

Out of Time

THE VEXED LIFE OF GEORG TINTNER

TANYA BUCHDAHL TINTNER



FOREWORD BY RICHARD GILL

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Out of Time: The Vexed Life of Georg Tintner

Tanya Buchdahl Tintner

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An important book ... an invaluable book that can be recommended to music lovers just as highly as the conductor's Bruckner recordings on Naxos, which received outstanding reviews all over the world.

– Rémy Franck, *Pizzicato* (Luxembourg)

An extraordinarily compelling and moving book.... [Tintner's] writing style is clear, elegant and highly expressive.

– Alan Sanders, *Classical Recordings Quarterly* (UK)

[This book is] an amazing achievement—probably the first-ever realistic biography of an important artist.

– Klaus Heymann, Chairman, Naxos Group of Companies

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Georg Tintner is best known to music lovers for the stunning interpretations of Bruckner's symphonies he recorded on Naxos in the 1990s.

The first Jewish member of the Vienna Boys' Choir, a composer at six, and a conductor at nineteen, Georg Tintner was one of the bright young musicians in Vienna, notwithstanding the city's pervasive anti-Semitism. But the *Anschluss* in 1938 changed everything. He fled the Nazis and eventually arrived as a refugee in New Zealand, where the cultural and artistic contrast could not have been greater. In time he moved on to conduct opera in Australia but struggled to make a living. He tried to restart his career in South Africa and England, but real success came only after he moved to Canada at the age of seventy. Worldwide acclaim greeted his Naxos recordings of Bruckner's symphonies, but it was too late. Suffering from cancer and unwilling to "crumble away," he took his own life.

Georg Tintner's story is the tragedy of the refugee and the culturally alienated artist. Socialist, vegetarian, and bicycle enthusiast, he was a man of principle, unwilling to compromise on musical and ethical matters no matter the cost. Tanya Buchdahl Tintner has written a thoroughly researched memoir of an artist who was like no other.

Tanya Buchdahl Tintner, Georg's third wife and widow, is a freelance classical music writer and editor. She has managed a professional development program for conductors for over twenty years and served as concerts officer at the Queensland Conservatorium. She lives in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

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