African American Music: An Introduction
Synopsis

American Music: An Introduction, Second Edition is a collection of seventeen essays surveying major African American musical genres, both sacred and secular, from slavery to the present. With contributions by leading scholars in the field, the work brings together analyses of African American music based on ethnographic fieldwork, which privileges the voices of the music-makers themselves, woven into a richly textured mosaic of history and culture. At the same time, it incorporates musical treatments that bring clarity to the structural, melodic, and rhythmic characteristics that both distinguish and unify African American music. The second edition has been substantially revised and updated, and includes new essays on African and African American musical continuities, African-derived instrument construction and performance practice, techno, and quartet traditions. Musical transcriptions, photographs, illustrations, and a new audio CD bring the music to life.

Book Information

Paperback: 480 pages
Publisher: Routledge; 2 edition (September 27, 2014)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0415881811
Product Dimensions: 1 x 7 x 9 inches
Shipping Weight: 12.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars See all reviews (2 customer reviews)
Best Sellers Rank: #48,712 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #6 in Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Musical Genres > Ethnic & International > Ethnomusicology #75 in Books > Arts & Photography > Music > History & Criticism #95 in Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Performing Arts > Music

Customer Reviews

No American should go without reading. Every American household should have a copy. Serious scholars should start bibliographic search here.

This book does an impressive work at showing readers the continuum (politically, aesthetically, socially, economically, sonically) of Africans and African American strides and creativity since slavery until today through music. I commend the authors! I appreciate them for this book. I listen to
music with a broader understanding now, allowing me to fully appreciate what I hear and why.

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