

1: The Devil's Virtuosos: German Generals at War, by David Downing

I read this book over twenty years ago while serving in the Peace Corp in West Africa. Ever since I have searched for a copy but to no avail. The book was a very well written account of battle campaigns of the German Army during the Second World War.

This list looks at the ten greatest violists in the entire history of western classical music. Note the notable mentions at the bottom and be sure to add your own to the comments. He was friends with several prominent Russian composers, including Prokofiev, Shostakovich, Khachaturian and Glazunov, all of whom wrote works dedicated to him, and which he premiered. He described the last movement of it as the violin equivalent of running a 3-minute mile. He is typically contrasted with 5, whose technical abilities were just as perfect, but whose tone was much more aggressive, even in slow passages. Kreisler was one of the few classical musicians to die wealthy back then, having been struck by cars twice, once in , which fractured his skull and put him in a week-long coma, and again a few months before his death, a traffic accident which left him blind and deaf. He was known to be supremely polite and gentlemanly to everyone he met, and this has been noted as an abiding quality of his playing. He lived from to , and 2 recommended him for the Imperial Academy of Music in Odessa, Ukraine. He was quite short, at about 5 feet 3 inches, and, along with his wide fingers, this hindered his ability to hit the very high notes. He practiced for years until he perfected his technique, and would bend over a bit during performances in order to play properly. He is also the progenitor of the famous joke, when walking home one evening in New York City, from a poorly received recital, he was stopped by a passerby who intended to go to his performance, but was late. All monasteries taught basic music as part of their schooling. He took up fencing at the University of Padua, where he studied law, and after his father died, he married Elisabetta Premazone, whom his father would not have liked because she was of a lower class. But she was a mistress of Cardinal Giorgio Cornaro there was more of a Cardinal in the bird than in him , who promptly accused Tartini of making off with her. So he fled, rather than be caught and excommunicated or killed. He went to the monastery of St. Francis of Assisi, and began studying the violin. He had a lot of talent for it, and the story goes that when he considered himself a master, he went to a performance of Francesco Veracini, whose playing made Tartini flee to Ancona and practice a lot more. By , he was the primary performance rival of 3, famous all over Europe for his impeccable trills and tremolos. His most famous work makes extensive use of trills: Many professionals today cannot handle it. Some say that Tartini heard the devil play it in a dream, and his composition the next morning was terrible compared to what he remembered. He was Norwegian, and lived from to , during which time he toured Europe concertizing with the likes of Franz Liszt, Clara and Robert Schumann, Felix Mendelssohn and others. Robert Schumann considered Bull to have an uncommon clarity and precision in his technique, to the point that, no matter how fast the music got, Bull never missed a note, and you could hear them all just fine. Clara loved him more than any other violinist she heard in person. Not an easy virtuoso to outmatch, but as so often happens when ranking great performers before the recording age, at some point the rankings begin to split hairs. That is the case, save one or two entries, with this list. He became legendary with his recording of Zigeunerweisen, written by another performer on this list, which showcases almost every technique a violinist par excellence should have. After a slow segment, the fast part incorporates hair-raising pizzicato and bowing passages at the same time. Heifetz was more than equal to the task. His admirers have all expressed wonderment at his marvelous tone quality, however difficult the piece of music he was performing. The techniques you hear performers using, fingering, bowing form and posture are all thanks to Corelli. He was famous throughout western Europe in his own day as a performer of the highest order. He did not like the idea of playing very high notes. His own music almost never goes above D on the highest string. The story goes that Handel wrote an A above this in one of his oratorios, which the visiting Corelli refused to play. He thought it sounded terrible. Handel, an organist, proceeded to play it on his own violin, and Corelli was offended. Today he is one of the three most popular Baroque composers, with Bach and Handel. He seems to have had asthma, and this prevented him from learning wind instruments, but not the violin, and by his twenties, he had become well known in much of Italy

and France as a virtuoso of nearly unrivaled technical artistry. With the solo violin, which he played in their premieres, he depicts birds singing, lightning and thunderstorms, frozen lakes, etc. The technical demands in these pieces are quite high. The recording capabilities back then were terrible for anything other than percussive sounds, like a piano or drums, unless the sound was directed straight into the megaphone. Any violin virtuoso is inevitably compared with the next entry, and almost always somewhat unfavorably, but Sarasate was one of the rare exceptions whom people can actually hear perform. Some like to say that the Devil was sure to have been in attendance at every one of his recitals. On a list of violin virtuosity, no one is allowed to top Paganini. He practiced 10 hours a day, by his own admission, and, coupled with his talent, he had no choice but to become as fluent on the violin as he was in Italian. He became rich by his performances, of course, but did not have a special violin made for him. In the field of violins, the extremely rich are able to acquire an instrument made by the most famous two luthiers in history: Antonio Stradivari and Giuseppe Guarneri. Paganini owned several fine instruments, but his favorite, and the one on which he played for most of his career, was made by Guarneri, in Il Cannone has an extremely shallow bridge under the strings, enabling the player to play 4 notes at once with ease, but at the price of an extreme demand for technical precision. Paganini never missed a note. His very first opus number is comprised of his 24 Caprices for solo, the 24th of which, in a minor, is the most well known, having been transcribed for other instruments, and set to variations, by many great composers. Paganini could, according to Mendelssohn, who went to several of his recitals, play this caprice on one string. A violin has four strings, and the performer is supposed to use any one of them to facilitate scale runs, octave leaps, etc. Otherwise, very long fingers, and extraordinary dexterity and accuracy are required. Paganini would walk out, take his bows, then ask a random lady in the front row to pick a string. He would then play the 24th Caprice, which was very popular, on that string. He could also play his Moto Perpetuo, or Perpetual Motion, on one string. His influence on modern violin technique is more profound than any other such influence in music, save perhaps Liszt on the piano. He boggled so many minds with his breathtaking wizardry, that, on his death, doctors dissected his hands and wrists to see if he had been born a freak: His fingers were quite long, but there had been no cheats or tricks of any kind. He was simply well practiced. Mozart yes, he was that good.

2: Editions of The Devil's Virtuosos: German Generals at War, by David Downing

The Devil's Virtuosos has 33 ratings and 5 reviews. Militaryreader said: In the aftermath of the Second World War the former German High Command through.

New York Bottom outside page edges speckled red, indicating a remaindered copy, but not impacting the interior of the pages in any way. Black paper over spine and boards, with gilt-stamped spine title. Color illustrated dust jacket. Includes Select Bibliography and index. Book Club Edition "In this study of the Second World War, the author has examined the decisive European campaigns from the viewpoint of those German generals who exercised the greatest influence on their planning, direction and outcome. In doing so he has created a unique picture of the generals in action - a select group of highly skilled and disciplined men who led their armies across the length and breadth of Europe, carving an empire which surpassed that of Napoleon - and who finally led their men back to the ruins of Nazi Germany. First and foremost among the generals mentioned are three men: Guderian, who dared to shout back at Hitler and who forged the panzer force and led it through Poland, France and the gates of Moscow; Manstein, the master strategist, who planned the French campaign and declined to join the anti-Hitler conspiracy; and Rommel, the bold panzer commander, who won laurels in France and fame in Africa, yet ended his career tragically trying to defeat the Allies in Normandy and Hitler in Berlin. These generals, and others who figure prominently in this book such as von Kluge, Model, von Rundstedt and von Bock, are seen fighting several battles at once. As noted, bottom outside page edges speckled red, indicating a remaindered copy, but not impacting the interior of the pages in any way. Otherwise, as with many remaindered copies, the Book is in Near Fine Condition: Copyright All text in this auction description is the sole property of Classic Books and Ephemera and may not be copied without permission from Classic Books and Ephemera. We email all winning bidders within 24 hours of the end of auction. Occasionally a server will block emails with unfamiliar addresses, which has prevented us from notifying a few winning bidders. If you do not hear from us, please email us for payment details. The winning bidder receives free media mail in the U. We ship all books in boxes, well protected, within 24 hours of the order Monday - Saturday , always with tracking. We ship pamphlets, documents, broadsides, and booklets in rigid mailers, bagged and boarded, with added stiffener for protection, always with tracking. We have been selling books and ephemera for about 17 years to satisfied customers on various venues, so buy with confidence. For expedited domestic or international shipping prices, please contact us. Ebay has recently decreed that sellers on the site can only accept electronic payments through Paypal; no other form of payment is permitted except upon request. Before paying for multiple items, please wait for our email notification of your winning bids, so we can provide a combined shipping total. For an explanation of terms commonly used in book descriptions, contact us. Seller assumes all responsibility for this listing. Shipping and handling The seller has not specified a shipping method to Germany. Contact the seller- opens in a new window or tab and request shipping to your location. Shipping cost cannot be calculated. Please enter a valid ZIP Code. Lansdowne, Pennsylvania, United States Shipping to: Austria, France, Germany, Italy No additional import charges at delivery! This item will be shipped through the Global Shipping Program and includes international tracking. Learn more- opens in a new window or tab Change country: There are 1 items available. Please enter a number less than or equal to 1. Select a valid country. Please enter 5 or 9 numbers for the ZIP Code. This item does not ship to Germany Handling time Will usually ship within 1 business day of receiving cleared payment - opens in a new window or tab. Taxes Sales tax may apply when shipping to: You are covered by the eBay Money Back Guarantee if you receive an item that is not as described in the listing.

3: Top 10 Greatest Violinists of all Time - Listverse

This books provides a concise and very readable overview of the Second World War from the Wehrmatch's points of view. In particular, it focuses on the military career of the most important German generals (i.e., Guderian, Rommel and Manstein).

4: High School Choirs/Culpeper/cchschoirs

Devils Virtuosos by David Downing available in Mass Market on www.enganchecubano.com, also read synopsis and reviews.

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Editions for The Devil's Virtuosos: German Generals at War, (Paperback published in), (Hardcover), (Hardcov.

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