

Denis Diderot, Rameau's nephew = Le neveu de Rameau /

Diderot, Denis (1713-1784)

Monografía

Open Book Publishers, [2016]

"In a famous Parisian chess café, a down-and-out, HIM, accosts a former acquaintance, ME, who has made good, more or less. They talk about chess, about genius, about good and evil, about music, they gossip about the society in which they move, one of extreme inequality, of corruption, of envy, and about the circle of hangers-on in which the down-and-out abides. The down-and-out from time to time is possessed with movements almost like spasms, in which he imitates, he gestures, he rants. And towards half past five, when the warning bell of the Opera sounds, they part, going their separate ways. Probably completed in 1772-73, Denis Diderot's Rameau's Nephew fascinated Goethe, Hegel, Engels and Freud in turn, achieving a literary-philosophical status that no other work by Diderot shares. This interactive, multi-media and bilingual edition offers a brand new translation of Diderot's famous dialogue, and it also gives the reader much more. Portraits and biographies of the numerous individuals mentioned in the text, from minor actresses to senior government officials, enable the reader to see the people Diderot describes, and provide a window onto the complex social and political context that forms the backdrop to the dialogue. Links to musical pieces specially selected by Pascal Duc and performed by students of the Conservatoire national supérieur de musique et de danse de Paris, illuminate the wider musical context of the work, enlarging it far beyond its now widely understood relation to opéra comique."--Publisher's website

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Título: Denis Diderot, Rameau's nephew Le neveu de Rameau edited by Marian Hobson ; translated by Kate E. Tunstall and Caroline Warman ; music researched and played by the Conservatoire national supérieur de musique et de danse de Paris under the direction of Pascal Duc

Edición: Expanded 2nd ed., a multi-media bilingual ed

Editorial: Cambridge Open Book Publishers [2016]

Descripción física: xi, 148 p. il

Variantes del título: Rameau's nephew

Mención de serie: EBSCO Academic eBook Collection Complete OpenBook classics series 4

Nota general: This new edition includes: Introduction ; Original text ; English translation ; Embedded audio-files ; Explanatory notes ; Interactive material ; 100 colour illustrations ; Additional online resources Previous ed. published with slightly different title: Denis Diderot's Rameau's Nephew : a multi-media edition. 2014 "The translation in this book is from Denis Diderot, "Satyre seconde : le neveu de Rameau", ed. Marian Hobson (Droz : Geneva, 2013)"--Title page verso

Bibliografía: Incluye referencias bibliográficas

Contenido: List of Musical Pieces -- Preface to the Second Edition / by Marian Hobson -- Rameau's nephew / translated by Kate E. Tunstall, Caroline Warman -- Le Neveu de Rameau : French edition / ed. by Georges Monval (Paris: Plon, 1891) -- Notes by Marian Hobson -- List of Illustrations -- Contributors -- Acknowledgments

Detalles del sistema: Forma de acceso: World Wide Web

ISBN: 9781909254923 1909254924 9781909254930 1909254932 9781909254947 1909254940 9781909254916 9781909254909

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