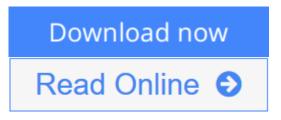


Listening to Prestige: Vol. 1 1949-1953

By Tad Richards



Listening to Prestige: Vol. 1 1949-1953 By Tad Richards

Tad Richards has created a unique chronicle of Prestige Records and jazz in the 1950s and '60s: part history, part reminiscence, part music appreciation. This is Volume 1 of a projected series, covering virtually every tune recorded in every recording session for Prestige from 1949-1953. The unique portraits of jazz musicians throughout the book are also by Tad Richards. "With his new book, Listening to Prestige, Vol. 1, Tad Richards will strike a nerve in all of us who were privileged to have lived thru the beginnings of be-bop, and with those who have since fallen under the spell of this American phenomenon. His enthusiasm will impress you (he identifies himself as a fan who doesn't really know music...as you will see, that's not quite true.) But it's his sense of organization that will increase the pleasure of revisiting these wonderful sessions from the late 40's and early 50's, by making the process clear and easy. We learn who was on each date, the repertoire, and a recommendation for listening to one prominent track from that session. All of our heroes from those days are here, with reminders of the supporting casts and relationships that we may have forgotten, or just never known. . Besides the kicks we get from reading those details, it can also be thought of as a one-of-a-kind reference book, and will surely take its place in the history of this music. The good news is that it's labeled "Volume 1", which suggests there may be more to come." -- Dave Grusin

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- Sales Rank: #4887177 in Books
- Published on: 2015-11-30
- Original language: English
- Dimensions: 9.00" h x .71" w x 6.00" l,
- Binding: Paperback
- 314 pages

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Tad Richards has created a unique chronicle of Prestige Records and jazz in the 1950s and '60s: part history, part reminiscence, part music appreciation. This is Volume 1 of a projected series. Tad Richards is the author of thirty-something books of poetry, fiction, and non-fiction on subjects ranging from music to money. Of the latter, he has said: "I have somewhat the same relationship to money that Carl Sagan has to the cosmos: I can write about it, I can claim a certain expertise about it, but I can't actually get near it." As to music, he has written "The New Country Music Encyclopedia" (Simon and Schuster), as well as numerous essays for reference books, and some liner notes for jazz CDs. As a songwriter, he has had his work recorded by Orleans, the John Hall Band, and Fred Koller. His many novels include "Nick and Jake" (with Jonathan Richards, Arcade Books), "The Virgil Directive" (Fawcett), and "The Brain of Agent Blue" (with Steven L. Vorillas, Dell). His screenplays include the cult classic "The Cheerleaders" and the English dialog for the dubbed versions of Costa-Gavras' "Z" and "State of Siege."

Users Review

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