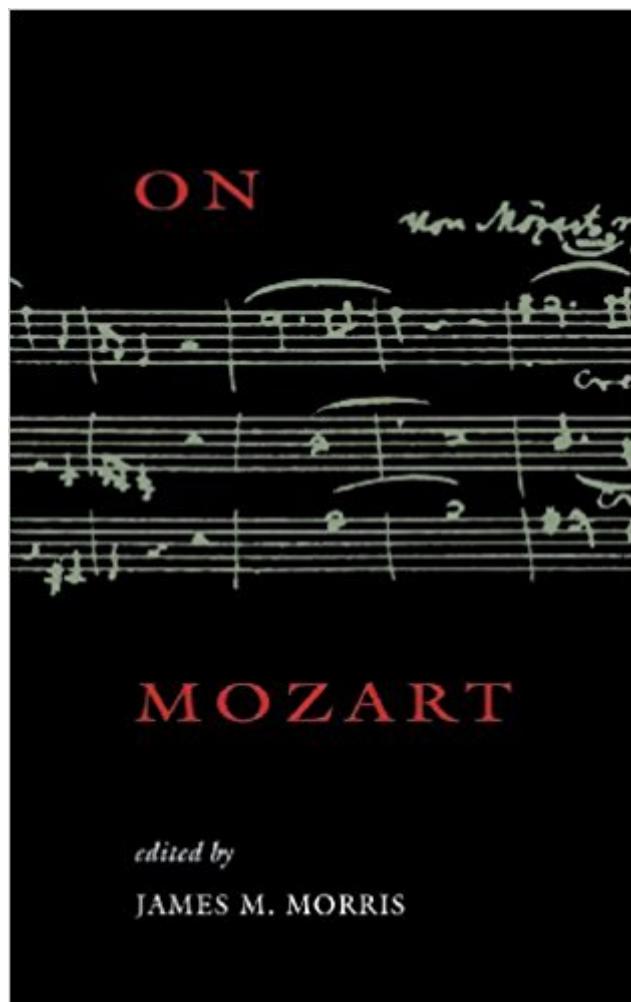


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# On Mozart (Woodrow Wilson Center Press)



## **Synopsis**

On Mozart is an attempt to suggest how much more complicated a figure Mozart was than popular legends and media portrayals would have us believe. He was certainly a genius--in that, the legends are correct, and the evidence abounds--but he was also a working composer in a society crowded with other working composers, and he had to make a living at his craft to maintain the style of living to which he and his family had become accustomed. By observing a realistic and human genius, the collection of essays portrays a more complex individual than the divinely inspired Mozart of myth, who took his notes directly from God.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

"Originating among the rash of Mozart bicentennial conferences in 1991, this distinguished miscellany from the Woodrow Wilson International Center unites scholars from several disciplines, including musicology..." Julian Rushton, *Times Literary Supplement*"If *On Mozart* is read from cover to cover, it will reveal much about the composer's operas and even more about his gifts, his personality, and his circumstances. The arguments presented by the thirteen authors are always engaging and often provocative. As a result, the collection represents an attractive introduction to how things stand with Mozart studies these days." Christopher Hatch, *Opera Quarterly*

Portraying a more complex individual than the divinely inspired Mozart of myth--who took his notes

directly from God--this study depicts him as a genius struggling to support his family by working at his craft within a society crowded with other working composers.

This wonderful book consists of a series of essays by noted scholars. However, the book is very readable for a layperson. It debunks such myths as: 1) Mozart worked everything out in his head, and just had to find the time to write it down. Wrong. 2) Mozart never had much money. Totally wrong. 3) Only his widow and one or two others accompanied his casket to the cemetery. True, but the book explains why that happened. Many other essays in here, and all wonderfully written. A great book.

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