

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910293134103321
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Titolo	Middlebrow Modernism : Britten's Operas and the Great Divide / / Christopher Chowrimootoo
Pubbl/distr/stampa	University of California Press, 2018 Oakland, California : , : University of California Press, , [2019] ©[2019]
ISBN	9780520298651 0520298659
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xii, 229 pages) : PDF, digital file(s)
Collana	California Studies in 20th-Century Music ; ; 24
Disciplina	782.1092
Soggetti	Music - 20th century - Philosophy and esthetics Modernism (Music) - History - 20th century Opera - 20th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Middlebrow modernism -- Sentimentality under erasure in Peter Grimes -- The timely traditions of Albert Herring -- The turn of the screw, or : the Gothic Melodrama of modernism -- The burning fiery furnace and the redemption of religious Kitsch -- Death in Venice and the aesthetics of sublimation.
Sommario/riassunto	"At publication date, a free ebook version of this title will be available through Luminos, University of California Press's Open Access publishing program. Visit www.luminosoa.org to learn more. This provocative study is situated at the intersection of the history, historiography, and aesthetics of twentieth-century music. It uses Benjamin Britten's operas to illustrate the ways in which composers, critics, and audiences mediated the 'great divide' between modernism and mass culture. Reviving midcentury discussions of the 'middlebrow,' Christopher Chowrimootoo demonstrates how these works allowed audiences to have their modernist cake and eat it too: to revel in the pleasures of consonance, lyricism, and theatrical spectacle even while enjoying the prestige that came from rejecting them. By focusing on key moments when reigning aesthetic oppositions and hierarchies

threatened to collapse, Middlebrow Modernism offers a powerful model for recovering shades of gray in the previously black-and-white historiographies of twentieth-century music"--Provided by publisher.
