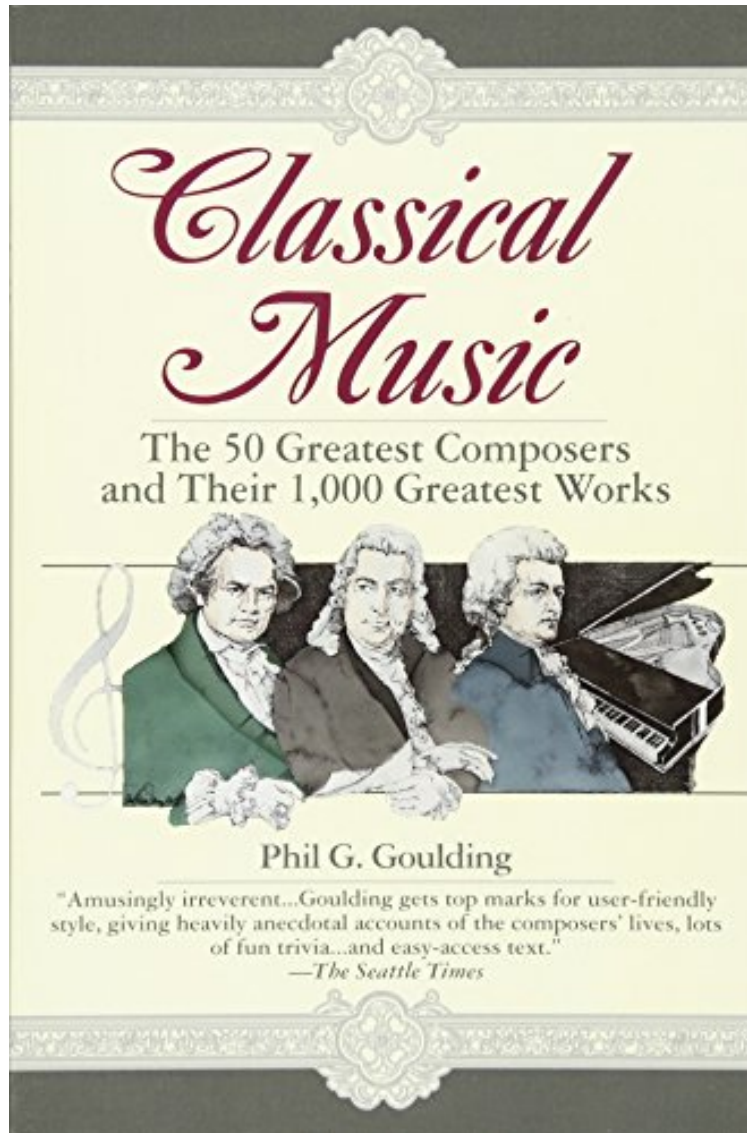


# Classical Music: The 50 Greatest Composers and Their 1,000 Greatest Works

*Phil G. Goulding*

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**Phil G. Goulding : Classical Music: The 50 Greatest Composers and Their 1,000 Greatest Works** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Classical Music: The 50 Greatest Composers and Their 1,000 Greatest Works:

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**MAKE A SOUND INVESTMENT IN CLASSICAL MUSIC** Who are the ten most important classical composers? Who in the world was Palestrina? Why did Stravinsky's "Rite of Spring" cause a riot? Which five of each important composer's works should you buy? What is a concerto and how does it differ from a sonata? Maybe you don't know the answers to these questions; author Phil Goulding certainly didn't. When Goulding first tried to learn about classical music, he found himself buried in an avalanche of technical terms and complicated jargon--so he decided to write the book he couldn't find. The result is a complete classical music education in one volume. Comprehensive, discriminating, and delightfully irreverent, *Classical Music* provides such essential information as: \* Rankings of the top 50 composers (Bach is #1. Borodin is #50) \* A detailed and anecdotal look at each composer's life and work \* The five primary works of each composer and specific recommended CDs for each. \* Further great works of each composer--if you really like him \* Concise explanations of musical terminology, forms, and periods \* A guide to the parts and history of the symphony orchestra "This book uses every conceivable gimmick to immerse readers in the richness of classical music: lists, rankings, sidebars devoted to lively anecdotes, and catchy leads."--The Washington Post "One terrific music appreciation book...The information is surprisingly detailed but concisely presented. Goulding's writing style is breezy yet mature....[He] has raised music appreciation from a racket to a service."--The Arizona Daily Star

.com This is a fun, approachable guide to classical music that uses a light touch, fun facts and humorous anecdotes to help the neophyte make sense of classical music and its origins. From Library Journal The dogmatic title of this book is enough to raise the hackles of any music lover. That's unfortunate, because this is a well-designed primer on music for the intelligent but uninformed listener of any age. At 63, Goulding, a Washington newspaper journalist who moved to high government and business posts in defense and oil, attempted to learn something about classical music. Amazingly, he found no helpful sources for the adult absolute beginner. Ten years later, he presents this book for those in the same quandary. The user-friendly format features charts, pictures, and sidebars, simple explanations of musical terms, and descriptions of instruments. The writing flows easily, and the text is readable and browsable. There is nothing new here, but Goulding has done his homework carefully and thoroughly. Recommended for the curious but illiterate music lover.- Philippa Kiraly, Seattle Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc. From the Publisher Phil Goulding has written a completely accessible guide to classical music, and the best part is he has the audacity to "rate the composers." If you've ever wanted to know more about classical music, this probably the most approachable guide you could have.-- Sue Miller, National Accounts Manager