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The Encyclopedia Of Jazz (Da Capo Paperback)



Synopsis

The first appearance of Leonard Feather's Encyclopedia of Jazz was heralded by critics, musicians, and record collectors as a major contribution to the literature of jazz. Never before had America's native music been treated so meticulously, objectively, and comprehensively. The appearance of two later volumes, The Encyclopedia of Jazz in the Sixties and The Encyclopedia of Jazz in the Seventies (with Ira Gitler) only confirmed the initial enthusiasm and the judgement that here were basic books for any music library. This marks the first paperback publication of this book, soon to be followed by paperback editions of the other two volumes. With more than 2,000 biographies and 200 photos, it spans the history of jazz from its origins to 1959. But more than a biographical dictionary, the book also features essays on the jazz tradition, its major players and composers, the relationship between jazz and classical music (written by Gunther Schuller), a social history of jazz in America, the jazzman as critic, and a grammar of jazz language that can serve as an ideal introduction for young listeners. In addition, Leonard Feather provides a chronology, list of international critic polls, musicians birthdays and birthplaces, a bibliography, and a discography of recommended recordings. For anyone seriously--or even casually--interested in the development of jazz and blues, this classic reference work can guide you unerringly through the many dimensions of the music's wonderful history.

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Customer Reviews

I can't think of a single REAL JAZZ MUSICIAN who has not read this book...if not they are reading it PRESENTLY!!!!!!It is the ultimate reference guide.When the Jazz community lost Mr. Feather we lost an invaluable friend and supporter of the artform we affectionately refer to as JAZZ.

Mr. Leonard Feather is a prominent figure amongst the world of jazz Mr. Feather has written about jazz music and jazz musicians for many years on end the first book I ever read about jazz in 1974 was written by Mr. Feather I don't remember the book title Mr. Feather has written about famous as well as unknown jazz musicians he has served as a major source of connection between jazz musicians and the public. This book is just one piece of proof of his masterful knowledge of jazz go to .com and type in leonardfeather and see how many books come up I love looking at the many photos that are in this book I especially like the picture of Miles Davis and his band on page 283, I have a jazz trivia question for you do you know what Miles Davis middle name is buy this book and turn to page 176 for the answer this book is great I am glad that I have it.

Feather has followed jazz for scores of years primarily as an observer. His observations, broad as well as detailed are invaluable. The photographs are almost enough to make one's most interesting "coffee table book." A must have for jazz buffs.

This is a book that all jazz aficionados should have in their collection. Concise, well written, and easy to find what you want to find.

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