

I ♥ M M a r i e

ST MARIE IS A NEW SLAB-SERIF TYPEFACE FROM STEREOTYPES

STATEN ISLAND

BROOKLYN

Bronx

Manhattan

Queens

NY

Washington

North Carolina

New Mexico

Theodor W. Adorno

THE EARLY FRANKFURT YEARS

THEODOR LUDWIG ADORNO WIESEN-GRUND was born in Frankfurt as an only child to the wealthy wine merchant Oscar Alexander Wiesengrund (1870–1941, of Jewish descent, converted to Protestantism) and the Catholic singer **Maria Barbara**, born Calvelli-Adorno. It was the second half of this name that he adopted as his surname upon becoming

a naturalized American citizen in the 1930s („Wiesengrund“ was abbreviated to „W“). His musically talented aunt Agathe also lived with the family. The young Adorno passionately engaged the piano. He attended the KAISER-WILHELM-GYMNASIUM where he did well, graduating at the age of 17 at the top of his class. In his free time he took

private lessons in composition with **Bernhard Sekles** and read Kant’s Critique of Pure Reason together with his friend Siegfried Kracauer – 14 years his elder – on Saturday afternoons. Later he would proclaim that he owed more to these readings than to any of his academic teachers....

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