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*Daniel Jaff*

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**Daniel Jaff : Sergey Prokofiev (20th Century Composers)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sergey Prokofiev (20th Century Composers):

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. A Great Overview - Short but Sweet By T. Knowlton I must admit that this is the first biography of Prokofiev that I have ever read. Jaffe must have been mindful of the book's length. I would guess that the good folks at Phaidon told him to 'keep it short.' As such, he moves rather quickly through the events of Prokofiev's life, with occasional commentary on important works and insight into Prokofiev's character and personality. With that in mind I would say that it is a great first Prokofiev bio to read. Having read it I would now like to read more of the details and the personal accounts of what happened. Jaffe writes with authority, I can tell he has really done his research! 7 of 8 people found the following review helpful. A Must-Read Biography on Sergei

Prokofiev. By Louie Bourland Along with Rachmaninoff, Stravinsky and Shostakovich, Sergei Prokofiev is one of the 20th century's greatest Russian composers. His seven symphonies, works for piano and his ballets (most notably "Romeo and Juliet") are widely well known alongside his immortal children's classic "Peter and The Wolf". In this biography, part of Phaidon Press's 20th Century Composers series, author Daniel Jaffe not only digs deep into Prokofiev's creative genius but also gives detailed annotations on the composer's personal life and his surroundings in communist Russia. It is written in such a way that it's like getting to meet Prokofiev in a very personal manner. This book is definitely a must-read on one of Russia's greatest masterminds. It is very well-written and packed with detail as well as some great photos (one of which depicts Prokofiev at the piano surrounded by children as he was giving a first-reading of "Peter and The Wolf" in 1936). A Must for any Prokofiev fan!! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Good bio By bleeearrg I bought this to help me write a report for school. I ended up enjoying the read a lot. A very good insight into a very under appreciated composer from a very dark era in history.

Because of the nature of Soviet society, Prokofiev's life has received little attention from biographers. This survey of his life and work contains several hitherto unpublished illustrations of him and much essential reference material.

"A thoroughly researched and well-balanced appraisal of Prokofiev's life and works, beautifully presented in tandem with some fascinating and previously unavailable photographic illustrations. Jaffe handles the very difficult task of interweaving narrative and discussion of the works with commendable aplomb... Surely one of the best written books in Phaidon's series." -Classic CD "An extensive biography of one of the 20th century's foremost composers. Daniel Jaffe... has combined an intimate portrait outlining the life and social circle of Sergey Prokofiev with a full account of the political climate that shaped his career." -Bath Chronicle "Here is an excellent introduction to the life, character and music of a man Jaffe rightly describes as one of the best loved yet least known of all 20th century composers." -BBC Music Magazine "In the same series comes Daniel Jaffe's Sergey Prokofiev, concise but remarkably rich in detail about the life of this enigmatic Russian composer whose death was overshadowed by that of Stalin on the same day." -Birmingham Post "Jaffe [...] brings insight into how Prokofiev's life and work intertwined... Reliable... A clear introduction to the composer." -SCRSS [Society of co-operation of Russian Soviet Studies] "Among modern composer-biographies, Daniel Jaffe's Prokofiev stands out as exemplary." -The Independent Weekend On the 20th Century Composers Series "As a series, Phaidon's 20th Century Composers has brought remarkable variety and a welter of information, both necessary and delightfully trivial. Intended both for the general reader and for the more enthusiastically musical." -The Scotsman About the Author Daniel Jaffe, a former reviews editor of BBC Music Magazine, is the author of the biography Sergey Prokofiev, and he has lectured and written extensively on Russian music and broadcast on BBC Radio 3 and on BBC Four.