



The Philosophies of Richard Wagner

By Julian Young

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

The Philosophies of Richard Wagner By Julian Young

In addition to being a great composer, Richard Wagner was also an important philosopher. Julian Young begins by examining the philosophy of art and society Wagner constructs during his time as a revolutionary anarchist-communist. Modernity, Wagner argued, is to be rescued from its current anomie through the rebirth of Greek tragedy (the original *Gesamtkunstwerk*) in the form of the “artwork of the future,” an artwork of which his own operas are the prototype.

Young then examines the entirely different philosophy Wagner constructs after his 1854 conversion from Hegelian optimism to Schopenhauerian pessimism. “Redemption” now becomes, not a future utopia in this world, but rather “transfigured” existence in another world, attainable only through death. Viewing Wagner’s operas through the lens of his philosophy, the book offers often novel interpretations of *Lohengrin*, The *Ring* cycle, *Tristan und Isolde*, *Die Meistersinger*, and *Parsifal*.

Finally, Young dresses the cause of Friedrich Nietzsche’s transformation from Wagner’s intimate friend and disciple into his most savage critic. Nietzsche’s fundamental accusation, it is argued, is one of betrayal: that Wagner betrayed his early, “life affirming” philosophy of art and life in favor of “life-denial.” Nietzsche’s assertion and the final conclusion of the book is that our task, now, is to “become better Wagnerians than Wagner.”

 [Download The Philosophies of Richard Wagner ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Philosophies of Richard Wagner ...pdf](#)

The Philosophies of Richard Wagner

By Julian Young

The Philosophies of Richard Wagner By Julian Young

In addition to being a great composer, Richard Wagner was also an important philosopher. Julian Young begins by examining the philosophy of art and society Wagner constructs during his time as a revolutionary anarchist-communist. Modernity, Wagner argued, is to be rescued from its current anomie through the rebirth of Greek tragedy (the original *Gesamtkunstwerk*) in the form of the “artwork of the future,” an artwork of which his own operas are the prototype.

Young then examines the entirely different philosophy Wagner constructs after his 1854 conversion from Hegelian optimism to Schopenhauerian pessimism. “Redemption” now becomes, not a future utopia in this world, but rather “transfigured” existence in another world, attainable only through death. Viewing Wagner’s operas through the lens of his philosophy, the book offers often novel interpretations of *Lohengrin*, The *Ring* cycle, *Tristan und Isolde*, *Die Meistersinger*, and *Parsifal*.

Finally, Young dresses the cause of Friedrich Nietzsche’s transformation from Wagner’s intimate friend and disciple into his most savage critic. Nietzsche’s fundamental accusation, it is argued, is one of betrayal: that Wagner betrayed his early, “life affirming” philosophy of art and life in favor of “life-denial.” Nietzsche’s assertion and the final conclusion of the book is that our task, now, is to “become better Wagnerians than Wagner.”

The Philosophies of Richard Wagner By Julian Young Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #3173379 in Books
- Published on: 2014-09-09
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.23" h x .68" w x 6.46" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 170 pages

 [Download The Philosophies of Richard Wagner ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Philosophies of Richard Wagner ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online The Philosophies of Richard Wagner By Julian Young

Editorial Review

Review

Young here presents the results of extensive research into Wagner's philosophical writings. Perhaps the most surprising thing one learns is that Wagner had a relatively clear and coherent philosophy. In fact, Wagner's philosophy evolved over time, and he always saw himself as more than a composer of operas. Early on, Wagner, influenced by Hegel, maintained that art and music could play a key role in changing the world for the better. Later, his philosophical intuitions and artistic aims would be molded by Schopenhauer's pessimistic but redemptive views of music. Today, Wagner would be saddened, though perhaps not surprised, to find that most of his operas are heard only by the affluent—a situation that is the antithesis of what he was trying to do. Young's straightforward writing style is more than welcome in explaining 19th-century German philosophical concepts, which can get very complex very fast. This book is beautifully written, clear, and concise. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-level undergraduates and above. (CHOICE)

Keenly attuned to Wagner's intimations of impersonal immortality, Julian Young explains Wagner's evolving views on the redemptive power of musical drama, an artistic salvation that remains possible even after the death of God. By critically examining Wagner's philosophical transformation from a Feuerbachian anarcho-revolutionary to a Schopenhauerian world-renunciate, Young uncovers the enduring spiritual quest at the heart of Wagner's work: Our deep and enduring philosophical need to learn how to die well. (Iain Thomson, University of New Mexico)

In deft, elegant prose, Young convincingly reconstructs two distinct Wagnerian philosophical positions, especially as concerns the relationship between art and society: an early revolutionary and a later Schopenhauerian position. In doing so, Young casts considerable light on the meanings of Wagner's musical dramas, and presents an array of fascinating positions on the proper relations between art and society for contemporary reflection. This is an important book for anyone interested in late-nineteenth-century philosophy of music and art. (Sandra Shapshay, Indiana University, Bloomington)

About the Author

Julian Young is Kenan Professor of Humanities at Wake Forest University.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Greta Harty:

Why don't make it to be your habit? Right now, try to prepare your time to do the important take action, like looking for your favorite publication and reading a publication. Beside you can solve your short lived problem; you can add your knowledge by the e-book entitled The Philosophies of Richard Wagner. Try to face the book The Philosophies of Richard Wagner as your good friend. It means that it can to get your friend when you experience alone and beside associated with course make you smarter than ever. Yeah, it is very fortuned for yourself. The book makes you more confidence because you can know anything by the book. So , let me make new experience along with knowledge with this book.

Luther Ritenour:

Hey guys, do you wishes to finds a new book to study? May be the book with the name The Philosophies of Richard Wagner suitable to you? Often the book was written by renowned writer in this era. The actual book untitled The Philosophies of Richard Wagner is the main one of several books that everyone read now. That book was inspired many people in the world. When you read this book you will enter the new dimensions that you ever know ahead of. The author explained their idea in the simple way, so all of people can easily to know the core of this e-book. This book will give you a wide range of information about this world now. In order to see the represented of the world on this book.

Marcus Huskins:

With this era which is the greater particular person or who has ability to do something more are more valuable than other. Do you want to become certainly one of it? It is just simple solution to have that. What you must do is just spending your time almost no but quite enough to get a look at some books. One of the books in the top collection in your reading list is usually The Philosophies of Richard Wagner. This book that is qualified as The Hungry Hills can get you closer in turning out to be precious person. By looking up and review this reserve you can get many advantages.

Noah Gardner:

As we know that book is important thing to add our know-how for everything. By a e-book we can know everything you want. A book is a list of written, printed, illustrated as well as blank sheet. Every year had been exactly added. This publication The Philosophies of Richard Wagner was filled with regards to science. Spend your free time to add your knowledge about your science competence. Some people has several feel when they reading the book. If you know how big good thing about a book, you can feel enjoy to read a publication. In the modern era like currently, many ways to get book that you just wanted.

**Download and Read Online The Philosophies of Richard Wagner
By Julian Young #2HJ7OW50KI4**

Read The Philosophies of Richard Wagner By Julian Young for online ebook

The Philosophies of Richard Wagner By Julian Young Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Philosophies of Richard Wagner By Julian Young books to read online.

Online The Philosophies of Richard Wagner By Julian Young ebook PDF download

The Philosophies of Richard Wagner By Julian Young Doc

The Philosophies of Richard Wagner By Julian Young MobiPocket

The Philosophies of Richard Wagner By Julian Young EPub

2HJ7OW50KI4: The Philosophies of Richard Wagner By Julian Young