



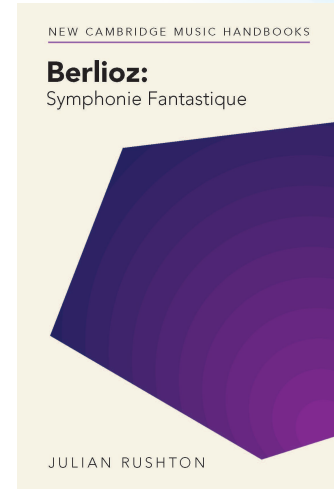
Berlioz: Symphonie Fantastique

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Berlioz's *Symphonie Fantastique* is a key work in the understanding of romanticism, programme music, and the development of the orchestra, post-Beethoven. It is noted for having a title and a detailed programme, and for its connection with the composer's personal life and loves. This handbook situates the symphony within its time, and considers influences, literary as well as musical, that shaped its conception. Providing a close analysis of the symphony, its formal properties and melodic and textural elements (including harmony and counterpoint), it is a rich but accessible study which will appeal to music lovers, scholars, and students. It contains a translation of the programme, which sheds light on the form and character of each movement, and the unusual use of a melodic *idée fixe* representing a beloved woman. The unusual five-movement design permits a range of musical topics to be discussed and related to traditional symphonic elements: sonata form, a long Adagio, dance-type movements, and thematic development.

1. Introduction, programme, outline; 2. Literary and musical romanticism; 3. *Symphonie fantastique* in Berlioz's lifetime; 4. First movement: 'Rêveries, passions'; 5. Second movement: 'Un bal'; 6. Third movement: 'Scène aux champs'; 7. Fourth movement: 'Marche au supplice'; 8. Fifth movement: 'Songe d'une nuit de Sabbat'; 9. The sequel; reception by composers; 10. Reception: Schumann and musical form; 11. Other approaches; Conclusion; Notes; Bibliography; Index.



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