



## Britten: War Requiem (Cambridge Music Handbooks)

*By Mervyn Cooke*

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### **Britten: War Requiem (Cambridge Music Handbooks)** By Mervyn Cooke

The book examines from various viewpoints Britten's War Requiem, written in 1962 to celebrate the consecration of the new Coventry Cathedral and uniting the famous anti-war poetry of Wilfred Owen with the Latin Requiem Mass. Britten's and Owen's pacifist beliefs are compared, and the chronology of the compositional process unraveled from documentary and manuscript sources. The musical language is analyzed in detail, and the fluctuating critical responses to the score are assessed.

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