

# Stephen Sondheim Life Meryle Secrest

Princess Margaret and the Curse Stephen Sondheim Frank Lloyd Wright Hidden Lives / Secret Gardens Humanities Modigliani Biography Win Art & Auction Matching Minds with Sondheim Notes The Sondheim Review The American Scholar Choice The Advocate The Literary Review Fanfare Gay & Lesbian Biography Dance Research Journal The Book Review Digest Meryle Secrest Meryle Secrest Meryle Secrest R. T. Schnadelbach Meryle Secrest Barry Joseph Music Library Association William Allison Shimer Michael J. Tyrkus  
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a groundbreaking new perspective of princess margaret by renowned biographer meryle secrest meryle secrest distinguished biographer in the arts and humanities and recipient of a white house medal has turned her focus to royalty in princess margaret and the curse she has put the conventional view of a much reviled princess on its head her latest study which she considers more of an investigation than a biography as such proposes that nobody knows the truth about the fabled doomed princess she is the first person to have looked at princess margaret in a particular family context that is to say with reference to her mother elizabeth bowes lyon the daughter of a famous hard drinking scottish family that had inhabited an ancient dwelling glamis castle for centuries her older brothers were already renowned for their prowess in alcohol consumption decades later once she became queen mother this elizabeth would begin to imbibe by eleven in the morning she was already lamenting the loss of her drinking powers when because of severe bouts of morning sickness during her first pregnancy with the future queen elizabeth in 1926 she could not drink four years later while pregnant with princess margaret in 1930 she was not so handicapped doctors believed it was perfectly safe for a mother to be to drink so she drank the doctors were wrong but it took another forty three years until 1973 before new studies established that alcohol in any amount was poisonous to the developing human being the effect is lifelong we now know that victims growth is stunted margaret stopped growing at five feet and their skeletal structures are fragile they get sick sooner and age faster there are characteristic emotional differences too they never develop maturity of mind they remain subject to sudden tantrums rages are poor judges of character and particularly prone to run and hide as princess margaret tried to do all her life they may be as intelligent and gifted as she was but mulish and fly into a rage they are it turns out exactly like the person she became none of this has ever been recognized let alone understood with this study the author places margaret s life in its proper perspective it seems particularly sad that someone expected to be perfection itself in her manners and behavior should have been born in the one situation where perfection was in fact impossible it is time we looked at

this public figure from a new and more forgiving frame of mind and with a new understanding

secrest draws on her conversations with sonenheim to bring readers a biography that encompasses not only the master of modernist compositional style but also the private man 95 photos

wright s family history personal adventures and colorful friends are explored in this evocative biography secrest had unprecedented access to an extensive archive of wright s letters photographs drawings and books secrest s achievement is to etch wright s character in sharp relief she presents wright in his every guise blair kamin chicago tribune 121 photos

hidden lives secret gardens is a synthetic history about gardens and human sexuality written in an accessible style for the garden enthusiast the serious landscape designer and those interested in the lives of international celebrities the book explores the very roots of modernism as begun in florence italy in the very first year of the twentieth century for the past twenty years r terry schnadelbach faar professor of landscape architecture university of florida has researched the modernist era in landscape architecture he authored a book ferruccio vitale landscape architect of the country place era on the florentine landscape architect who brought to america both the formal garden as well as its first modernist landscapes in hidden lives secret gardens schnadelbach exposes the engaging and intertwined lives of a group of expatriates their secluded hillside villas and secret new gardens that ushered a new direction in garden design three successive new gardens at villas gamberaia la pietra and i tatti were among the earliest modernist landscapes and were an inspiration many landscape professionals in britain and america while hidden lives secret gardens manuscript focuses on the revival of the renaissance aesthetic in florence and paints a picture of each garden s history it explores the new and emerging field of sexual psychology through the hidden lives of the villa s owners and designers revealing their artistic life styles their commercial and sexual mores

people like us have different rights different values than do ordinary people because we have different needs which put us above their moral standards modigliani amedeo beloved of god modigliani was considered to be the quintessential bohemian artist his legend almost as infamous as van gogh s in modigliani s time his work was seen as an oddity contemporary with the cubists but not part of their movement his work was a link between such portraitists as whistler sargent and toulouse lautrec and that of the art deco painters of the 1920s as well as the new approaches of gauguin cézanne and picasso jean cocteau called modigliani our aristocrat and said there was something like a curse on this very noble boy he was beautiful alcohol and misfortune took their toll on him in this major new biography meryle secrest one of our most admired biographers whose work has been called enthralling the wall street journal rich in detail scrupulously researched and sympathetically written the new york review of books now gives us a fully realized portrait of one of the twentieth century s master painters and sculptors his upbringing a sephardic jew from an impoverished but genteel italian family his going to paris to make his fortune his striking good looks how beautiful he was my god how beautiful said one of his models his training as an artist and his influences including the italian renaissance particularly the art of botticelli nietzsche s theories of the artist as Übermensch divinely endowed divinely inspired the monochromatic backgrounds of van gogh and cézanne the work of the romanian sculptor brancusi and the primitive sculptures of

africa and oceania with their simplified masklike triangular faces elongated silhouettes puckered lips low foreheads and heads on exaggeratedly long necks we see the ways in which modigliani's long kept secret illness from tuberculosis it almost killed him as a young man affected his work and his attitude toward life how consumption caused him to embrace fatalism and idealism creativity and death and how he used alcohol and opium with laudanum as an antispasmodic to hide the symptoms of the disease and how because of it he came to be seen as a dissolute alcoholic and throughout we see the paris that modigliani lived in a city in dynamic flux where art was still a noble cause how modigliani became part of a life in the streets and a world of art and artists then in a transforming revolution monet cézanne degas renoir et al and others more radical matisse derain etc all living within blocks of one another secrest's book written with unprecedented access to letters diaries and photographs never before seen is an extraordinary revelation of a life lived in art here is modigliani the man and the artist seemingly shy delicate a man on a desperate mission masquerading as an alcoholic cheating death again and again and calculating what he had to do in order to go on working and concealing his secret for however much time remained

a one of a kind look at stephen sondheim's lifelong obsession with games and puzzles of all kinds profiles the achievements of prominent and noteworthy gays lesbians

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