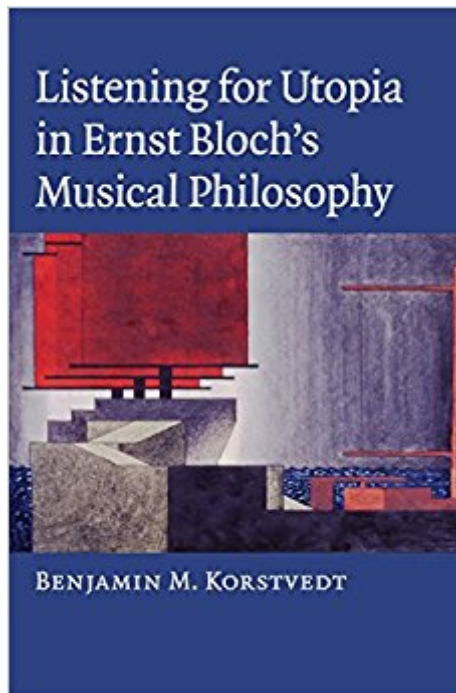




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# Listening For Utopia In Ernst Bloch's Musical Philosophy



## Synopsis

The musical writings of the German philosopher and theorist Ernst Bloch are extraordinarily rich, but also unusually dense, at times even cryptic. Bloch, a profoundly heterodox thinker, brilliantly wove cultural criticism into a larger project of what he termed 'revolutionary gnosis'. *Listening for Utopia* is both an explication of Bloch's musical thought and a critical development of it. Ultimately, the book seeks to reanimate Bloch's philosophy of music in ways that connect with current musicology. The work begins with a detailed study of concepts crucial to Bloch's aesthetics that situates them within both his philosophical system and German critical theory of the early twentieth century. The second half of the book comprises a series of essays that take up key ideas from Bloch, decipher them through contextual and close reading, and develop them through critical application to salient musical masterpieces by Wagner, Mozart, Bruckner and Brahms.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

**Advance Endorsement** Despite Ernst Bloch's significance for the philosophical reception of Austro-German music, his work has too often been overlooked in the literature, eclipsed especially by his contemporary Adorno. Benjamin Korstvedt's *Listening for Utopia* offers a welcome corrective to this tendency. Marshalling a formidable knowledge of Bloch's writings and their cultural context, and viewing it through the prism of his views on the music of Mozart, Wagner, Brahms and Bruckner, Korstvedt mixes clear and insightful commentary on Bloch's ideas with apposite studies of their musicological and music-analytical implications. The result is a most valuable contribution to

our understanding of both Bloch and the repertoire he addressed. Julian Horton Associate Professor of Music, University College Dublin

Ernst Bloch's philosophy of music is richly insightful, but often forbidding in its density. This book makes Bloch's musical thought accessible to modern musical scholars by deciphering its conceptual bases. Korstvedt then uses ideas derived from Bloch as the starting point for critical essays on Wagner, Mozart, Bruckner and Brahms.

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Listening for Utopia in Ernst Bloch's Musical Philosophy Waltzes from Vienna. A musical romance in three acts ... Original libretto by A. M. Willner, Heinz Reichart and Ernst Marischka. Music adapted and arranged ... arranged by Ronald Hanmer. Vocal score, etc Manifesto for Philosophy: Followed by Two Essays: "the (Re)Turn of Philosophy Itself" and "Definition of Philosophy" (Suny Series, Intersections, Philosophy and Critical Theory) The American Musical Landscape: The Business of Musicianship from Billings to Gershwin, Updated With a New Preface (Ernest Bloch Lectures) The Quest for Voice: On Music, Politics, and the Limits of Philosophy: The 1997 Ernest Bloch Lectures The Quest for Voice: Music, Politics, and the Limits of Philosophy (Ernest Bloch Lectures) The Enjoyment of Music: Essential Listening Edition (Third Essential Listening Edition) Listening to Music (with Introduction to Listening CD) Listening to Western Music (with Introduction to Listening CD) 5-CD Set for Wright's Listening to Music, 6th and Listening to Western Music, 6th Listening to Music History: Active Listening Materials to Support a School Music Scheme (Music Express) Pathways 4: Listening, Speaking, & Critical Thinking (Pathways: Listening, Speaking, & Critical Thinking) Art Forms in Nature: The Prints of Ernst Haeckel Art Forms from the Abyss: Ernst Haeckel's Images From The HMS Challenger Expedition Therapeutic Vaccination Strategies (Ernst Schering Foundation Symposium Proceedings) Art Forms from the Ocean: The Radiolarian Prints of Ernst Haeckel Ernst Holzweissg Nachf, Music Boxes and Automats, 1898: Catalog Reprint Series Travels on the Lower Mississippi, 1879-1880: A Memoir by Ernst von Hesse-Wartegg Ace of the Black Cross: The Memoirs of Ernst Udet The Lady in Gold: The Extraordinary Tale of Gustav Klimt's Masterpiece, Portrait of Adele Bloch-Bauer

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