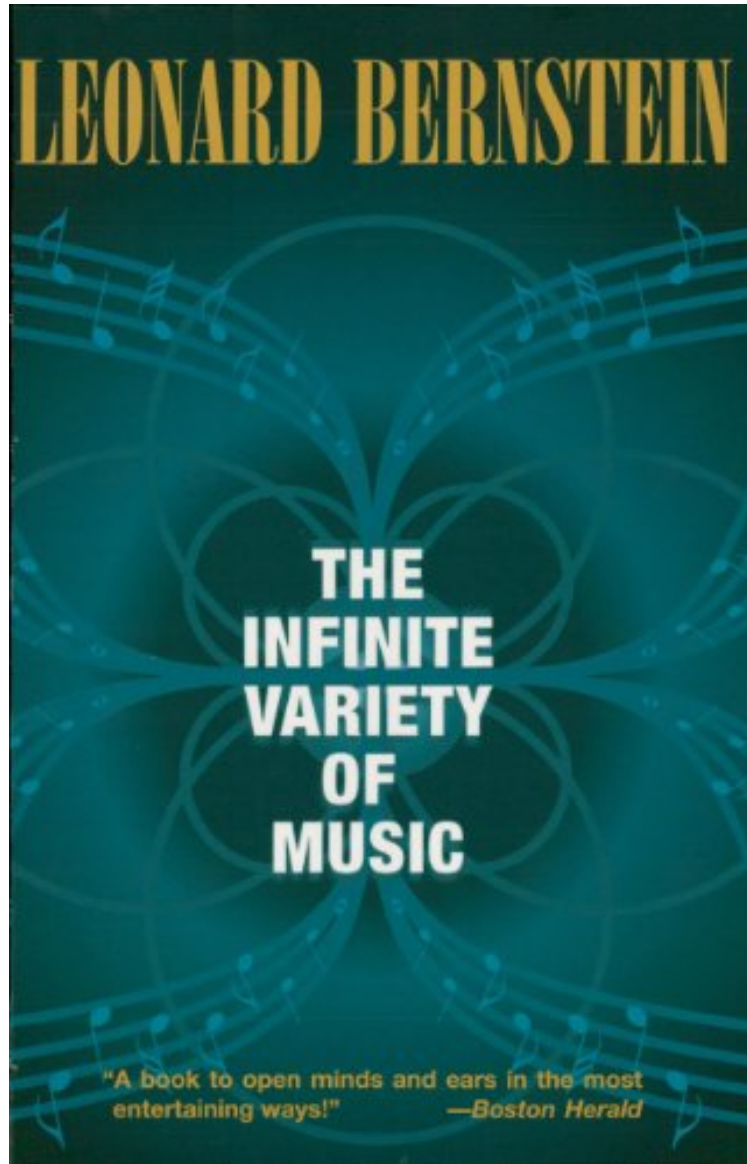


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The Infinite Variety of Music

Leonard Bernstein

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Leonard Bernstein : The Infinite Variety of Music before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Infinite Variety of Music:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By Ana Maria Vazquez Highly informative, but a little too technical for non professional musicians, which is my case. 11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Another masterpiece by Bernstein By Daniel Lyle Bernstein knew his music and his enthusiasm for its variety and richness is infectious. Everyone who has used iTunes or other online music downloads sites knows that we as humans have insatiable appetites for endless variety. This book channels that nature and passion in an uplifting manner to

harness it towards refining one's appetites for more of the classical and folk styles of music and the many variety's of rich music in such genres. Bernstein opens with a dialogue about what it means to truly listen to rather than simply hear music and progresses onto an analysis of what makes music rich, concluded with in depth analysis of several music masterpieces. This book is for both the layman and connoisseur of music. For me it provided numerous references to music both familiar and new that I am excited to download in the future and add to my iTunes playlists! You can preview most of this book on google books, but it's definitely worth it to buy a hardcopy of this work for home reference. 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. For those who can read Music By Shalom Freedman Bernstein was a great teacher, and along with his tremendous knowledge of Music he conveys a great enthusiasm for it. He says early on that reading music is a vital skill, and should be a part of the education of everyone. He says that the ability to play a piece oneself is to understand the music in a way one cannot simply by hearing it. A number of these chapters are transcripts of five television talks he did. Bernstein shows the way Music's complexity is built up from simple elements. He takes a subject like 'rhythm' and gives a whole host of musical illustrations. These will be very helpful to those who can read the music as at least half the text of the book is the notes of the music. Speaking more generally Bernstein advocates a new development in American music. He wonders why the music written over the past half- century has not entered the concert hall in a true way. He notes that Classical music was primarily contemporary music, and educated audiences had enthusiasm for the latest things. He wishes to get to something like that in American music. There are many insights given along the way about music by Bernstein. And these make the book a valuable one.

(Amadeus). With style, wit, and expertise, Leonard Bernstein shares his love and appreciation for music in all its varied forms in *The Infinite Variety of Music*, illuminating the deep pleasure and sometimes subtle beauty it offers. He begins with an "imaginary conversation" with George Washington entitled "The Muzak Muse," in which he argues the values of actively listening to music by learning how to read notes, as opposed to simply hearing music in a concert hall. The book also features the reproduction of five television scripts from Bernstein on the influence of jazz, the timeless appeal of Mozart, musical romanticism, and the complexities of rhythmic innovation. Also included are Bernstein's analyses of symphonies by Dvorak, Tchaikovsky, Beethoven, and Brahms, a rare reproduction of a 1957 lecture on the nature of composing, and a report on the musical scene written for the *New York Times* after his sabbatical leave from directorship of the New York Philharmonic during the 1964-65 season.