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CLASSICAL COOKS: A GASTROHISTORY OF WESTERN MUSIC (PAPERBACK)

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Xlibris, United States, 2007. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.CLASSICAL COOKS: A GASTROHISTORY OF WESTERN MUSIC by Ira Braus The expression, Classical music is an acquired taste takes on new meaning in Ira Braus's Classical Cooks: A Gastrohistory of Western Music. Unlike most classical music guides, Classical Cooks links music and food synaesthetically. Synaesthesia means experiencing one sense modality by stimulating another, such as hearing colors. Music and food, as my book shows, are close enough aesthetically, so that we can enjoy them synaesthetically. The book correlates the respective musical and culinary talents of composers living between 1350 and 2000; it also suggests ways for listeners to distinguish composers styles by way of gastro-musical association. Classical Cooks complements a recent line of books dealing with food and culture, e.g., The Toulouse Lautrec Cookbook, Keats's Porridge, and Jazz Cooks. To be sure, American orchestras, like the Boston Symphony and New York Philharmonic, have published recipes contributed by their players. But no substantial anthology of composer recipes has thus far appeared. Classical Cooks has Three Courses, plus Dessert. Course 1, Why Musicians Love to Talk Shop in the Kitchen, matches food categories with musical ones. Take fat. Musicians associate fat with lush, full-bodied orchestration as we hear in, say, Hollywood scores of the 1950s. These composers learned their craft from lipid composers like Puccini and Debussy. Puccini's fat, mellifluous as it is, may be compared to olive oil - clear, fruity, digestible, while Debussy's is voluptuous, like butter - filmy, artery-clogging, and delectable. Course 2, A Gastrohistory of Music in Documents offers accounts of composers as gastro-nomes. Beethoven's culinary disasters are juxtaposed with Rossini's haute cuisine, so haute in fact, that one of his recipes (Tournedos...

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