**Praise for Dr. MÜTTER’S MARVELS: A True Tale of Intrigue and Innovation at the Dawn of Modern Medicine**

**by Cristin O’Keefe Aptowicz**

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Gotham Books; ISBN-13: 978-1592408702; $27.50 HC, 384 pages

“Ms. Aptowicz rescues Mütter the man from undeserved obscurity, recreating his short life and hard times with wit, energy and gusto. Her book, like the Mütter Museum, is a reminder that the course of human suffering and the progress of medical science are often messy, complex and stranger than can be imagined.”

*--Wall Street Journal*

“As a huge fan of the [Mütter Museum](http://muttermuseum.org/) in Philadelphia, I was excited to get my hands on this rich biography of the real doctor, Thomas Mütter, a 19th-century surgeon who treated people with misunderstood conditions and amassed a fascinating collection of medical oddities.”

*--USA Today*

“Aptowicz is refreshingly careful with her language, keeping the narrative speculation to a minimum, painting most of her scenery with the weight of her research. She revels in the details, but largely lets the reader draw their own conclusions. The result is an approachable history of a man and of a time period that does exactly what narrative non-fiction should do: answers the questions the reader never realized they had.”

*--A.V. Club*

“Mütter’s Marvels is both an insightful portrait of a pioneering surgeon and a reminder of how far medicine has come.”

*--BookPage*

“In her deftly crafted narrative, the author provides an absorbing account of the charismatic surgeon’s life and career as well as a vivid look at the medical practices and prejudices of his time. Aptowicz draws nicely on Mütter’s speeches and lectures to reveal the depth of his empathetic philosophies and humanist approach.”

*--Kirkus, starred review\**

“­Aptowicz penned a fast-moving and popular history of the early to mid-­19th-century American and Parisian medical worlds, making the most of works by and about Mütter’s contemporaries.”

*--Library Journal, starred review\**

“Aptowicz pens a fascinating and muscular biography of Dr. Thomas Dent Mütter, splendidly re-creating the doctor’s medical advancements, the age in which he worked, and the conditions and practices he sought to change.”

*--Wyatt’s World, Library Journal*

“Aptowicz shows Mütter, beloved by his students, evolving from a mischievous, impatient young doctor to an increasingly spiritual man beset by premature illness, and her writing is as full of life as her subject.”

--*Publishers Weekly, starred review\**

Blurbs

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--Dr. John Ross, author of *Shakespeare's Tremor and Orwell's Cough: Medical Lives of Great Writers*

“An extraordinary, moving and humbling story about a remarkable and compassionate surgeon who changed the face of medicine forever. Cristin O’Keefe Aptowicz immerses us in the strange world of Dr. Thomas Mütter and unfolds the tale of his pioneering approach to surgery with verve, wit and sensitivity.  We are all of us the richer for Dr. Mütter’s visionary work and the legacy he left us in the shape of one of the world’s most beguiling museums.”

--Wendy Moore, author of *The Knife Man: Blood, Body Snatching and the Birth of Modern Surgery*

“Cristin O’Keefe Aptowicz has not just written a highly readable and affecting biography of the singularly debonair doctor, the ameliorator of deformities of skin and bone, and the beloved teacher behind Philadelphia’s world-renowned Mütter Museum. She has given us a stirring account of the exigencies of medical practice in nineteenth century Philadelphia; the consequential controversies; the not-so-petty rivalries; the ghastly bravura of medically sanctioned spectacles; and, the outcomes for patients, then and now, of a profession divided and at odds. An indispensable companion to Philadelphia’s Mütter Museum, *Dr. Mütter’s Marvels* will enable visitors to encounter the collections in an entirely new and important way.”

--Mary Cappello, author of *Swallow: Foreign Bodies, Their Ingestion, Inspiration and the Curious Doctor who Extracted Them*