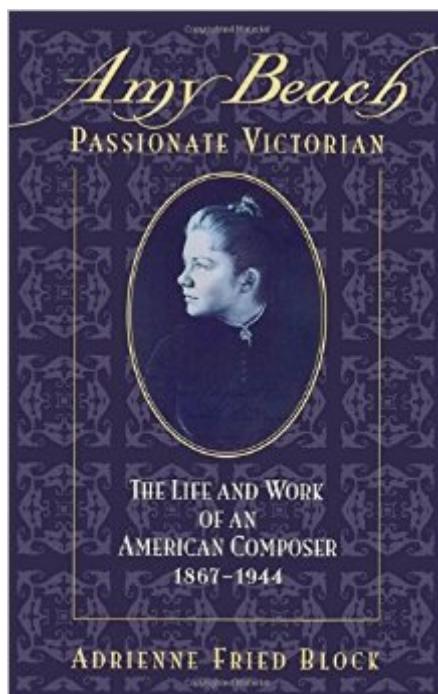


The book was found

# Amy Beach, Passionate Victorian: The Life And Work Of An American Composer, 1867-1944



## Synopsis

Amy Marcy Cheney Beach (1867-1944), the most widely performed composer of her generation, was the first American woman to succeed as a creator of large-scale art music. Her "Gaelic" Symphony, given its premiere by the Boston Symphony Orchestra in 1896, was the first work of its kind by an American woman to be performed by an American orchestra. Almost all of her more than 300 works were published soon after they were composed and performed, and today her music is finding new advocates and audiences for its energy, intensity, and sheer beauty. Yet, until now, no full-length critical biography of Beach's life or comprehensive critical overview of her music existed. This biography admirably fills that gap, fully examining the connections between Beach's life and work in light of social currents and dominant ideologies. Born into a musical family in Victorian times, Amy Beach started composing as a child of four and was equally gifted as a pianist. Her talent was recognized early by Boston's leading musicians, who gave her unqualified support. Although Beach believed that the life of a professional musician was the only life for her, her parents had raised her for marriage and a career of amateur music-making. Her response to this parental (and later spousal) opposition was to find creative ways of reaching her goal without direct confrontation. Discouraged from a full-scale concert career, she instead found her métier in composition. Success as a composer of art songs came early for Beach: indeed, her songs outsold those of her contemporaries. Nevertheless, she was determined to separate her work from the genteel parlor music women were writing in her day by creating large-scale works--a Mass, a symphony, and chamber music--that challenged the accepted notion that women were incapable of creating high art. She won the respect of colleagues and the allegiance of audiences. Many who praised her work, however, considered her an exception among women. Beach's reaction to this was to join with other women composers of serious music by promoting their works along with her own. Adrienne Fried Block has written a biography that takes full account of issues of gender and musical modernism, considering Beach in the contexts of her time and of her composer contemporaries, both male and female. Amy Beach, Passionate Victorian will be of great interest to students and scholars of American music, and to music lovers in general.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 448 pages

Publisher: Oxford University Press; 1 edition (December 17, 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0195074084

ISBN-13: 978-0195074086

Product Dimensions: 6.5 x 1.6 x 9.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ (4 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,102,376 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #115 inÂ Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Movements & Periods > Victorian #444 inÂ Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Biographies > Classical #2286 inÂ Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Performing Arts > Music

## Customer Reviews

This book was superbly written, and it covers a musical life that all classical music lovers should become familiar with if not already. I had heard of Amy Beach but knew little of her career as a composer or performer. Turns out she was a prodigy who had perfect pitch and perfect memory. In this respect she was somewhat like Mozart. For many reasons which the author discusses at length, Beach was never as great a composer or concert pianist as her incredible talent would have predicted. Still she is considered America's greatest "woman" composer. Very intriguing biography

The book arrived promptly and was in very good condition. An old library book and just as described. Great book about an amazing lady who deserves to be much better known as a composer than she is. Listen to her music and you'll see what I mean.

This book gives lots of detail about Amy Beach, born at a time when women were not encouraged to follow productive careers in music. Despite being handicapped by her society, Amy Beach overcame many of those by the sheer force of her musical talents. This book follows Beach's musical and personal life and also provides a clear image of the time in which she lived. If I had any criticism, there may be too much detail, but then I bought the book just to concentrate on her music.

Scholarly, entertaining, informative.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Amy Beach, Passionate Victorian: The Life and Work of an American Composer, 1867-1944 South Beach Diet: South Beach Diet Recipe Book: 50 Delicious & Easy South Beach Diet Recipes (south beach diet, south beach diet recipes, south beach diet beginners guide, south beach diet cookbook) South Beach Diet: The South Beach Diet Beginners Guide to Losing Weight and Feeling Great!

(south beach diet, south beach diet beginners guide, south beach diet recipes) South Beach Diet: The SOUTH BEACH DIET Beginners Guide - How To Lose Weight And Feel Awesome With The South Beach Diet!: (south beach diet, south ... diet recipes, south beach diet cookbook) South Beach Diet: A Beginners Guide For Using The South Beach Diet For Quick, Easy and Healthy Weight Loss (Dieting, Weight Loss, South Beach Diet, South ... Diet Cookbook, South Beach Diet Kindle) The South Beach Diet: A Guide for Faster Weight Loss and Healthy Lifestyle with Easy Meal Plan Recipes (South Beach Diet Meal Plan, South Beach Diet Gluten Solution, South Beach Diet Recipes) South Beach Diet: The South Beach Diet Guide For Beginners: How To Feel Great And Healthy With The South Beach Diet South Beach Diet: South Beach Diet Book for Beginners - South Beach Diet Cookbook with Easy Recipes (Low carbohydrate Living - Low Carbohydrate Diet - Modified Atkins Diet 1) The Conquering Tide: War in the Pacific Islands, 1942-1944: War in the Pacific Islands, 1942-1944 South beach diet : The #1 South Beach diet , How to make it work for you !: including tips and recipes The South Beach Diet Supercharged Faster Weight Loss and Better Health for Life [2008 Hardcover] Arthur Agatston MD (Author) Joseph Signorile PhD (Author)The South Beach Diet Supercharged Faster Weight Loss and Better Health for Life [2008 Hardcover] The South Beach Wake-Up Call:Ã  A 7 Real-Life Strategies for Living Your Healthiest Life Ever (The South Beach Diet) Food and Cooking in Victorian England: A History (Victorian Life and Times) The South Beach Heart Program: The 4-Step Plan that Can Save Your Life (The South Beach Diet) Amy Lowell, American Modern Richard Strauss: New Perspectives on the Composer and His Work (Sources of Music & Their Interpretation S) Victorian People and Ideas: A Companion for the Modern Reader of Victorian Literature Twentieth-Century Victorian: Arthur Conan Doyle and the 'Strand Magazine', 1899-1930 (Edinburgh Critical Studies in Victorian Culture) The Forgotten Female Aesthetes: Literary Culture in Late-Victorian England (Victorian Literature and Culture Series) South Beach Diet: The Beginner's Guide on How to Quickly and Effectively Lose Weight with the South Beach Diet Cookbook, Recipes, and Meal Plan! (South ... Low Carbohydrate Diet, Gluten-Free)

[Dmca](#)