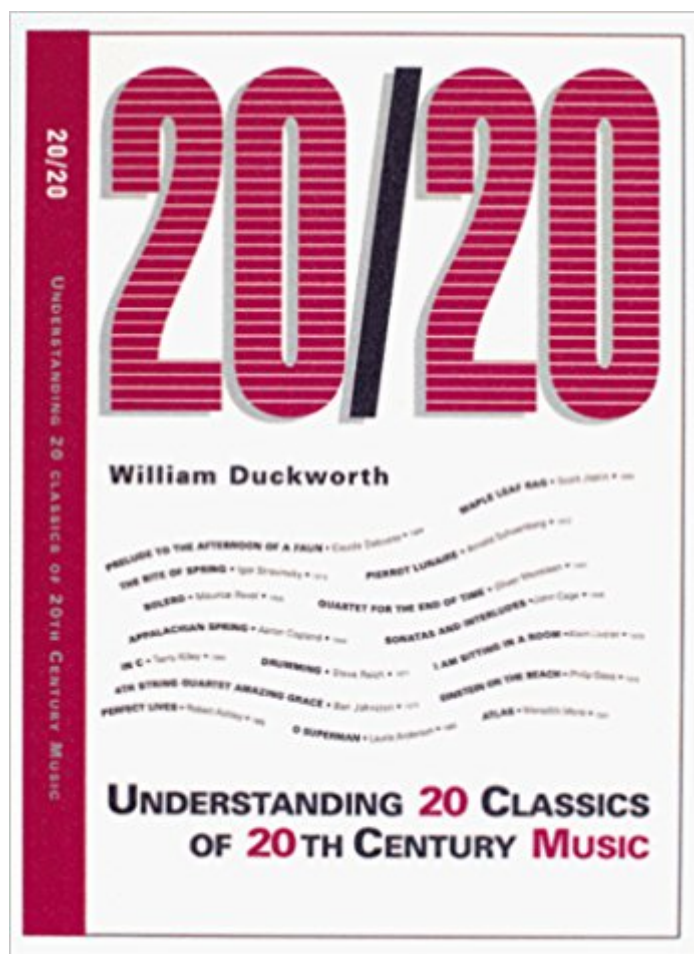


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# 20/20: 20 New Sounds Of The 20th Century



## Synopsis

This text introduces students to the various styles pioneered in 20th century music through a series of key listening examples. Written in an easy-to-understand style, the author begins by addressing twenty questions about "New Music" and then proceeds through a varied repertoire of works in a way that brings twentieth century music alive and take on meaning.

## Book Information

Paperback: 214 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 3 customer reviews

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## Customer Reviews

An internationally known composer, acclaimed teacher of American music, and the founder of Postminimalism, William Duckworth has written more than 200 works, including the well-known Time Curve Preludes for piano. In addition to numerous teaching awards, Rolling Stone magazine called his teaching "hip, bright and innovative." Duckworth has been honored by the American Music Society as one of Six Master Teachers in America. Additionally, Cathedral, co-created with Nora Farrell and online since 1997, is one of the first interactive works of music and art on the Web. Duckworth's honors include the 2001 ASCAP-Deems Taylor Internet Award, the 2002 Award in Music from the Foundation for Contemporary Arts, and a 2007 Senior Fulbright Specialist Award that assigned him to the Queensland Conservatorium Research Centre in Brisbane, Australia, and resulted in iOrpheus, Duckworth and Farrell's 2-year unfolding of video podcasts, stage performances, and a public opera in the streets and promenades of Brisbane's South Bank Parklands.

I am a history major that was forced to take a music class, so this book was a interesting read to

me. The historical biographical aspect to this book was what was good. I personally hated most of the music and the theories that are given in this book. However, I gave it a four out of five because it did give a good description of the composers and how they related to the different historical musical movements in the 20th century.

I've just started reading this book in preparation for a class I'm about to teach and I'm finding it remarkably refreshing in its accessible, insightful, informative-yet-not-overly-academic approach to a difficult topic, namely 20th century music. The CD that accompanies it has 20 short, representative examples of music from the 20th century -- and I'm starting with the CD for a reason. Duckworth continually emphasizes the centrality of sound in this book -- for composers and listeners alike. The prose that accompanies each track on the CD is captivating and easy to read, capturing the essence of each composer without attempting to provide an exhaustive "summary" of her/his place in the writing of music history. The prose is infused with quotations by the composers themselves (gleaned from interviews, etc.) that shed a personal and direct light on them and the way they view their art. Again, I haven't finished reading it yet -- but I'm finding that it's whetting my appetite and making me rethink my approach to new and unfamiliar music. Although having knowledge of music theory and music history will help you get more out of this book, it is by no means a requirement.

Anything by Duckworth is the best

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