

The Middle East (Garland Encyclopedia of World Music, Volume 6)

From Routledge



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Expert writers present the major traditions of North Africa, the Middle East, and Central Asia, together with personal accounts of performers, composers, teachers, and ceremonies. A special feature of this volume is the inclusion of dozens of brief snap-shot essays that offer "lifestories" of typical musicmakers and their art, as well as first-person descriptions of specific music performances and events. Also includes maps and music examples.



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Editorial Review

From Library Journal

With the current world focus on Islamic nations and culture, the appearance of the sixth volume of Garland's celebrated series of world music studies could hardly be timelier. Western Europe's musical traditions are probably more deeply rooted in ancient Semitic cultures than in Greek and Roman ones, and readers with an interest in Western music history should welcome the essays covering historical writings on Arab music. Mainly, the book focuses on contemporary music cultures, most of which have only recently been studied systematically and have not been extensively described in Western languages before. There are some articles on nations (e.g., Turkey, Iran, Israel), but most of the approximately 120 main entries cover broad geographic areas (the Arabian peninsula, North Africa, Central Asia), and readers must use the index to find mention of Afghanistan and Iraq, for example. Entries range widely from Middle Eastern melody and music in religious expression to Berber popular music, women's music in the Arabian peninsula, and music of the Jews of Djerba, Tunisia. In contrast, the seventh volume in this series, on East Asia, attempts a one-volume summary of music that has enjoyed a vast amount of scholarship in many languages as well as self-aware cultural chronicling, though for mainly political reasons, results of modern ethnomusicological explorations in China and North Korea have not yet reached a wide audience in the West. The 76 articles cover not just music but its relation to history, theater, dance, and the visual arts, with topics ranging from Chinese opera, gagaku, and Confucian ritual music to cultural interaction in East and inner Asia and nationalism, Westernism, and modernization. Both volumes contain articles on music from Tuva, an autonomous republic of the Russian Federation overlapping Siberia and Mongolia that is famed for its "throat singers." In addition, both treat popular music, but the Far East volume deals more with Western music influences on both popular and concert music in that region. Like other volumes in the series (e.g., Europe and South Asia, both LJ 6/1/00), these books are collaborative efforts, with dozens of contributors and multiple editors with diverse backgrounds (e.g., Danielson is Eda Kuhn Loeb Music Librarian at Harvard University, and ethnomusicologist Provine teaches at the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, Univ. of Maryland, College Park). The factual presentations are variously straightforward ("The Armenian nation, its language, and its music originated in the third millennium B.C.E.") and engaging ("Korea is filled with singers"), and though many of the writers have scholarly backgrounds, some are evidently eyewitnesses of the tourist variety. Still, when for religious or political reasons a culture cannot be formally lived in and studied, we must be grateful for the observant amateur who attends a wedding, funeral, or concert and is willing to report. Highly recommended for large libraries and specialized collections on these geographic areas. Bonnie Jo Dopp, Univ. of Maryland Libs., College Park

From **Booklist**

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A major reference resource wends its way toward completion. Following the standard *Encyclopedia of World Music* format, these volumes (numbered 6 and 7 out of an eventual 10) provide in-depth and scholarly treatment of an amazing array of musical traditions and styles, from Palestinian wedding songs to synthesized music for science fiction animation in Japan. *RBB*

Review

"This unique and thoroughly researched resource provides a dynamic and in depth perspective on world music.... It strikes a balance between wonderful illustrations and comprehensive, scholarly entries. Each regional volume includes a CD sampler of that region's music. This source will have wide appeal to both the

novice and expert."

- -"Dartmouth Medal Committee, 2003
- "Serious researchers will find this tool valuable."
- -"American Reference Books Annual, 2003

"The 112 articles in this exceptional reference work provide, for the first time, extensive coverage of musical life in the Arab, Central Asian, Eurasian, Jewish, North African, Persian, and Turkish Middle East in a single, English-language source...The information presented, much of which is not readily available elsewhere, is sufficiently detailed to attract university students and faculty, but is generally accessible to lay readers. A comprehensive bibliography, discography, and film/videographic guide of inestimable value to scholars, teachers, and librarians concludes the volume. Strongly recommended for college, university, and public libraries."

- -"Choice, June 2002
- "The appearance of the sixth volume of Garland's celebrated series...could hardly be timelier....Highly recommended...."
- -"Library Journal, March 2002

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Mary Benoit:

Do you have favorite book? For those who have, what is your favorite's book? Guide is very important thing for us to find out everything in the world. Each e-book has different aim or even goal; it means that book has different type. Some people really feel enjoy to spend their time and energy to read a book. They may be reading whatever they consider because their hobby is actually reading a book. Why not the person who don't like reading a book? Sometime, man or woman feel need book whenever they found difficult problem or perhaps exercise. Well, probably you will need this The Middle East (Garland Encyclopedia of World Music, Volume 6).

Frederick Roark:

The reserve with title The Middle East (Garland Encyclopedia of World Music, Volume 6) includes a lot of information that you can learn it. You can get a lot of advantage after read this book. This kind of book exist new information the information that exist in this guide represented the condition of the world currently. That is important to yo7u to understand how the improvement of the world. This particular book will bring you within new era of the syndication. You can read the e-book on your smart phone, so you can read it anywhere you want.

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Why? Because this The Middle East (Garland Encyclopedia of World Music, Volume 6) is an unordinary book that the inside of the publication waiting for you to snap this but latter it will distress you with the secret this inside. Reading this book close to it was fantastic author who have write the book in such wonderful way makes the content inside easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning fully. So, it is good for you because of not hesitating having this ever again or you going to regret it. This amazing book will give you a lot of positive aspects than the other book possess such as help improving your

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Donald Rivera:

Within this era which is the greater man or who has ability to do something more are more special than other. Do you want to become one among it? It is just simple solution to have that. What you should do is just spending your time not very much but quite enough to experience a look at some books. Among the books in the top listing in your reading list will be The Middle East (Garland Encyclopedia of World Music, Volume 6). This book which is qualified as The Hungry Mountains can get you closer in becoming precious person. By looking upward and review this e-book you can get many advantages.

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