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Symphony on the Danube: A Classical Music Cruise

Brigitte Burris

University of Pennsylvania, bweinst@pobox.upenn.edu

Rebecca A. Stuhr

University of Pennsylvania, stuhreb@pobox.upenn.edu

Stephan Lehmann

University of Pennsylvania

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Abstract

Suggested readings for the Penn Alumni Travel cruise along the Danube. See the Library Guide for the bibliography [here](#).

Keywords

danube, cruise, music, alumni, penn, travel, readings, culture

Disciplines

European Languages and Societies

Comments

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Alumni Travel Bibliography

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Prepared by Penn Library Subject Specialists:

Brigitte Burris
Collection & Content Analyst
German Studies
Medieval Studies
bweinst@pobox.upenn.edu

Rebecca Stuhr
Coordinator for Humanities Collections
Classical Studies
History
stuhrrreb@pobox.upenn.edu

Stephan Lehmann
Former Penn Libraries Humanities Specialist

History and Culture:

Beattie, Andrew. *The Danube: A Cultural History*. Oxford University Press, 2010. (B.B.)

An entertaining and informative collection of geographical, historical, political, and economic facts about the many lands along the Danube, Beattie's work is an amalgamation of travel guide and travel essay that will delight and inform travelers to the Danubian regions.

Magris, Claudio. *Danube*. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1989. (B.B.)

A classic and an international bestseller, *Danube* is a poignant and enjoyable introduction to the intellectual and literary culture of central Europe. Translated from the original Italian, Magris follows the river from the Black Forest to the Black Sea, reflecting on the history of the peoples who have inhabited its banks.

Polvay, Marina. *All Along the Danube: Recipes from Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria*. Hippocrene Books, 2000. (B.B.)

A collection of recipes and cultural knowledge from countries along the Danube. In addition to photos of the prepared foods, the book also offers photos and maps of the geographic locations from where the recipes originate.

Travel:

Stasiuk, Andrzej. *On the Road to Bababdag: Travels in the Other Europe*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2011. (R.S.)

The author recounts his present and past travels through his native Poland as well as the countries of Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Slovenia, Albania, Moldova, and Ukraine.

Fiction:

Miłoszewski, Zygmunt. *Entanglement*. London: Bitterlemon Press, 2010 (R.S.) This novel by Polish author Miłoszewski won the 2007 prize for best Polish crime novel. It is the first in a series of novels featuring prosecutor Teodor Szacki. The second volume *Grain of Truth* (2012) was recently released and will be followed shortly by a third.

Roth, Joseph. "The Bust of the Emperor." *Three Novellas*. Woodstock, NY: Overlook Press, 2003. Print. (S.L.)

A very beautiful evocation of longing for the Danube (Habsburg) Monarchy.

Music:

Slobin, Mark, editor. *Retuning Culture: Musical Changes in Central and Eastern Europe*. Durham: Duke University Press, 1996. (R.S.)

Looking at contemporary times, this collection of essays focuses on the importance of traditional and popular musics in peasant communities and urban centers in Hungary, Poland, Romania, Russia, the Czech Republic, Ukraine, the former Yugoslavia, Macedonia, and Bulgaria during the decades leading up to and just after the fall of the Soviet Union.

Woodfield, Ian. *Performing Operas for Mozart: Impresarios, Singers and Troupes*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2012. (R.S.)

An account of the Bondini-Guardasoni opera company that flourished in Prague and Warsaw (with summer seasons in Leipzig) during the last decades of the 18th Century. The company was particularly attached to Mozart's operas, both during his lifetime and after his death.