

New

Now available from Ashgate Publishing...



Isolde Ahlgrimm, Vienna and the Early Music Revival

Peter Watchorn

"Isolde Ahlgrimm appears in the pages of Peter Watchorn's biography as an artist of great depth, insight and integrity, and a person of extraordinary strength and determination. Her pioneering contributions to the field of early music, which have largely gone unrecognized, were vital to our present-day awareness and appreciation of the musical aesthetics of former times. As a superb musician who knew the importance of scholarly research and saw period instruments as primary tools for understanding music of the past, she influenced many of the best known early music performers of the next generation... The story of Ahlgrimm's musical life offers more than a glimpse of the flowering of early music in Vienna before World War II and her place at its center... The reader will come away from reading about her life with an altered view of the history of the early music movement."

—Penelope Crawford

Isolde Ahlgrimm (1914–1995), was an important pioneer in the revival of Baroque and Classical keyboard instruments in her native city, Vienna, and later, throughout Europe and the United States. Ahlgrimm's performances of Baroque music represented a radical departure from the distinctly twentieth-century interpretations by the much more famous Wanda Landowska and her followers. Peter Watchorn provides an engaging study of Ahlgrimm, and argues that her contribution to the harpsichord and fortepiano revival was pivotal, and that her use of period instruments and the inspiration she instilled in younger musicians, including Nikolaus Harnoncourt and Gustav Leonhardt, has been almost entirely overlooked by the wider musical world.

Contents:

Foreword, *Penelope Crawford*;
Preface, *Virginia Pleasants*;
Introduction: early music, Vienna and the missing link;
Early education and influences;
Instrument collecting, Erich Fiala and the *Concerte für Kenner und Liebhaber*, 1934–1956;
Isolde Ahlgrimm, Philips Phonographische Industrie and J.S. Bach: the Complete Works for Harpsichord;
After the deluge: artistic independence. The years 1956–1984;
Appendices;
Bibliography;
Index.

Includes 32 b&w illustrations and 23 music examples

December 2007 264 pages

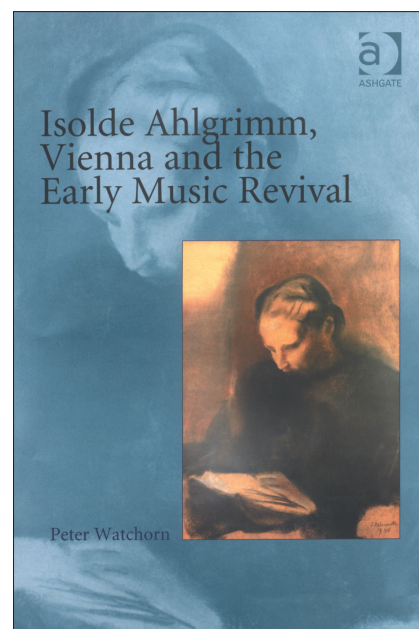
Hardback 978-0-7546-5787-3 \$99.95

All online orders at www.ashgate.com receive a discount.

Please visit www.ashgate.com for sample pages

Ashgate Publishing
PO Box 2225
Williston VT 05495-2225 USA
Toll-free: 1-800-535-9544
Email: orders@ashgate.com
Web: www.ashgate.com

ASHGATE



www.ashgate.com