

Harvard dictionary of music

By Willi Apel



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A classic and invaluable reference work for over thirty years. Soon after its initial publication, the Harvard Dictionary of Music by Willi Apel was firmly established as a standard and essential resource for everyone concerned with music. The product of exceptional scholarship, it was praised as being comprehensive, concise, authoritative, scholarly, and enjoyable. Leopold Stokowski wrote, "I so often consult your dictionary of music, and with such never failing enlightenment, that I must offer you my thanks for your unique book, so profound and so broad in scope ... The vast scholarship... is of immeasurable value to the whole world of music." The Christian Science Monitor called it "a highly satisfying book of musical knowledge, in which basic definitions are given with fine intellectual integrity, and musical facts are carefully separated from plausible deductions or theories."

For this second edition the dictionary has been thoroughly revised, updated, and substantially enlarged. Mr. Apel and eightyeight other eminent music scholars have contributed new articles and revised old ones completely. The already comprehensive list of accurate definitions has grown measurably and it now even includes nothus, pyiba, and meringue.

In the greatly expanded coverage of ethnomusicology, cumbia-an Afro-Panamanian dance form - and Vietnam are only two of the new entries. Additionally, all the general information about individual countries has been revised and the discussion of both theory and history has been amply increased. Developments of the last two decades are given special attention with particular emphasis on compositional techniques, including electronic music and serial music. Individual compositions, representative of every type from every era, are described.

The bibliography following each article, a unique feature of the first edition, has been updated and expanded. There are fifty percent more illustrations than in the first edition, including explicit drawings of instruments, clear music examples, diagrams, charts and a full-page outline of the history of music.

An extensive list of the most important music libraries and collections throughout the world with summaries of their significant musical holdings is a valuable part of the dictionary. The section on historical editions now lists fifty-three collections of music and briefly describes each volume within each collection.

The Harvard Dictionary of Music, Second Edition, Revised and Enlarged, is the result of imaginative, specialized, modern, and reliable music scholarship. Containing nearly 1000 pages of precise and accessible information on all musical subjects, it offers over fifty percent more material than the first edition. It is essential not only to the scholar of music, the professional performer, and the practicing amateur, but to everyone who has ever anticipated the pleasure of a weekly musical broadcast, purchased a favorite recording, or truly enjoyed a concert.



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Editorial Review

Review

The music book of the year. (Library Journal)

Excellent before, *the Harvard Dictionary* is better now, and remains the ideal piano-top reference for every musician, whether dilettante, serious amateur or working professional... informative and reliable holds its place at the top of its one-volume class. (*The New York Times*)

Easily the best one-volume reference source of its kind. (Los Angeles Times)

Authoritative in its scholarship, comprehensive in its coverage, and commendably concise in its style...a treasurehouse of musical knowledge which should be an integral part of every music library. (*Saturday Review Syndicate*)

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Eric Lowe:

Nowadays reading books become more than want or need but also work as a life style. This reading practice give you lot of advantages. The huge benefits you got of course the knowledge even the information inside the book in which improve your knowledge and information. The info you get based on what kind of reserve you read, if you want have more knowledge just go with knowledge books but if you want experience happy read one together with theme for entertaining for example comic or novel. The actual Harvard dictionary of music is kind of publication which is giving the reader unpredictable experience.

Karen Schanz:

Harvard dictionary of music can be one of your beginner books that are good idea. We all recommend that straight away because this publication has good vocabulary which could increase your knowledge in terminology, easy to understand, bit entertaining however delivering the information. The writer giving his/her effort to get every word into pleasure arrangement in writing Harvard dictionary of music nevertheless doesn't forget the main position, giving the reader the hottest as well as based confirm resource information that maybe you can be certainly one of it. This great information can certainly drawn you into new stage of crucial imagining.

Kari Annis:

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Tammy Carver:

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