



Stockhausen on Music

By Karlheinz Stockhausen, Robin Maconie

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If a genius is someone whose ideas survive all attempts at explanation', writes the well-known contemporary musicologist Robin Maconie, 'then by that definition Stockhausen is the nearest thing to Beethoven this century has produced. Reason? His music lasts.

With penetrating philosophical and spiritual insights Stockhausen describes, in this collection of lectures and interviews conducted in English, a whole new universe of sounds and events.

"Stockhausen's uncompromising attitude to conventional aesthetics has made him one of the world's most admired musicians." *The Independent*

"Let there be no doubt that he is a giant, a monster cartographer of massive new spaces." *Tempo*

"The great innovator of the 1950s and 1960s is still a fountain of ideas. *Stockhausen on Music* shows the extraordinary range of his mind." *The Sunday Times*

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

The leading German composer of electronic music presents his theories of composition and performance. Transcribed from a series of public lectures given in English in 1971, and a long interview with Maconie in 1981, the book covers electronic, chance and intuitive music, process planning and other trends in avant-garde composition. Maconie (*The Works of Karlheinz Stockhausen*) has retained the flavor of Stockhausen's English, revealing much of the composer's personality as he talks about his sources of inspiration and describes in detail his composing methods. Stockhausen's lectures contain penetrating philosophical and spiritual observations on his lifelong involvement with sound and his desire to build an aural tradition. Published on the occasion of the composer's 60th birthday, the book includes a chronological list of Stockhausen's works and a discography.

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From the Back Cover

'The leading German composer of electronic music presents his theories of composition and performance...Penetrating philosophical and spiritual observations...the book includes a chronological list of Stockhausen's works and a discography.' -Publisher's Weekly

About the Author

Karlheinz Stockhausen was born in 1928 in Mödrath, near Cologne. His famous musical compositions include *LIGHT*, *Kreuzspiel* (Cross-play), *Spiel* (Play) and *Kontra-Punkte* (Counter-point). He conducted most of his works in a specially constructed spherical auditorium in 1970 in Osaka, Japan, at the World Fair. Stockhausen died in 2007. Robin Maconie is a musicologist and teacher. He currently lives in New Zealand.

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