

REFERENCE MATERIALS IN JAZZ

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The Complete Encyclopedia of Popular Music and Jazz, 1900-1950.

by Roger D. Kimble, 1974.

Although not devoted exclusively to jazz, this 4 volume work chronicles pop and jazz from a year-to-year basis and gives very informative biographical sketches of performers and composers. After each entry, a discography is given. The last volume includes record catalog listings and name and title indices.

International Jazz Bibliography: Jazz books from 1919 to 1968.

by Carl Gregor, the Duke of Mecklenburg, 1969.

International in scope, this work lists bibliographies of jazz, dictionaries, yearbooks, general jazz literature and monographs, in German and English. It is limited only to books up to 1968. There are various indices, including a subject index and numerous name indexes. This is probably the most comprehensive work of its type. (Although the card catalog lists a 1983 volume, I could not find it.)

Jazz. by Dean and Nancy Tudor, 1979.

This book is a buying guide for collectors and libraries, with 1,300 jazz recordings chosen on the basis of musical development, popularity and artistic merit. Included in the work are an introductory essay on jazz, bibliographies of works on jazz, addresses of record companies and title and performer indexes. All the recordings listed are nicely annotated.

Jazz: a history. by Frank Tirro, 1977.

This book is designed as an introduction to the principal movements, schools, performers and peripheral aspects of jazz from its inception to the present. It is a scholarly work, intended for those with some musical background. It includes a bibliography, discography, a glossary of jazz terms, and various indices. Its focus is on American jazz.

The Jazz Book. Joachim Berendt, 1982.

This work is a sort of guidebook intended for those with no background in jazz. It covers the various styles of jazz, the various instruments and the key performers in the field. Although this isn't really a reference book, it is a good overall introduction to jazz. It includes a discography, indices and a chronological chart outlining the evolution of this musical form.

The Jazz Index: Bibliography of Jazz Literature in Periodicals and Collections, 1977-.

This index, another German/English publication, indexes articles in some 50 international journals. It also includes book and concert reviews. There is a three year time lag in coverage.

Jazz Records, 1897-1942. by Brian A. L. Rust

This monumental 2 volume set is known as the jazz collectors bible in some quarters. It lists 30,000 recordings from some 229 record labels. Only 78 rpm disks are listed. The work is arranged alphabetically by musician. An author and a song index are included.

Jazz reference and Research Materials: a bibliography. by Eddie S. Meadows

This work is intended to aid scholars working in the field of American jazz. It also is a collection development guide for libraries. Included are books, articles, these, and dissertations on or about the styles and musicians of jazz from the turn of the century to 1978. It is divided into two sections, one covering the various genres of jazz, and the other covering reference materials.

Leonard Feather's Encyclopedia of Jazz. by Leonard Feather.

This work originally appeared in 1960. Since then, two other volumes covering jazz in the sixties and seventies have been published. More of a biographical dictionary than an encyclopedia, it gives brief sketches of the major performers in the field and it also contains listings of the results of critics and reader's polls, a film guide, and listings of recommended records and books.

The Making of Jazz: A Comprehensive History. 1978. by James Lincoln Collier.

This book is another historical survey of jazz. Its emphasis is on jazz in a socio-cultural context. Its aimed at the layperson. Included are chapters on the roots of jazz and individual biographical sketches of the more reknowned musicians.

Although I have attempted to list the best sources that I could find, this list is by no means definitive or comprehensive. For more recent material on the topic, the Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature and the Music Index should be consulted. There also exist various dicographies that cover individual musicians and record companies. These should always be kept in mind, for they provide excellent historical and biographical data. Another source which I did not list, but which I will mention now is the Rutgers University Institute of Jazz Studies Jazz Register and Indexes, available on microfiche. This source provides a listing<sup>of</sup> all recorded jazz performances held by the Institute, which incidentally has the finest collection of jazz recordings and resources anywhere.