# Table of Contents

Epigrams ........................................ 5  
Acknowledgments ............................... 6  
Preface ........................................... 9  

Kepler: Music and the Quest for the Harmony of the World  
  *Harmonices mundi*: A treatise about Universal Consonance 13  
  The Development of the Pythagorean Concept of Harmony 15  
  The Life and Time of the Future Operatic Protagonist 20  

Hesse: In Search of Consonance in the World’s Cultures 23  
  Castalia and its Exemplary Student 23  
  *The Glass Bead Game*: Genesis and Structure 26  
  The Glass Bead Game: Hints for the Uninitiated 29  

Hindemith: Operatic Portrayal of Kepler’s Dream of Harmony 31  
  Universal Harmony in a Composer’s Thinking 31  
  The Genesis of *Die Harmonie der Welt* 32  
  Cosmological and Spiritual Themes in the Operatic Plot 34  

Part I — Music  
  The Paradigm of Embodied Consonance 39  
  Archetypal Harmonies in Hindemith’s Symphony and Opera 45  
  Tonal Patterns in Layout and Thematic Material 49  
  Music’s Moral Power in Ancient China and Hesse’s Castalia 55  
  Musical Structures in the Tale of the Rise of Castalia 57  

Part II — Arithmetic  
  The Eternal Realm of Numerical Relations 65  
  Dramatic Analogy and Musical Proportion in Hindemith’s Opera 69  
  Musical Play: *Tetraktys*, Pentagram, and the Disharmonious *SEVEN* 72  
  Numerical Order in the Two Worlds of the *Glass Bead Game* 77  
  Mind against, with, or in Nature: a Dialectic Composition 80  

Part III — Geometry  
  Ideal Figures and Bodies 89  
  Kepler’s *Somnium* and Hindemith’s Rondos 95  
  Hesse’s Castalian “Chinese House Game” 105
## Table of Contents

### Part IV — Astronomy
- The Divine Signature in Cosmic Harmony 117
- Cosmic Nesting and Orbiting in *The Harmony of the World* 123
- A Planet Unleashed 127
- The Logocentric World View 129
- Copernican Mobilization: Toward a Holistic Concept 131
- Five-step harmonization in Life and Game 134

### Part V — Metaphysics
- The Musical Nature of the World-Soul 141
- Kepler’s Religious Conviction in Life and Opera 147
- The Spiritual Message in Hindemith’s Quotations 152
- The *I Ching* in the Life of Joseph Knecht 157

### Part VI — Human Experience
- Cosmic Events and Their Impact on Earth 169
- Astrology in Hindemith’s Opera 175
- Soul and Society in *Die Harmonie der Welt* 177
- Benevolent versus Coercive Applications of Kepler’s Harmony 179
- Transtemporal Development of a Soul: Knecht’s Five Lives 183

### Part VII — Art as a Hymn to Universal Harmony
- Human Art: Imitating Nature’s Proportions 195
- Kepler’s Poetry and the Meaning of Death 203
- Edifices of Devotion in Hindemith’s *Harmonie der Welt* 207
- Artistic Creation in Castalia 213
- Knecht’s Poems: Synthesis of a Discursive Glass Bead Game 214
- Musical (and Game) Notation: Antidotes against Impermanence 218

### Conclusion 223

### Appendices
- I: Perspectives on the Glass Bead Game 225
- II: Ancient Chinese Thinkers on Music 233
- III: Design of a Discursive Glass Bead Game in Five Movements 238

### Bibliography 241

### List of Musical Examples, Figures, and Illustrations 251

### Index 254

### About the Author