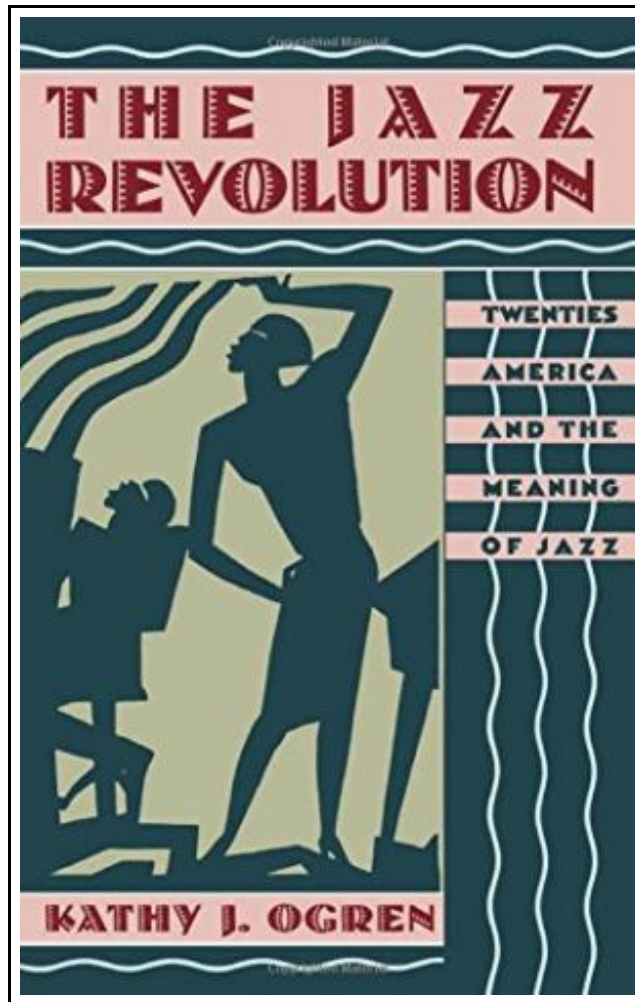


The Jazz Revolution: Twenties America the Meaning of Jazz



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(Enrique Ritchie Sr.)

THE JAZZ REVOLUTION: TWENTIES AMERICA THE MEANING OF JAZZ



Oxford University Press, USA. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 240 pages. Dimensions: 8.0in. x 5.3in. x 0.7in. Born of African rhythms, the spiritual call and response, and other American musical traditions, jazz was by the 1920s the dominant influence on this countrys popular music. Writers of the Harlem Renaissance (Langston Hughes, Claude McKay, Zora Neale Hurston) and the Lost Generation (Malcolm Cowley, F. Scott Fitzgerald, and Gertrude Stein), along with many other Americans celebrated it--both as an expression of black culture and as a symbol of rebellion against American society. But an equal number railed against it. Whites were shocked by its raw emotion and sexuality, and blacks considered it devils music and criticized it for casting a negative light on the black community. In this illuminating work, Kathy Ogren places this controversy in the social and cultural context of 1920s America and sheds new light on jazzs impact on the nation as she traces its dissemination from the honky-tonks of New Orleans, New York, and Chicago, to the clubs and cabarets of such places as Kansas City and Los Angeles, and further to the airwaves. Ogren argues that certain characteristics of jazz, notably the participatory nature of the music, its unusual rhythms and emphasis, gave it a special resonance for a society undergoing rapid change. Those who resisted the changes criticized the new music; those who accepted them embraced jazz. In the words of conductor Leopold Stowkowski, Jazz had come to stay because it was an expression of the times, of the breathless, energetic, superactive times in which we were living, it was useless to fight against it. Numerous other factors contributed to the growth of jazz as a popular music during the 1920s. The closing of the Storyville section of New Orleans in 1917 was a signal to many...



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