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The Penguin Jazz Guide: The History of the Music in the 1001 Best Albums

Brian Morton, Richard Cook
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#257319 in Books Morton Brian 2010-12-28 2010-12-28 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.20 x 1.50 x 6.00l, 2.19 #File Name: 014104831X768 pages The Penguin Jazz Guide The History of the Music in the 1001 Best Albums | File size: 33.Mb

Brian Morton, Richard Cook : The Penguin Jazz Guide: The History of the Music in the 1001 Best Albums before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Penguin Jazz Guide: The History of the Music in the 1001 Best Albums:

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By GruvyWade
The reviews here are more interesting to read and more insightful than the freebie album review sites: the more you read, the more your understanding of Jazz will grow. This book is very different in intent from the Penguin Guidebooks (this is entitled a History of Jazz, not a Guide to Jazz), it will appeal to anyone who has ever tried to organize their CD or vinyl collection by release date, instead of alphabetical. The Penguin Guidebooks contain about 14,000 reviews, including almost of the ones included here, so you may be more interested in those if you prefer a more comprehensive guide which is organized alphabetically. If you are just becoming interested in Jazz then with this guide - along with a subscription to Google Music or any streaming service that allows you to choose what to listen to - you'll be off to the races.
2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Great resource for new appreciators
By K. J. Ryan
I am so glad Penguin published this briefer version of their classic tome. As someone who has fairly recently fallen in love with jazz, this book acts as an invaluable roadmap to discovering all the great recordings throughout jazz history. Although the format of the book can be slightly improved with the edition of an alphabetical index, I am a big fan of how the reviews themselves are formatted. I can understand the frustration of those who grew to depend on the older editions of the guide, but if you're new to jazz, or even these guides, then you'll probably find this book incredibly enjoyable.
5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Out of date before it arrived
By L. Levy
This book really needs an index. It is arranged chronologically. Great for branching out, but if you like a performer, it is hard to find other recommended recordings with that artist. Unfortunately, many of the recommended recordings of early performers are on the no longer extant French Classics label. These are becoming increasingly harder to come by. What is there is in the great Morton - Cook tradition of the previous Penguin jazz recording guides. The arrangement (with a lack of index) and reference to many hard to get recordings is the reason for the 2 star rating.

Richard Cook and Brian Morton's Penguin Jazz Guide: The History of the Music in 1001 Best Albums is an indispensable guide to the recordings that every fan should know. Richard Cook and Brian Morton's Penguin Guide to Jazz Recordings is firmly established as the world's leading guide to the music. In this book, Brian Morton has picked out 1001 essential recordings from their acclaimed guide, adding new information, revising and reassessing each entry, and showing how these key pieces tell the history of the music - and with it the history of the twentieth century. These are the essential albums that that all true jazz fans should own, or - at the very least - have listened to, from Kind of Blue to lesser-known classics and more surprising choices. Full of fascinating updated biographical information, new quotes and interviews and, of course, highly opinionated and wittily trenchant critical reviews, the result is an endlessly browsable companion that will prove required reading for aficionados and jazz novices alike. 'One of the great books of recorded jazz; the other guides don't come close' Irish Times 'It's the kind of book that you'll yank off the shelf to look up a quick fact and still be reading two hours later' Fortune 'The leader in its field ... If you own only one book on jazz, it really should be this one' International Record Review 'Indispensable and incomparable' NME
Brian Morton is a freelance writer and broadcaster who for many years presented Radio 3's jazz magazine Impressions and In Tune. Richard Cook (1957-2007) was formerly editor of The Wire and edited Jazz Review. He contributed to many other publications, including the New Statesman and his books included Richard Cook's Jazz Encyclopaedia and It's About That Time: Miles Davis on Record.