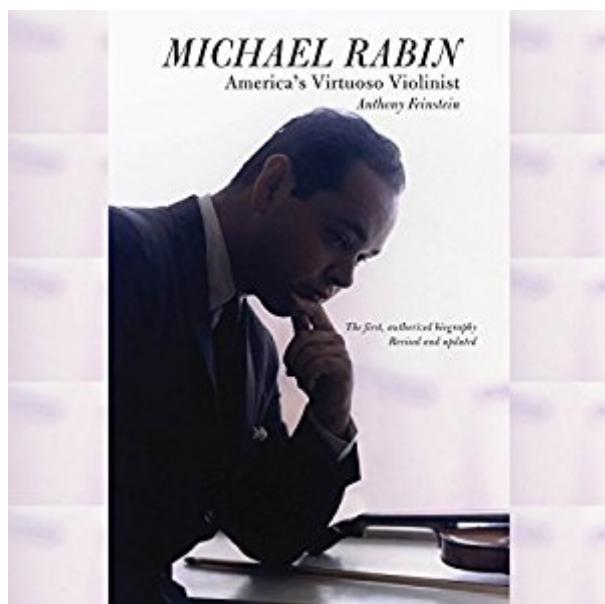


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Michael Rabin, America's Virtuoso Violinist: The First Authorized Biography - Revised And Updated



Synopsis

In Michael Rabin: America's Virtuoso Violinist, Anthony Feinstein tells the poignant story of the life and career of one of history's greatest violinists. As a child prodigy, Rabin had the classical music world at his feet. Notable successes included a coveted EMI contract, recording the soundtrack for an Elizabeth Taylor movie, and guest appearances on the Milton Berle Show and the Bell Telephone Hour. Yet no sooner had Rabin taken his place alongside such illustrious colleagues as Heifetz, Milstein, and Stern, than he abruptly and inexplicably disappeared from the concert stage. For three years, the public saw and heard little of him. In the mid-1960s, Rabin resurfaced and painstakingly began rebuilding a once-great career. Then one morning, the music world awoke to news of his sudden, mysterious death at age 35. For the first edition of this biography, Feinstein had unprecedented access to Rabin's private papers and medical history. Now he draws on additional material obtained from recent interviews with Rabin's colleagues, girlfriends, and management. The result is an added appreciation of Rabin's remarkable family, his cloistered upbringing, and a micromanaged career that ensured not only great success, but also periods of deep despair. Michael Rabin: America's Virtuoso Violinist is more than a story of a great violinist. It is also the moving account of a man of rare talent, who never stopped battling to find personal happiness on that fragile journey from wunderkind to adulthood.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Fine book.

This is a biography of a tragic figure in the world of music. Michael Rabin was a unique violinist. He was one of the greatest fiddlers of all time. Don't take my word for it; that's the opinion of Itzhak Perlman. I studied with a woman who knew Michael Rabin. He had a profound affect on her. I do not want to spoil this wonderful book by revealing the intimate details about Michael Rabin. I will just say that you cannot be disappointed in it. I bought it & I'm not planning on selling my copy anytime soon. It's a keeper. Michael Rabin was America's greatest violinists, and I rarely use superlatives. I knew one of Michael's classmates and took great interest in him; not just as a violinist, but as a person. His life was solitary & short. This is one of the best biographies I have ever read. It's extremely accurate & thorough. Here are some facts derived from the book: Michael Rabil's favorite violinist was Heifetz. David Oistrakh was in awe of Michael's technical ability. Michael was in rehab for drug addiction 3 times. Michael loved his bicycle and model airplanes more than anything. Michael had an older brother, Jay, who was probably as talented as Michael, but he had died before Michael was born. Michael was a child without much of a childhood, and he never really had to chance to grow up. He was a genius who was very simpleminded. Paganini was child's play for him. Mozart was his nemesis. He was a boy with the stereotypical Jewish mother who drove him crazy. When Michael died, his mother chose Mozart as the music for his funeral, and the funeral was more about Michael's musical abilities than of Michael as a person. Michael Rabin is mentioned several times in LIFE AINT KIND, an existentialistic novel about the struggles of a young violinist/pianist. I highly recommend both books.

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