

## The Cambridge Companion to *The Magic Flute*

Since its premiere in 1791, *The Magic Flute* has been staged continuously and remains, to this day, Mozart's most-performed opera worldwide. This comprehensive, user-friendly, up-to-date critical guide considers the opera in a variety of contexts to provide a fresh look at a work that has continued to fascinate audiences from Mozart's time to ours. It serves both as an introduction for those encountering the opera for the first time and as a treasury of recent scholarship for those who know it very well. Containing twenty-one essays by leading scholars, and drawing on recent research and commentary, this Companion presents original insights on music, dialogue, and spectacle, and offers a range of new perspectives on key issues, including the opera's representation of exoticism, race, and gender. Organized in four sections – historical context, musical analysis, critical approaches, and reception – it provides an essential framework for understanding *The Magic Flute* and its extraordinary afterlife.

JESSICA WALDOFF is Professor of Music at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts. She is the author of *Recognition in Mozart's Operas* (2006; 2011) and has published extensively on the music of Mozart and his contemporaries.

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