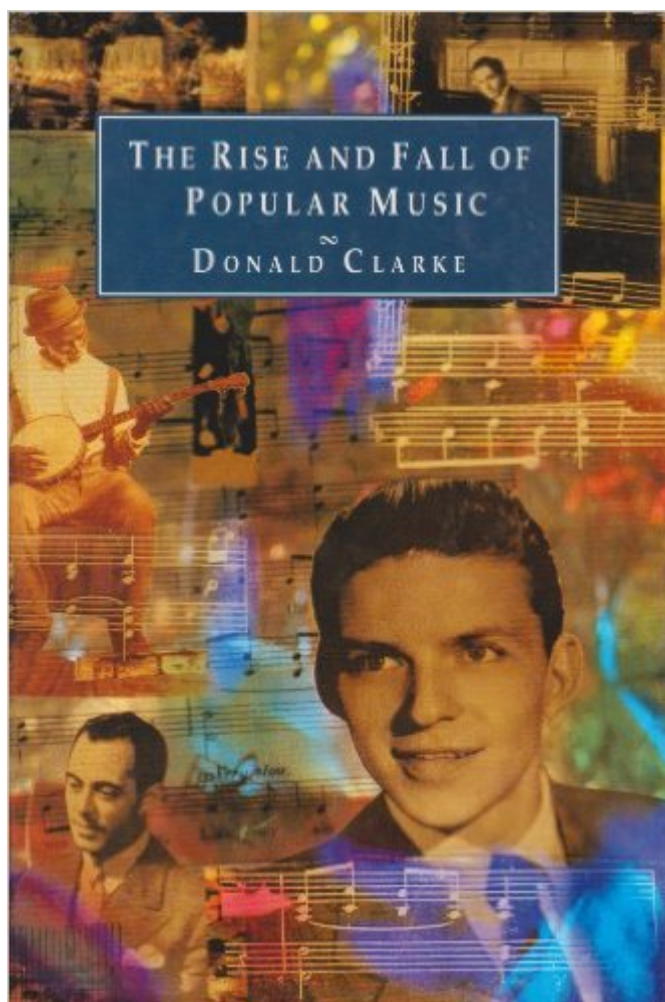


The book was found

The Rise And Fall Of Popular Music



Synopsis

An invaluable narrative history and commentary on the many facets of popular music includes balladry, minstrelsy, ragtime, blues, jazz, swing, pop, r&b, folk, country, gospel, rock 'n' roll, heavy metal, dance music, punk, New Wave, technopop, and rap.

Book Information

Hardcover: 620 pages

Publisher: St Martins Pr; 1st U.S. ed edition (February 1995)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0312115733

ISBN-13: 978-0312115739

Product Dimensions: 2.2 x 6.8 x 9.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.1 pounds

Average Customer Review: 3.3 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (10 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,226,935 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #6 inÂ Books > Arts &

Photography > Music > Musical Genres > Ethnic & International > World Beat #2070 inÂ Books >

Arts & Photography > Music > Musical Genres > Popular #3458 inÂ Books > Humor &

Entertainment > Sheet Music & Scores > Forms & Genres > Popular

Customer Reviews

This is not a bad overview of American popular music. Mr. Clarke is clearly a jazz fan who regards the days of Lester Young, Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong, et al. as the high point from which we have declined, and sees the present state of commercial popular music as a "culture of musical impoverishment." The career of A&R man Mitch Miller, the evil genius whose venality and lack of taste was a landmark in adult pop's precipitous decline in the 1950s, is touchingly portrayed. I think Clarke's conclusions are correct; however, this is a matter of taste to some degree. Many will think differently, no doubt. Read it anyway, along with Will Friedwald's history of Jazz Singing.

A long but detailed read, chock full of information. It demands the readers attention, and if one is truly interested in the subject, gets it. While much pop music is casual, transient and doesn't keep your attention for long, this is a serious book, not in that same vein at all.

If you want to read a book of music history regarding American popular music, do NOT buy this book! It is one of the worst "popular music" history books I've ever read. He loves jazz music and

takes up for it roundly, but jazz is NOT popular music. Jazz is JAZZ! Popular music has the following items: R & B, Soul, Pop, Rockabilly, Rock and Roll, Hard Rock, New Wave, etc. Clarke shows a complete snobbish "let them eat cake" attitude toward any kind of music outside of jazz music. Don't get me wrong, I love jazz, too. But, I love many other forms of music, and British writer Clarke should not have written anything outside of classic jazz. He hates, Bill Haley, Buddy Holly, The Kinks, The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, The Beach Boys, et. al. PLEASE save your money if you're looking for a book about music history! This is by far the worst excuse for it ever written (even worse than Nick Tosches).

I particularly liked the start of this book that gave the origins of popular music from Europe. The author dwells a bit too much on the details of Jazz but his premise is well taken and he shows how and why pop music has become grunge, rap and muzak. He recognizes the originality in performers like the early Elvis and Hank Williams even though he regrets the decline of the real learned Jazz musicians. He shows how the corporate entities and listener surveys have destroyed a promising genre if it can be called that. Interesting that the Internet seems to be allowing real musicians to connect with the public directly without needing the middle corporate ground.

This is a fascinating book going back to the origins of popular music forms, going through jazz and blues and getting to today's pop music. A main theme of the book appears to be that the further the music gets away from its roots, the less musical value it has. And then today too much music has just become product to sell with little musical value. Sometimes a bit too opinionated, but mainly an excellent analysis of the fall of pop music.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Rise and Fall of Popular Music: A Narrative History from the Renaissance to Rock 'n' Roll
The Rise and Fall of Popular Music That's Not How We Do It Here!: A Story about How Organizations Rise and Fall--and Can Rise Again
King of Capital: The Remarkable Rise, Fall, and Rise Again of Steve Schwarzman and Blackstone
The Complete Portrait Manual (Popular Photography): 200+ Tips and Techniques for Shooting Perfect Photos of People (Popular Photography Books)
Popular Christmas Memories, Bk 1: 9 Early Intermediate to Intermediate Piano Arrangements of the Season's Most Popular Songs (Memories Series)
Double Agent! Piano Duets: Hal Leonard Student Piano Library Popular Songs Series Intermediate 1 Piano, 4 Hands (Popular Songs, Hal Leonard Student Piano Library)
On The Human Condition: St Basil the Great (St. Vladimir's Seminary Press "Popular Patristics" Series) (St. Vladimir's Seminary Press "Popular Patristics")

Series) And Their Children After Them: The Legacy of Let Us Now Praise Famous Men: James Agee, Walker Evans, and the Rise and Fall of Cotton in the South Gods and Kings: The Rise and Fall of Alexander McQueen and John Galliano The Rise and Fall of Urban Economies: Lessons from San Francisco and Los Angeles (Innovation and Technology in the World E) Five Percenter Rap: God Hop's Music, Message, and Black Muslim Mission (Profiles in Popular Music) Unlocking the Groove: Rhythm, Meter, and Musical Design in Electronic Dance Music (Profiles in Popular Music) Mexican American Mojo: Popular Music, Dance, and Urban Culture in Los Angeles, 1935-1968 (Refiguring American Music) Listening to Salsa: Gender, Latin Popular Music, and Puerto Rican Cultures (Music/Culture) Top-Requested Irish Sheet Music: 23 Popular and Traditional Favorites (Easy Piano) (Top-Requested Sheet Music) Stan Lee and the Rise and Fall of the American Comic Book Shopping for Bombs: Nuclear Proliferation, Global Insecurity, and the Rise and Fall of the A.Q. Khan Network Children of the Light: The Rise and Fall of New Bedford Whaling and the Death of the Arctic Fleet Bitter Brew: The Rise and Fall of Anheuser-Busch and America's Kings of Beer

[Dmca](#)