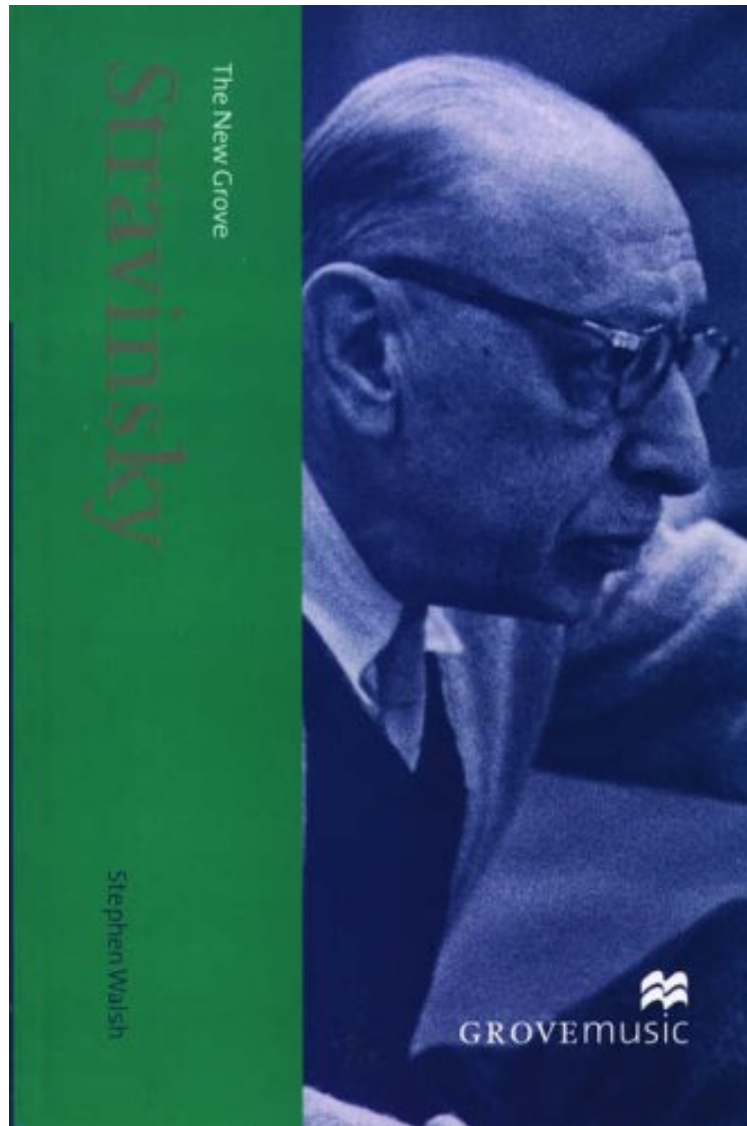


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## The New Grove Stravinsky (Grove Music Composer Biography Series)

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**From Oxford University Press : The New Grove Stravinsky (Grove Music Composer Biography Series)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The New Grove Stravinsky (Grove Music Composer Biography Series):

Of Russian, French, and later American nationality, Stravinsky's musical styles are startlingly diverse, reflecting his life and era; from Tsarist Russia, to 1920s France and post-war USA. His early years in Russia saw him launch his international career, with Dyagilve's Ballets Russes in Paris and the premieres of *The Firebird*, *Petrushka* and *The Rite of Spring*. Between 1920-1939 Stravinsky lived and worked in France, producing his great neo-classical compositions, reactivating the modes and manners of the eighteenth century. This stylistic inclination eventually gave way to a highly individual use of serial techniques in his last years, when he took up residence in the United States. This biography of Igor Stravinsky is one in a new series of composer biographies, derived and adapted from the second edition of *The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians*. These newly written biographies bring the best of the book-length pieces in *The New Grove* to a wider audience. Each title provides fresh new insights into the life and works of a major composer, derived from the most recent scholarship. In addition to a detailed and informative view of the subject's life and works, written by an expert in the field, each book includes comprehensive, tabular work-lists and a fully revised and updated bibliography.

From *Library Journal* In the early 1980s, Grove issued a "Composer Biography" series, with material taken from the first edition of the *New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians*. Likewise, these slim volumes are spin-offs of the second edition (LJ 3/15/01); consequently, the same new scholarship, fresh perspectives, and updated bibliographies that mark the NGII mark these books the first releases in the new series. For the first time, Stravinsky gets a title of his own. To some extent, the updates have been edited to appeal to a lay audience. For example, in the NGII article on Haydn, there is a section titled "Style, Aesthetics, and Compositional Method," which in the biography is reworded "Style and Method." In the NGII's coverage of Stravinsky, the dictionary section is titled "Posthumous Reputation and Legacy," but here it appears as "Then and Since." However, the texts themselves have not been dumbed down. Each book contains a works list, a bibliography, an index, and 12 pages of black-and-white illustrations (not seen); at press time, the publisher could not confirm whether the illustrations will be the same ones used in the NGII. As with the earlier editions, the work lists include page numbers where pieces are discussed in the text. Excellent for students and scholars, these manageable biographies are recommended for libraries where the earlier editions circulated well. Bonnie Jo Dopp, Univ. of Maryland Libs., College Park Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc. Excellent for students and scholars, these manageable biographies are recommended... -- *Library Journal* About the Author Stephen Walsh is senior lecturer in music at Cardiff University. He has a particular interest in 20th century music and has written in *Tempo*, *Musical Times*, *Music and Musicians*--notably on British composers and Hungarian music. His writings include *The Lieder of Schumann* (1971), *Bartok Chamber Music* (1975) and *Stravinsky: A Creative Spring* (1999).