

Wagner

His Life and Music

Written and read by **Stephen Johnson**

Well over a century after Wagner's death, the man and his music are as controversial as ever. Praised for his profound insights into the workings of the human heart, he has also been condemned as a dangerous libertine, a proto-fascist and an arrogant bore. His vast four-part operatic *Ring* cycle has been elevated as one of the greatest achievements of western culture and dismissed as an unparalleled example of creative megalomania.

This audiobook makes no attempt to gloss over the darker sides of Wagner's character, personally or artistically, but argues that the finer aspects of his vision transcend its flaws. It tells the story of an extraordinary life, and charts Wagner's development, from unpromising beginnings, into the creator of some of the most brilliantly innovative and seductively beautiful music ever composed.



Stephen Johnson has written regularly for *The Independent* and *The Guardian*, and was Chief Music Critic of *The Scotsman* (1998–9). He has also broadcast frequently for BBC Radios 3 and 4 and for the BBC World Service, including a series of fourteen programmes about the music of Bruckner for the centenary of the composer's death (1996). He is the author of *Bruckner Remembered* (Faber 1998), a contributor to *The Cambridge Companion to Conducting* (CUP 2004), and a regular presenter for Radio 3's *Discovering Music*.

View our catalogue online at
www.naxosaudiobooks.com

NAXOS
AudioBooks
NON-
FICTION
UNABRIDGED

© 2013 Naxos AudioBooks Ltd.
© 2013 Naxos AudioBooks Ltd.
Made in Austria.

Total time
CDs 1–7
8:57:18

ABRIDGED

7 CDs
NA0141

