



New Rolling Stone Encyclopedia Of Rock & Roll: Completely Revised And Updated

By Patricia Romanowski

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With more than 500 new entries and extensive revisions of the previous 1,300, this authoritative volume is the definitive sourcebook on the world's music makers-- from the one-hit wonders to the megastars. Selected by the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame as its official source of information, "The New Rolling Stone Encyclopedia of Rock & Roll"-- like the first edition, which was published in 1983-- tops the charts with its full coverage of every aspect of the rock scene. It's all here-- from the tremendous impact of Madonna, MTV, rap, and alternative rock to complete profiles of the Grateful Dead, the Rolling Stones, Lou Reed, and hundreds of other musicians, both famous and infamous. "The New Rolling Stone Encyclopedia of Rock & Roll" includes all the facts, phenomena, and flukes, including: Gold and platinum record awards Grammy awards in rock and related fields, including country, rap, blues, and jazz One-hit wonders-- performers whose moments in the spotlight were as brief as they were dazzling The best videos ever produced Producers, disc jockeys, and others who have directly influenced the music Definitions of musical terms from a cappella and doo-wop to heavy metal and industrial, from house music to New Age Hundreds of historic photographs Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductees Accompanying the biographical and discographical information on the more than 1,800 artists included in this edition are essays that reveal the performers' musical influences, first breaks, and critical and commercial hits and misses, as well as evaluations of their place in rock history. Meticulously researched and concisely written with insight and flair, this is the best book on rock roll available today.

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Editorial Review

From Library Journal

Contributing editor Jon Pareles notes in the preface that rock is about tension "between formula and innovation...between independence and the chance to reach the mass public." This work, while definitive, leans toward formula and mass appeal, taking few chances. Ultimately, it is a reference work on rock'n'roll, not of rock'n'roll. That being said, it's hard to argue with 2200 meticulously researched entries describing rock figures from the famous to the all but forgotten. A typical entry for a band gives the year and date the group formed, the members and their birth dates and places, their instruments, and a discography followed by an essay. The essays range from 100 words (Mungo Jerry) to four-plus pages (Elvis) and deal noncritically with the artists' work, history, and influence. The discographies are often incomplete, which the editors chalk up to the overlaps created by compilation and greatest-hits albums. There are also essays that attempt to define genres (rap, industrial, techno, etc.), which unfortunately give scant detail and fail to distinguish between those artists who have entries in the book and those who do not. Also, there are no bibliographies for either the genre or artist essays. Despite these flaws, however, if you are looking for a basic reference on rock'n'roll, this is the one to buy. Recommended for all libraries.

Adam Mazmanian, "Library Journal"

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From the Publisher

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Users Review

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Beth Stewart:

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