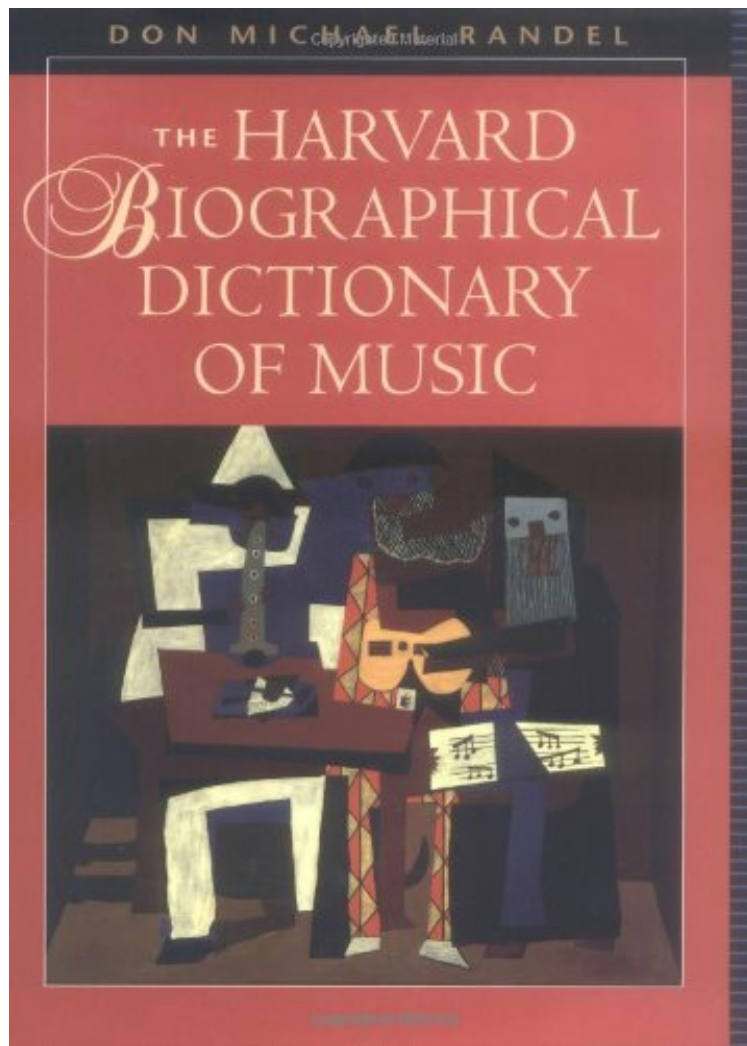


(Free) The Harvard Biographical Dictionary of Music (Harvard University Press Reference Library)

The Harvard Biographical Dictionary of Music (Harvard University Press Reference Library)

From Belknap Press

*ePub | *DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#1132373 in Books 1996-11-01 1996-12-01 Ingredients: Example Ingredients Original language: English PDF # 1 2.09 x 7.48 x 10.111, 4.28 #File Name: 06743729991032 pages | File size: 61.Mb

From Belknap Press : The Harvard Biographical Dictionary of Music (Harvard University Press Reference Library) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Harvard Biographical Dictionary of Music (Harvard University Press Reference Library):

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Authoritative, Handy, and Worth the Price By JPfromOHAs far as scholarship for the buck, this volume perhaps is the best. As another reviewer wrote, it is an ideal companion to The New Harvard Dictionary of Music. In fact, over the past several years my colleagues and I have presented the two books to our top graduating music major award winner. The Harvard Biographical Dictionary includes excellent coverage of important figures from throughout the history of music. Despite the incredible value of this book, the one

drawback it has is that it will always be at least a little out of date, no matter how often new editions are issued. Even musicians, professors, and college music students who have access to such resources as The New Grove online, however, will love the Harvard publications for their excellent scholarship, ease of use, and their price. While electronic resources from New Grove and Oxford themselves are of very high quality, there's nothing like having this physical book for browsing. A must have for anyone with an interest in music history and the contributions of the widest variety of musicians throughout history. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. a+By Olga Rostropovichnice9 of 10 people found the following review helpful. The Harvard Biographical Dictionary of Music (Harvard University Press Reference Library)By David ShermanA great companion to the Harvard Dictionary of Music. Well written, comprehensive, and surprisingly complete for a single volume dictionary. Highly recommended for any serious musician or teacher.

An incomparable guide to the thousands of characters, from humble artisan to lofty genius, who people the unfolding history of music, this volume brings together all the pertinent biographical information about composers, performers, music theorists, and instrument makers from the days of praise chants to the bop and pop of today. A long-awaited companion to The New Harvard Dictionary of Music, and compiled with the same meticulous scholarship and delight in detail, this biographical dictionary emphasizes classical and art music, but also gives ample attention to jazz and blues, rock and pop, and hymns and showtunes across the ages--with unusual care devoted to coverage of the twentieth century. That the Belgian composer Jean Absil was professor of fugue at the Brussels Conservatory is a little-known fact. And few are aware that Roy Acuff began his country-and-western career in medicine shows. The writings of the seventeenth-century organist Jakob Adlung may be obscure, while Theodor Adorno's are widely read and studied. But they can all be found in the A's, along with 218 more entries, from Herb Alpert and the Andrews Sisters to Carl Friedrich Abel and Emanuel Ax. And this is only the beginning. Here then is the information you need about 5500 figures in the world of music--the major, the minor, the famous, the nearly forgotten, from Bach and Beethoven to Irving Berlin, Benny Goodman, and Bruce Springsteen--capsule summaries of the lives and careers behind the music enjoyed in every era. The volume is enlivened with illustrations, some revelations in themselves. A compendium that no music lover should be without, this rich volume, along with The New Harvard Dictionary of Music, constitutes the standard reference work for the musically inclined, the curious, the informed, and the expert.

.com From Pietro Aaron to Ellen Taaffe Zwilich, Don Randel compiles 1,013 pages of thumbnail sketches describing the life and music of 5,500 individuals who figure significantly in the world of music. Intended for "the musically inclined, the curious, the informed, and the expert," this is a beautiful, intelligent, and comprehensive volume that wants only its companion, The New Harvard Dictionary of Music, to feel complete. From Library Journal Designed as a companion volume to The New Harvard Dictionary of Music (Harvard Univ., 1986), this volume primarily features brief entries on 5500 historical and contemporary composers of Western art and concert music, with some popular figures (e.g., Ray Charles) included. Compared with editor Nicolas Slonimsky's excellent Baker's Biographical Dictionary of Musicians (LJ 1/92. 8th ed.) or Michael Kennedy's Oxford Dictionary of Music (Oxford Univ., 1994. 2d ed.), HBDM comes in a weak third, with numerous contemporary performers (e.g., Eschenbach) and composers (e.g., Santos) missing. Additionally, no rationale for inclusion or omission is provided. Updating also is spotty, with many contemporary entries stopping in the early Eighties. Recommended only as a supplementary volume to the aforementioned titles for large music collections. ?Anthony J. Adam, Prairie View AM Univ. Lib., Tex. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist A companion to The New Harvard Dictionary of Music, this biographical dictionary was prepared under the direction of a Cornell music professor; 18 contributors are acknowledged. There are entries for about 5,500 people, primarily from Western concert/art music. Each entry begins with the subject's date and place of birth and death and a basic categorization. For example, Duke Ellington is identified as a "jazz bandleader, pianist, and composer." A paragraph or more follows, with a thumbnail sketch of education and accomplishments, often noting some works. Some articles attempt to put the subject in perspective, e.g., James Brown "was instrumental in popularizing soul (of which he is often described as the godfather)." The longer entries may include a works list and/or bibliography. Entries vary greatly in length and treatment. The variations seem dictated by the (unsigned) writer's preference, rather than an overall plan, as does the presence of listings of works and bibliographies. Nevertheless, the information is adequate to identify and get a sense of the person. Subjects are largely from the twentieth century, and enough are from popular music (e.g., Elvis Presley, Frank Sinatra, Harry James) to broaden usefulness. A bibliography of almost 100 works precedes the entries, some of which refer to these scholarly sources. However, citations are not limited to this list. No cross-references or pronunciations are given. The only source comparable in scope and currency is Baker's Biographical Dictionary of Musicians (8th ed., Schirmer, 1992), with 15,000 entries, generally considered a standard. Besides the basic edition, there is a Concise Edition (1994, \$50) and a Portable Baker's (1995, \$20). The Concise Edition is most comparable in price and scope to the Harvard Dictionary. The articles in Baker are generally longer and the listing of works more extensive, but sources are not cited, as they are in the Harvard Dictionary, and style and content are more idiosyncratic. Although its scope,

currency, and scholarship commend the reasonably priced Harvard Biographical Dictionary of Music to high-school, public, and academic libraries, it is unnecessary in smaller libraries owning Baker. Comprehensive collections may want both.