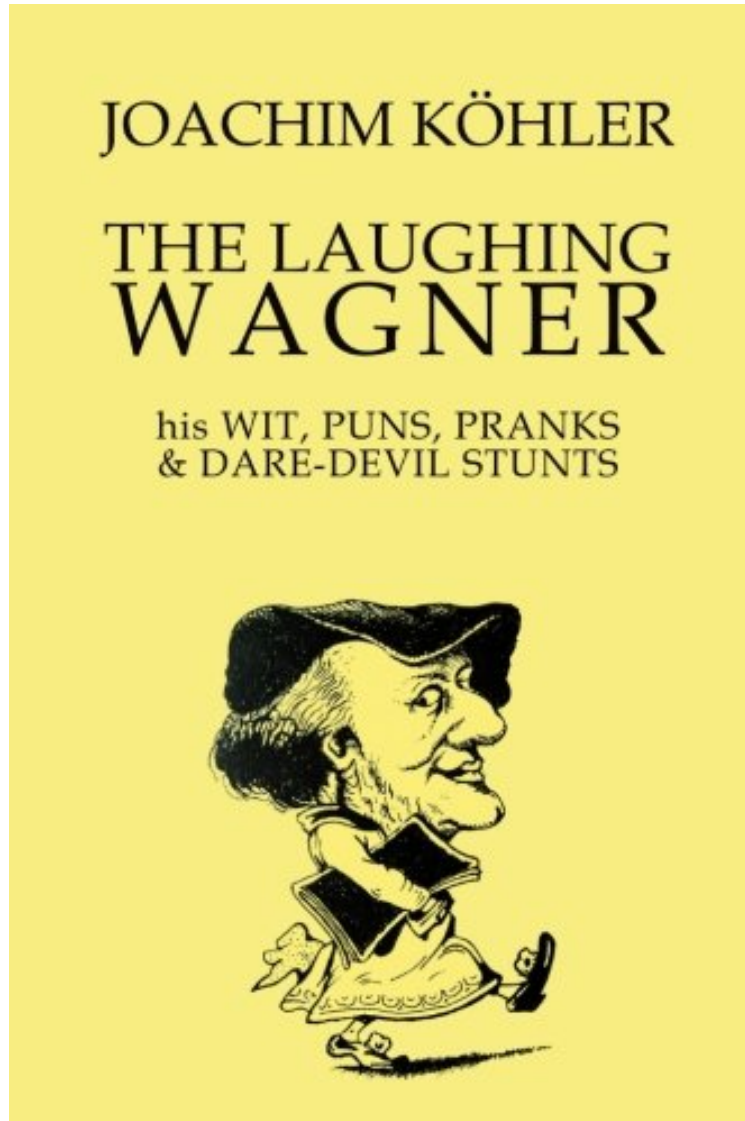


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The Laughing Wagner: his Wit, Puns, Pranks Dare-Devil Stunts

Joachim Köhler

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Richard Wagner differed surprisingly from the picture usually painted of him. Joachim Köhler presents an unfamiliar side of the Genius of Bayreuth: the comedic tragedian, who loved laughter, above all at himself and his own works.

Not merely the creator of some of the greatest operatic works in Western music, he was also an amateur acrobat, and an inveterate prankster in the footsteps of Till Eulenspiegel. Wagner emerges in this book as a warmer, more engaging, even delightful character than the dour, self-aggrandizing, often spiteful figure commonly associated with his name.