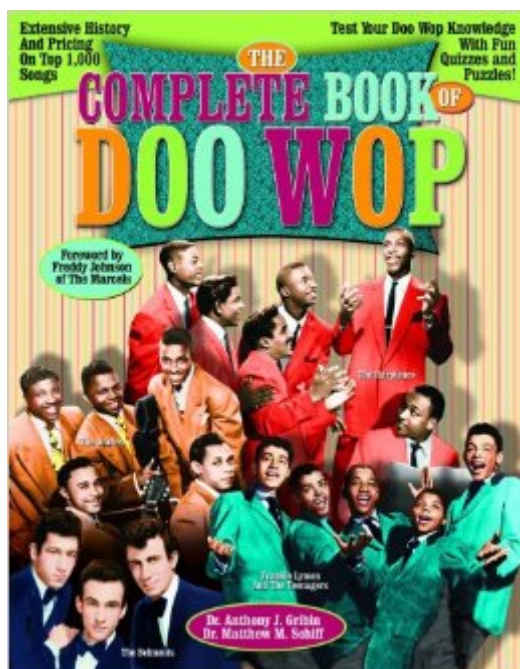


The book was found

Complete Book Of Doo Wop, The



Synopsis

If you were a teenager in the 1950s and the early part of the 1960s, doo wop music conjures up memories of hanging out with friends at the candy store or malt shop, dancing at the hop, and first romances. This book will transport you back to those nostalgic times. The Complete Book of Doo Wop provides an extensive history of doo wop from the 1940s through the early 1970s, gives definitions and illustrations of the music that falls between rhythm and blues and Rock 'n' Roll, and covers the musical groups that created it, including Frankie Lymon and the Teenagers, the Platters, Little Anthony and the Imperials, Dion and the Belmonts, the Chiffons and the Shirelles. The book also features 150 photos, 64 sheet-music covers and an extensive songography. If you are a collector or enthusiast, vocal harmony fan, music historian or just a music buff, you will discover plenty of fun facts, stories and quizzes on doo wop songs and groups.

Book Information

Paperback: 496 pages

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Average Customer Review: 3.0 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (6 customer reviews)

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> Music > Reference #5633 inÂ Books > Arts & Photography > Music > History & Criticism

Customer Reviews

This book obviously was a labor of love for its authors. Unfortunately, that does not mean it's a great book. At 496 pages in a large format, it contains a lot of information, including many black-and-white photos. More than 200 of those pages are a listing, by artist (which they call a "songography"), of perhaps 20,000(!) doo wop songs. There's also a somewhat more detailed list of what the authors consider "The Best 1,000 Doo-Wop Songs". This list is not ranked from #1 to #1,000, however; it also is alphabetical by artist. Neither list has a corresponding index by song title. The 22 chapters look at doo wop from a number of angles, including geography, record labels, disc jockeys, vocal parts, gender, and race. There are numerous puzzles and quizzes for trivia freaks. Both the authors

are from the New York City area, and that has strongly influenced the book's point of view. If you are from New York and are a doo wop junkie, this book may be just right for you. Otherwise, perhaps not. If you are looking for a reasonably objective, yet concise, treatment of the subject, this is not it. If you are new to doo wop and are looking for an easily digestible introduction to the topic, it's not that, either. If you're from another part of the country, be prepared for incomplete and sometimes inaccurate information on doo wop from your region. And if you're a librarian or a disc jockey looking for a useful reference book (like the ones Joel Whitburn produces), this is not that book, either. The photos look like bad photocopies. There are maps, but they're not well-executed. There is no index, an unforgivable omission in a reference book, or in any non-fiction book, for that matter.

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