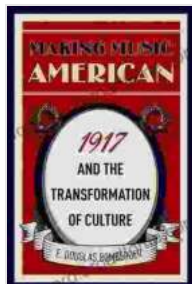


Making Music American, 1917, and the Transformation of Culture: A Journey through Sound and Society



Making Music American: 1917 and the Transformation of Culture by E. Douglas Bomberger

★ ★ ★ ★ ☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 9260 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Lending	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Print length	: 286 pages



The year 1917 marked a pivotal moment in American history, a time of profound social, political, and cultural change. Amidst the turmoil of war and the birth of a new era, music emerged as a powerful force, shaping the nation's identity and reflecting its evolving spirit.

In "Making Music American, 1917 and the Transformation of Culture," renowned music historian and author David A. Jasen takes us on a captivating journey through this transformative era, exploring how music became a catalyst for cultural change and a mirror to the American experience.

The Birth of Jazz and the Blues

The early 20th century witnessed the rise of two iconic musical genres that would forever alter the American soundscape: jazz and blues. Born from the fusion of African American and European musical traditions, these genres captured the spirit of the times, expressing both the struggles and the joys of a nation grappling with its identity.

Jasen meticulously traces the development of these genres, introducing us to legendary figures such as Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington, and Bessie Smith. He paints a vivid picture of the smoky jazz clubs and bustling streets where these musicians honed their craft and ignited a musical revolution.



Ragtime and the Rise of Popular Music

Alongside the emergence of jazz and blues, ragtime emerged as a precursor to popular music, introducing syncopated rhythms and catchy melodies to American audiences. Scott Joplin, the "King of Ragtime," captivated the nation with his lively compositions, paving the way for the development of popular genres such as swing and rock 'n' roll.

Jasen explores the commercialization of music during this period, examining the role of vaudeville, sheet music sales, and the burgeoning recording industry in shaping the tastes of the American public.



Ragtime's infectious rhythms captivated American audiences.

Folk Music and the American Identity

While jazz, blues, and ragtime captured the urban pulse, folk music remained a vibrant force in rural America. Jasen delves into the traditions of

Appalachian ballads, cowboy songs, and spirituals, showcasing their role in shaping the American self-image and sense of place.

He examines the work of iconic folk singers such as Woody Guthrie and Lead Belly, who used their music to tell the stories of the working class and marginalized communities, giving voice to the struggles and aspirations of the American people.



The Role of Technology in Musical Transformation

The year 1917 also witnessed significant technological advancements that transformed the way music was created, disseminated, and experienced. Jasen highlights the rise of the phonograph, the development of radio broadcasting, and the emergence of sound recording as key factors in shaping the evolution of American music.

He explores the impact of these technologies on the commercialization of music, the rise of mass culture, and the emergence of new musical genres that would continue to influence generations to come.



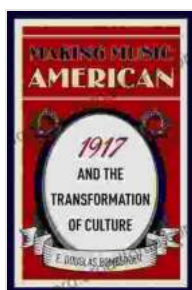
Technological advancements played a crucial role in the dissemination of music and the shaping of new musical genres.

"Making Music American, 1917 and the Transformation of Culture" is a masterfully crafted work that illuminates a pivotal moment in American music history. David A. Jasen weaves together meticulous research,

captivating storytelling, and a profound understanding of the transformative power of music.

This book is an essential read for anyone interested in the history of American music, the interplay between culture and society, and the enduring legacy of the year 1917. It is a testament to the transformative power of music, its ability to reflect the human experience, and its role in shaping the fabric of American culture.

Immerse yourself in the vibrant musical landscape of 1917 and discover how music became a catalyst for social change, a mirror to the American soul, and a defining force in the shaping of our national identity.



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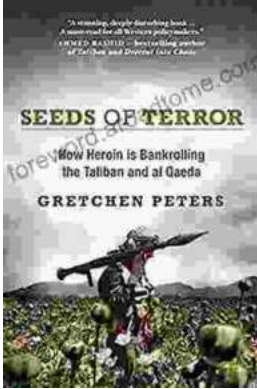
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