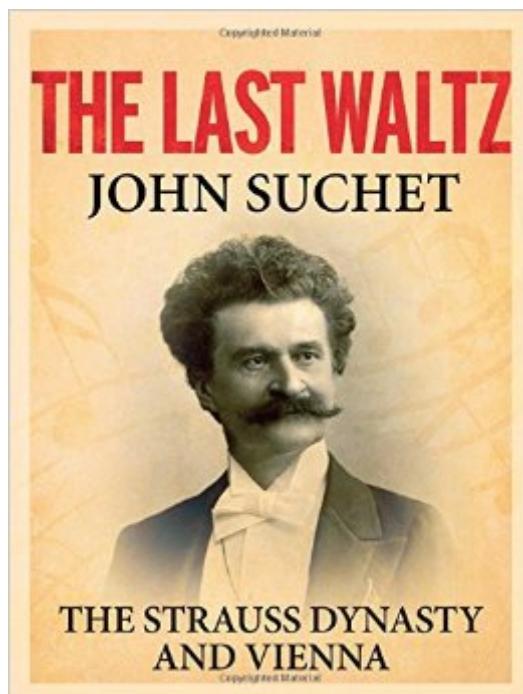


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The Last Waltz: The Strauss Dynasty And Vienna



Synopsis

Captured in a beautiful package, including more than fifty color photographs, *The Last Waltz* tells the intriguing story of the Viennese Strauss family known for producing some of the best known, best loved music of the nineteenth century. Johann and Josef Strauss, the Waltz Kings, composed hundreds of instantly recognizable and enduring melodies, including *The Blue Danube Waltz*, *Tales from the Vienna Woods*, *Voices of Spring* and *The Radetzky March*. Their iconic music has been featured on the scores of nearly a thousand films. Yet despite their success, this was a family riven with tension, feuds and jealousy, living in a country that was undergoing seismic upheaval. Through the personal and political chaos, the Strauss family continued to compose music to which the Viennese "anxious to forget their troubles" could dance and drank champagne, even as their country hurtled towards oblivion at the hands of the First World War. Classical music expert and radio host John Suchet skillfully portrays this gripping story, capturing the family dramas, the tensions, triumphs and disasters against the turbulent backdrop of Austria in the nineteenth century, from revolution to regicide.

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