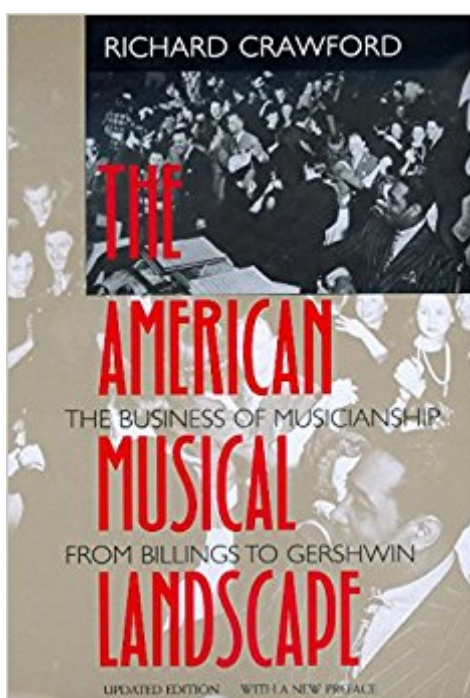


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The American Musical Landscape: The Business Of Musicianship From Billings To Gershwin, Updated With A New Preface (Ernest Bloch Lectures)



Synopsis

In this refreshingly direct and engaging historical treatment of American music and musicology, Richard Crawford argues for the recognition of the distinct and vital character of American music. What is that character? How has musical life been supported in the United States and how have Americans understood their music? Exploring the conditions within which music has been made since the time of the American Revolution, Crawford suggests some answers to these questions. Surveying the history of several musical professions in the United States—composing, performing, teaching, and distributing music—Crawford highlights the importance of where the money for music comes from and where it goes. This economic context is one of his book's key features and gives a real-life view that is both fascinating and provocative. Crawford discusses interconnections between classical and popular music, using New England psalmody, nineteenth-century songs, Duke Ellington, and George Gershwin to illustrate his points. Because broad cultural forces are included in this unique study, anyone interested in American history and American Studies will find it as appealing as will students and scholars of American music.

Book Information

Series: Ernest Bloch Lectures (Book 8)

Paperback: 400 pages

Publisher: University of California Press; Updated ed. edition (June 30, 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0520224825

ISBN-13: 978-0520224827

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1 x 9.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #3,574,580 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 in [Books > Humor & Entertainment > Sheet Music & Scores > Composers > Billings](#) #21 in [Books > Humor & Entertainment > Sheet Music & Scores > Composers > Bloch](#) #968 in [Books > Humor & Entertainment > Sheet Music & Scores > Forms & Genres > Religious & Church Music](#)

Customer Reviews

"This book consummates over 30 years of research in the history and criticism of American music, during which time the author has become a senior scholar in the field. Crawford has looked at much

music, from early psalmody to rock, and at an impressive amount of previous writing. . . . The importance of his ideas and the clarity of his prose make this an important book for all readers interested in any aspect of American music."--W.K. Kearns, "Choice

"This book reflects a breakthrough in American music studies, an unrecognized field among traditional musicologists until the past few decades, during which enormous progress has been made in documenting three centuries of American musical activities and figures. Time and effort had to be expended exclusively on the development of basic historical studies. The time has come for a new phase, one that can take a creative, interpretive approach. Professor Crawford's study will introduce this higher level of scholarship into the field of American music studies."#151; Vivian Perlis, author of *Charles Ives Remembered* "A major statement by a senior scholar on what American musicology is all about. . . These themes are also topical; they come at a time when much more research is being done in American music, but little thought is being given to the big picture, the vision, the philosophy, and the implications of historical research. Now is the time for a synthesis, and there are few scholars better equipped to do that in American music than Richard Crawford."#151; Michael Broyles, author of *Music of the Highest Class*

This is an interesting book about the history of the US through the American songwriter. Beginning with the earliest songs of generations ago to modern times the authors discuss the music publishing business, songs and songwriters and the promotion of the songs from Broadway to Hollywood to radio and beyond. Many long forgotten publishers, producers and performers are mentioned as well as well known composers and lyricists. Another good reading about the American Songbook.

The product has an excellent edge, works wonderfully on my homemade bread! as a birthday gift to my husband, fast and in time. feel very good . good seller.

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