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recounts with  
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*day and went on to  
become one of the  
great pillars of  
Western art music.*

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intellectual and  
musical  
development from  
the early works  
written in Bonn to  
the Ninth  
Symphony and the  
late quartets,  
looking at  
compositions from  
different and  
original  
perspectives that

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show Beethoven's art as a union of sensuous and rational, of expression and structure. In analyses of individual pieces, Kinderman shows that the deepening of Beethoven's musical thought was a continuous

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process over  
decades of his life.  
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his opera Fidelio,  
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composer's later years and fascinating projects left incomplete. A revised view emerges from this of Beethoven's aesthetics and the musical meaning of his works. Rather than the conventional

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image of a heroic and tormented figure, Kinderman provides a more complex, more fully rounded account of the composer.

Although Beethoven's deafness and his other personal crises are

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addressed,  
together with this  
ever-increasing  
commitment to his  
art, so too are the  
lighter aspects of  
his personality: his  
humor, his love of  
puns, his great  
delight in  
juxtaposing the  
exalted and the  
commonplace.

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significance of the sixteen string quartets.

"Late style" is a critical term routinely deployed to characterise the work of selected authors, composers, and creative artists as they enter their last phase of

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production--often,  
but not only, in old  
age. Taken at face  
value, this  
terminology  
merely points to a  
chronological  
division in the  
artist's oeuvre,  
"late" being the  
antonym of "early"  
or the third term in  
the triad "early-

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middle-late."

However, almost from its inception, the idea of late style or late work has been freighted with aesthetic associations and expectations that promote it as a special episode in the artist's creative life. Late style is

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often

characterized as  
the imaginative  
response made by  
exceptional talents  
to the imminence  
of their death. In  
their confrontation  
with death creative  
artists, critics  
claim, produce  
work that is by  
turns a

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determination to continue while strength remains, a summation of their life's work and a radical vision of the essence of their craft. And because this creative phenomenon is understood as primarily an

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existential  
response to a  
common fate, so  
late style is  
understood as  
something that  
transcends the  
particularities of  
place, time and  
medium. Critics  
seeking to  
understand late  
work regularly

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invoke the examples of Titian, Goethe, and Beethoven as exemplars of what constitutes late work, proposing that something unites the late style of authors, composers, and creative artists who otherwise

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would not be bracketed together and that lateness per se is a special order of creative work. The essays in this collection resist this position. Ranging across literature, the visual arts, music, and scientific work, the



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material

assembled here  
looks closely at  
the material,  
biographical and  
other contexts in  
which the work  
was produced and  
seeks both to  
question the  
assumptions  
surrounding late  
style and to

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prompt a more  
critical  
understanding of  
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traditional view  
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crucial,  
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Wagner's operas.  
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that the operas  
exemplify and  
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**vast collection  
of images that  
are patently  
anti-Semitic -  
and that were  
readily  
recognized as  
such by nineteen  
th-century  
German  
audiences. These  
images were  
associated  
particularly**

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stage  
directions,  
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reconstructs  
iconographies of  
corporeal images  
- iconographies  
of the eye,

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**voice, smell,  
gait, and  
sexuality - that  
were essential  
to the operas  
and were  
"associated with  
anti-Semitism  
and the longing  
for an imagined  
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community".  
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cet énigmatique  
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considéré par  
les spécialistes  
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aimée " ; il  
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avec son neveu  
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diverses femmes  
issues de  
l'aristocratie  
dont il tombe  
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amoureux. Il  
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atrocious**

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stacked against even  
the most  
unquenchable of  
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