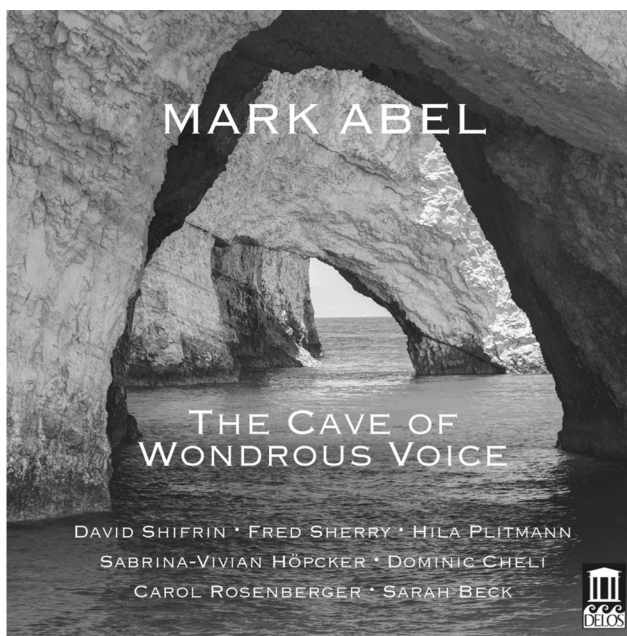


Tsvetaeva – A First Song Cycle in English!



One of Russia's most revered and tragic poets has never before been set by a classical composer using an English translation. Mark Abel's *Four Poems of Marina Tsvetaeva*, a collaboration with Bowdoin College scholar Alyssa Dinega Gillespie, beautifully captures the poet's multihued artistic voice. The piece, sung by Grammy-winning soprano Hila Plitmann, appears on Abel's Delos album *The Cave of Wondrous Voice*.

The songs take full advantage of Plitmann's "wondrous voice," which gleams in all registers ... Her attention to meaning suffuses every phrase -- Gramophone

Here, I feel, Abel is at his strongest, most original, and intensely personal. Plitmann uses her agile voice with unfailing courage to undertake Abel's extreme vocal demands ... It is not hard to see why (Tsvetaeva) is considered a genius as well as a witness to terrible times. Abel's complex, dense writing does full justice to this mixture of beauty, prophetic insight and terror -- Fanfare

Abel and Plitmann are on the same wavelength ... Her voice is superb, and the juxtaposition with the English horn adds to the evocative, earthy nature of each song -- Culture Spot LA





Interwar East Central Europe, 1918–1941

The Failure of Democracy-building, the Fate of Minorities

EDITED BY SABRINA P. RAMET



May 2020: 234x156: 340pp

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Interwar East Central Europe, 1918-1941

The Failure of Democracy-building, the Fate of Minorities

Edited by **Sabrina P. Ramet**, Norwegian University of Science and Technology

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This collaborative work focuses on the challenges which interwar regimes faced and how they coped with them in the aftermath of World War I, focusing especially on the failure to establish and stabilize democratic regimes, as well as on the fate of ethnic and religious minorities. Topics explored include the political systems and how they changed during the two decades under review, land reform, Church-state relations, and culture. Countries studied include Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Romania, Bulgaria, and Albania.

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Sabrina Ramet has assembled a team of highly respectable country specialists to offer a fresh and historiographically updated reading of interwar developments in East Central Europe. The volume is bookended by two excellent comparative and theoretically informed essays carefully weighing the multiplicity of factors contributing to the instability of the interwar regimes. As a result this survey succeeds admirably in producing a nuanced narrative and analysis.

Maria Todorova, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA

Sabrina Ramet, together with a roster of other eminent scholars, has produced an exciting new history of interwar East Central Europe. The volume has a clear focus on the failure of democracy (1918 to 1941), and on the bedeviling issues of ethnic minorities and of peasants; the latter made up an overwhelming majority of much of the region's population. The book will be of great interest to political scientists and historians of East Central Europe, and of Europe more generally, and it is perfect for classroom use.

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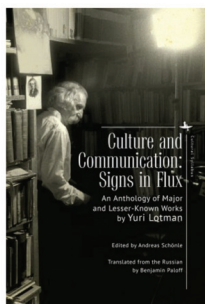
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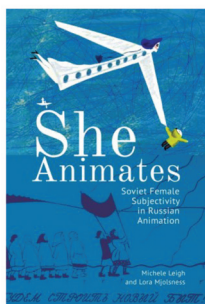
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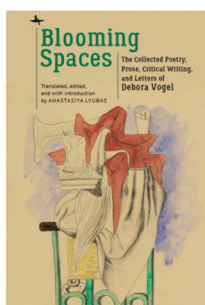
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