew that." So said the Russian composer Dmitri Shostakovich, whose first compositions in the 1920s identified him as an avant-garde wunderkind. But that same singularity became a liability a decade later under the totalitarian rule of Stalin, with his unpredictable grounds for the persecution of artists. Solomon Volkov—who cowrote Shostakovich's controversial 1979 memoir, *Testimony*—describes how this lethal uncertainty affected the composer's life and work. Volkov, an authority on Soviet Russian culture, shows us the "holy fool" in Shostakovich: the truth speaker who dared to challenge the supreme powers. We see how Shostakovich struggled to remain faithful to himself in his music and how Stalin fueled that struggle: one minute banning his work, the next encouraging it. We see how some of Shostakovich's contemporaries—Mandelstam, Bulgakov, and Pasternak among them—fell victim to Stalin's manipulations and how Shostakovich barely avoided the same fate. And we see the psychological price he paid for what some perceived as self-serving aloofness and others saw as rightfully defended individuality. This is a revelatory account of the relationship between one of the twentieth century's greatest composers and one of its most infamous tyrants.

the unanswered question charles ives: *All Made of Tunes* James Peter Burkholder, 1995-01-01 Charles Ives is famous for using borrowed material in his music. Almost two hundred individual works or movements, spanning his entire career and representing more than a third of his output, incorporate music by other composers or from his own previous work. In this book, the eminent Ives scholar J. Peter Burkholder identifies the different kinds of quotations in Ives's music, explores the complex musical, aesthetic, and psychological motivations behind the borrowings, and shows the purpose, techniques, and effects that characterize each one. Burkholder catalogues fourteen distinct ways that Ives borrowed, ranging from direct quotation to paraphrase, variation, collage, modeling, and stylistic allusion. Arguing that these borrowing procedures were compositional strategies, he provides a new perspective on Ives's process of composition. In addition, by tracing the development of Ives's borrowing practices through his career, he contributes to an understanding of the composer's stylistic evolution. And by showing how much of Ives's music uses borrowing procedures that are common to many composers, he reveals that Ives is not as far removed from the classic-romantic tradition as has been thought. Finally, Burkholder's comprehensive treatment of Ives's borrowing techniques offers a new perspective on the entire field of musical borrowing.

the unanswered question charles ives: Three Questions for Sixty-five Composers Bálint András Varga, 2011 Do today's composers draw inspiration from life experiences? What has influenced recent composers? How essential is it for a composer to develop a personal style? This book reveals the spontaneous thoughts of some of the most famous composers from around the world about their own development as composers and their reactions to the outside world.

the unanswered question charles ives: The Life of Charles Ives Stuart Feder, 1999-09-09 Charles Ives grew up in the nineteenth century and composed chiefly in the twentieth. His nostalgia for a simpler life in the New England country town of his youth is revealed in his frequent musical quotation of songs of that earlier time: parlor and patriot songs, hymns and gospel music. He had learned these songs early in his life through his father, a village bandmaster, who remained the most important influence in his life and music. Ives absorbed these influences within an innovative and modern musical style of composition. Stuart Feder's account of Ives's life clarifies the complexities of the man and his music, while his straightforward discussion of this uniquely autobiographical music in turn illuminates the narrative.

the unanswered question charles ives: A Descriptive Catalogue of the Music of Charles Ives James B. Sinclair, 1999-01-01 This catalogue of the music of Charles Ives contains 728 entries covering all of the prolific composer's works. James Sinclair's book presents information produced by recent Ives scholarship and generous commentary on each of Ives's compositions. It completes the work begun by musicologist John Kirkpatrick in 1955, when Ives's music manuscripts were deposited in the Yale Music Library. Ives's works are arranged alphabetically by title within genres. Whenever possible, each entry includes the main title and any other titles the composer may have used; the forces required; the duration; headings of movements; publication history; citation of the first known performance and first recording; the derivation of the work, listing music on which it may be modeled or from which it may borrow material; the principal literature treating the piece; and commentary on these and other matters. The catalogue also provides musical incipits for all Ives's extant works, seven appendixes (covering his work lists, 'Quality Photo' lists, his songbooks, a chronology of his life, recordings made by Ives, and his private publications and commercial publishers), three concordances, and four extensive indexes (addresses, names, titles, and musical borrowings).

the unanswered question charles ives: America's Music, from the Pilgrims to the Present Gilbert Chase, 1966

the unanswered question charles ives: Music in a New Found Land Wilfrid Mellers, 1967

the unanswered question charles ives: The Danger of Music and Other Anti-Utopian Essays Richard Taruskin, 2010-11-11 Roth Family Foundation music in America imprint--Prelim. p.

the unanswered question charles ives: Hora novissima Horatio William Parker, 1893

the unanswered question charles ives: Understanding Toscanini Joseph Horowitz, 1994-01-01 As America's symbol of Great Music, Arturo Toscanini and the masterpieces he served were regarded with religious awe. As a celebrity personality, he was heralded for everything from his unwavering stance against Hitler and Mussolini and his cataclysmic tantrums, to his democratic penchants for television wrestling and soup for dinner. During his years with the Metropolitan Opera (1908-15) and the New York Philharmonic (1926-36) he was regularly proclaimed the world's greatest conductor. And with the NBC Symphony (1937-54), created for him by RCA's David Sarnoff, he became the beneficiary of a voracious multimedia promotional apparatus that spread Toscanini madness nationwide. According to Life, he was as well-known as Joe DiMaggio; Time twice put him on its cover; and the New York Herald Tribune attributed Toscanini's fame to simple recognition of his unique greatness. In this boldly conceived and superbly realized study, Joseph Horowitz reveals how and why Toscanini became the object of unparalleled veneration in the United States. Combining biography, cultural history, and music criticism, Horowitz explores the cultural and commercial mechanisms that created America's Toscanini cult and fostered, in turn, a Eurocentric, anachronistic new audience for old music.

the unanswered question charles ives: William Warfield William Warfield, Alton Miller,

1991 This book documents the life and times of its author William Warfield.

the unanswered question charles ives: *Memos* Charles Ives, John Kirkpatrick, 1991 A source book incorporating all the most important unpublished writings of America's great composer.

the unanswered question charles ives: *Writing the Field Recording* Stephen Benson, 2018-03-14 The 11 essays collected here take the recent explosion of interest in field recordings as the point of departure for an investigation of the sound field in music and its relationship to literature and writing.

the unanswered question charles ives: *Responses: Musical Essays and Reviews* David Cairns, 1973

the unanswered question charles ives: *Johannes Brahms* Jan Swafford, 1999 In an expansive study Johannes Brahms emerges from Jan Swafford's book is not a bearded eminence but rather an assemblage of contradictions. He grew up in grinding poverty and as a teenager was forced to play the piano in brothels. Recognized by his teachers as a stupendous talent, Robert Schumann proclaimed Brahms at only twenty-years-old to be the saviour of German music. Brahms spent the rest of his life living up to the that prophecy. He experienced triumphs few artists have enjoyed in their lifetime, yet lived with a relentless loneliness and a growing fatalism about the future of music and the world.

the unanswered question charles ives: *A Theory of Harmony* Ernst Levy, 2024-01-01 Ernst Levy was a visionary Swiss pianist, composer, and teacher who developed an approach to music theory that has come to be known as negative harmony. Levy's theories have had a wide influence, from young British performer/composer Jacob Collier to jazz musicians like Steve Coleman. His posthumous text, *A Theory of Harmony*, summarizes his innovative ideas. *A Theory of Harmony* is a highly original explanation of the harmonic language of the modern era, illuminating the approaches of diverse styles of music. By breaking through age-old conceptions, Levy was able to reorient the way we experience musical harmony. British composer/music pedagogue Paul Wilkinson has written a new introduction that offers multiple points of entry to Levy's work to make this text more accessible for a new generation of students, performers, and theorists. He relates Levy's work to innovations in improvisation, jazz, twentieth-century classical music, and the theoretical writings of a wide range of musical mavericks, including Harry Partch, Hugo Riemann, and David Lewin. Wilkinson shows how *A Theory of Harmony* continues to inspire original musical expression across multiple musical genres.

the unanswered question charles ives: *The ABCs of My Feelings and Music* Scott Edgar, Stephanie Edgar, 2021-03 Music and art can help us feel and express deep emotions. We can be happy or sad, but that is only the beginning. This beautiful book explores the powerful link between art, music, and emotion, and is ideal for deepening Social Emotional Learning (SEL) and building a fuller emotional vocabulary. Built on the principles of SEL, each page of *The ABCs of My Feelings and Music* offers an emotion word in a piece of colorful artwork, one for each letter of the alphabet. Below each illustration are three classical music suggestions to listen to while observing the art. Use the provided questions and a link to playlists to help unpack what children are seeing and feeling. The questions can also jumpstart meaningful discussions about how art and music can affect and help us express our emotions. This book is for children as well as teachers, parents, social workers, counselors, music therapists--anyone who works with children and understands the power of art and music. We hope this book helps you and your children/students expand their emotional vocabulary, have meaningful discussions about emotions, and think more deeply about how music and art makes us feel!

the unanswered question charles ives: *The American Symphony* Neil Butterworth, 2019-05-23 First published in 1998, this volume is the first book to focus on the American symphony. Neil Butterworth surveys the development of the symphony in the United States from early European influences in the last century to the present day, and asks why American composers have shown such allegiance to a musical form which their European contemporaries appear to have discarded. An overview of the growth of musical societies in America during the eighteenth century

and the establishment of the first professional orchestras during the early part of the nineteenth century is followed by chronological analyses of the works of those composers who have played important parts in the progress of symphony in the United States, from Charles Ives, Aaron Copland and Leonard Bernstein, to contemporary figures such as William Bolcom and John Harbison. Complete with a comprehensive catalogue of symphonies and an extensive discography, this book is an indispensable reference work.

the unanswered question charles ives: *Famous Father Girl* Jamie Bernstein, 2018-06-12 The intimate memoir of Leonard Bernstein and his family, that helped inspire the new movie *Maestro* The oldest daughter of revered composer/conductor Leonard Bernstein offers a rare look at her father on the centennial of his birth in a deeply intimate and broadly evocative memoir The composer of *On the Town* and *West Side Story*, chief conductor of the New York Philharmonic, television star, humanitarian, friend of the powerful and influential, and the life of every party, Leonard Bernstein was an enormous celebrity during one of the headiest periods of American cultural life, as well as the most protean musician in twentieth century America. But to his eldest daughter, Jamie, he was above all the man in the scratchy brown bathrobe who smelled of cigarettes; the jokester and compulsive teacher who enthused about Beethoven and the Beatles; the insomniac whose 4 a.m. composing breaks involved spooning baby food out of the jar. He taught his daughter to love the world in all its beauty and complexity. In public and private, Lenny was larger than life. In *Famous Father Girl*, Bernstein mines the emotional depths of her childhood and invites us into her family's private world. A fantastic set of characters populates the Bernsteins' lives, including: the Kennedys, Mike Nichols, John Lennon, Richard Avedon, Stephen Sondheim, Jerome Robbins, and Betty (Lauren) Bacall. An intoxicating tale, *Famous Father Girl* is an intimate meditation on a complex and sometimes troubled man, the family he raised, and the music he composed that became the soundtrack to their entwined lives. Deeply moving and often hilarious, Bernstein's beautifully written memoir is a great American story about one of the greatest Americans of the modern age.

the unanswered question charles ives: *Emerson & Thoreau* Ralph Waldo Emerson, Elizabeth Hall Witherell, 2003 Excerpted essays from Emerson & Thoreau with additional essay comparing the two.

the unanswered question charles ives: *Charles Ives* Gayle Sherwood Magee, 2010-06-10 This research guide provides detailed information on over one thousand publications and websites concerning the American composer Charles Ives. With informative annotations and nearly two hundred new entries, this greatly expanded, updated, and revised guide offers a key survey of the field for interested readers and experienced researchers alike.

the unanswered question charles ives: *Wagner Nights* Joseph Horowitz, 2023-11-10 As never before or since, Richard Wagner's name dominated American music-making at the close of the nineteenth century. Europe, too, was obsessed with Wagner, but—as Joseph Horowitz shows in this first history of Wagnerism in the United States—the American obsession was unique. The central figure in *Wagner Nights* is conductor Anton Seidl (1850-1898), a priestly and enigmatic personage in New York musical life. Seidl's own admirers included the women of the Brooklyn-based Seidl Society, who wore the letter S on their dresses. In the summers, Seidl conducted fourteen times a week at Brighton Beach, filling the three-thousand-seat music pavilion to capacity. The fact that most Wagnerites were women was a distinguishing feature of American Wagnerism and constituted a vital aspect of the fin-de-siècle ferment that anticipated the New American Woman. Drawing on the work of such cultural historians as T. Jackson Lears and Lawrence Levine, Horowitz's lively history reveals an Americanized Wagner never documented before. An entertaining and startling read, a treasury of operatic lore, *Wagner Nights* offers an unprecedented revisionist history of American culture a century ago. This title is part of UC Press's *Voices Revived* program, which commemorates University of California Press's mission to seek out and cultivate the brightest minds and give them voice, reach, and impact. Drawing on a backlist dating to 1893, *Voices Revived* makes high-quality, peer-reviewed scholarship accessible once again using print-on-demand technology.

This title was originally published in 1994.

the unanswered question charles ives: Charles Ives and His Road to the Stars Antony Cooke, 2015-12-14 NEW for 2015--REVISED & UPDATED Edition In 'Charles Ives and his Road to the Stars,' Antony Cooke brings a fresh new approach to the music of America's iconic composer in this accessible account of what lay behind the music of this modern titan. It has been over a quarter of a century since the period of destructive revisionism impacted his ascending star, leading to the much-touted reassessment of his contributions. With a comprehensive approach and detailed examination of a broad cross section of the music itself, the real Ives is revealed, the many myths, misconceptions, faulty impressions, and incorrect conclusions at long last stripped away. With clear indications that Ives encoded into his music a spiritual link to the cosmos, the special destination and purpose leading to his legendary and almost tragically mythic Universe Symphony finally become clear, this focal work receiving an in-depth examination. If all too often the composer has been kept from the broader public by an elitism that Ives would have abhorred, or by many tangled biographic analyses that reveal more about the writers than they do about Ives. Cooke steers the reader toward a clear understanding of this iconic figure—an American treasure, one whose music and life brings vividly to mind the almost forgotten time of the golden age of America's emergence as a dominant presence with a cultural identity finally separated from the Old World across the Atlantic. Linked to a broad cross section of his music, the reader is guided through Ives's unique musical language, and what lay behind it. Exposing the many myths, untruths, misconceptions, faulty impressions, and incorrect conclusions along the way, Ives is treated with a respect earned, but often denied.

the unanswered question charles ives: The Grand Delusion Steve Hagen, 2020-10-13 This is a fun, unique book that goes deep into the great mysteries of knowing—and makes it enjoyable. In *The Grand Delusion*, bestselling author Steve Hagen drills deeply into the most basic assumptions, strengths, and limitations of religion and belief, philosophy and inquiry, science and technology. In doing so, he shines new light on the great existential questions—Why is there Something rather than Nothing? What does it mean to exist? What is consciousness? What is the nature of truth?—and does so from an entirely unexpected direction. Ultimately, this book reveals how all of our fundamental questions stem from a single error, a single unwarranted belief—a single Grand Delusion.

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Contemporanea Rivoli in Turin, Italy, February to May 2019.

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