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# Lift Every Voice: The History Of African American Music (The African American History Series)



## Synopsis

Since their enslavement in West Africa and transport to plantations of the New World, black people have made music that has been deeply entwined with their religious, community, and individual identities. Music was one of the most important constant elements of African American culture in the centuries-long journey from slavery to freedom. It also continued to play this role in blacks' post-emancipation odyssey from second-class citizenship to full equality. *Lift Every Voice* traces the roots of black music in Africa and slavery and its evolution in the United States from the end of slavery to the present day. The music's creators, consumers, and distributors are all part of the story. Musical genres such as spirituals, ragtime, the blues, jazz, gospel, rhythm and blues, rock, soul, and hip-hop—as well as black contributions to classical, country, and other American music forms—depict the continuities and innovations that mark both the music and the history of African Americans. A rich selection of documents help to define the place of music within African American communities and the nation as a whole.

## Book Information

Series: The African American History Series

Paperback: 223 pages

Publisher: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers (July 16, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0742558126

ISBN-13: 978-0742558120

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 0.7 x 9.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 15 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

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Best Sellers Rank: #266,152 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #37 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Musical Genres > Ethnic & International > Ethnic](#) #76 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Musical Genres > Ethnic & International > Ethnomusicology](#) #199 in [Books > History > Americas > United States > African Americans > History](#)

## Customer Reviews

This book is a fairly decent abbreviated overview of African-American music. However I wish someone would continue the work of Eileen Southern with her excellent book on African-American music. Hers is a more comprehensive approach and even though no one has updated her work since her death, I prefer her book, which I believe it's called, "The music of black Americans," to any

of the others that I have read so far.

Peretti's book is a brilliant account of Black history through the medium of music. It opened many areas of thought and awareness for me. It should be a requirement for music education students.

awesome book learning a lot from it love African american culture this allows me to understand it more in depth .

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