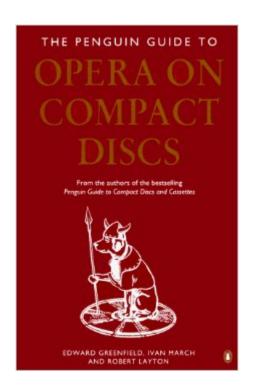
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Synopsis

A guide to recorded opera, modelled on and using material from the same authors' general classical guides. In addition to the material on opera included in the other books, this guide has plot synopses of the operas and cast lists for each of the recordings discussed.

Book Information

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I have used this book for years and find it very helpful in selecting Opera recordings on CDs. These are critics who know and care about what they write, listing the many different recordings available (as of 1993 anyway!). However, MUCH has changed in the opera-CD world since then. Just as an example, all the legendary Maria Callas "live" performances of some of her greatest roles have been "officially" released by EMI after many years available only as "bootleg" versions, with a bunch more to be released this November 5th!. This is where the book shows its age and is not an acurate representation of opera on CD circa 2002. However, the selections included and reviewed are quite impressive. Until a newly up-dated edition shows it's face, this book is the one to go with.

I purchase an average of 6-8 complete opera CDs per annum, and find this book very valuable in their selection. These authors "know their stuff" -please let them know how much we opera buffs appreciate their book and how about an update? Lots of new recordings(not to mention singers) in

the last eight years!! Please keep a good reference going....

I have been using this book for so long that it looks really bad. I can't wait for peguin to release an updated version of this book!

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