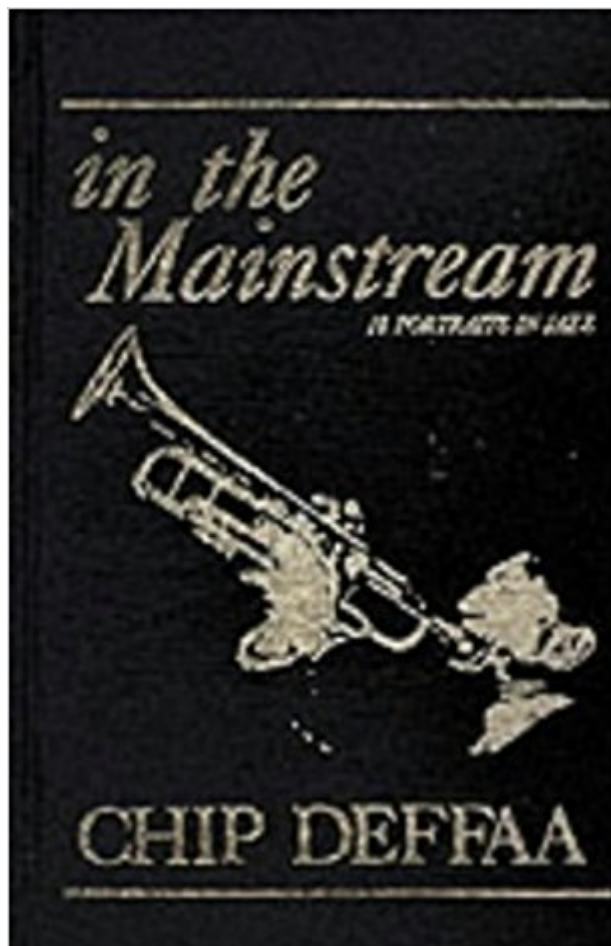


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In The Mainstream



Synopsis

In the 18 profiles that make up this book, the reader will hear the stories—mostly in their own words—of a lively array of contributors to mainstream jazz and popular music. New York Post jazz critic Chip Deffaa has interviewed musicians both famous and not so famous—big band leaders like drum whiz Ray McKinley, Andy Kirk, and "Twentieth Century Gabriel" Erskine Hawkins; celebrated sidemen like clarinetist Johnny Mince and bassist Bob Haggart; 1920's trumpeter Doc Cheatham and arranger Bill Challis; 30's trumpeter Bill Dillard; 40's saxist George Kelly; and drummer Sonny Igoe, pianist Dick Hyman, and drummer Jack Hanna of more recent years; plus Buddy Morrow, Oliver Jackson, Mahlon Clark, Joe Wilder, Bucky and John Pizzarelli, and Ken Peplowski.

Book Information

Series: Studies in Jazz (Book 11)

Hardcover: 402 pages

Publisher: Scarecrow Press; First Edition edition (June 1, 1992)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0810825589

ISBN-13: 978-0810825581

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds

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Customer Reviews

Deffaa continues to chronicle the swing era through interviews with veteran jazz musicians. His previous titles are *Swing Legacy* (Scarecrow, 1989) and *Voices of the Jazz Age* (LJ 4/15/90). Deffaa's 18 subjects include band leaders Ray McKinley and Andy Kirk, trumpeters Doc Cheatham and Erskine Hawkins, drummers Jake Hanna and Oliver Jackson, guitarist Bucky Pizzarelli, and pianist Dick Hyman. Each recalls early musical experiences and career successes and regrets. They provide musical and historical context for pop songs and show business. Cheatham, for instance, describes befriending Louis Armstrong in Chicago. This volume offers valuable jazz history, yet it would have been nice had Deffaa profiled some of the many women in jazz, too.- Paul

Deffaa, a young writer, has a surprising ear for jazz's distant past...valuably informative... (Los Angeles Times)...offers valuable jazz history... (Library Journal)...well-crafted, revealing profiles... (JazzTimes Magazine)Deffaa is contributing a valuable body of material for researchers present and future. Long may he continue... highly recommended... (Storyville)The international jazz community owes a debt to writer-critic Chip Deffaa. In the tradition of a handful of writers...Deffaa is a rising keeper of the flame... (The Mississippi Rag)These profiles are definitive...highly recommended. (Cadence Magazine)Chip Deffaa has infused the jazz chronicles with much-needed profiles that document not only the rich past but also those who continue to give it freshness. (Stuart Troup)...a most entertaining book... (The IAJRC Journal)...abounds with wonderful tales and anecdotes...careful research...a worthy addition to Deffaa's growing collection of jazz oral histories and deserves to be widely read. (The Mississippi Rag)...readable, informative, and entertaining. (Notes: Quarterly Journal of the Music Library Association)...an excellent job of not letting this work become just another series of musical anecdotes and stories...allows the chronology to flow...the narratives...are the heart and soul of this book and hold some musical treasures for the reader... (Sonneck Society Bulletin)

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