



Black Music, Black Poetry: Blues and Jazz's Impact on African American Versification

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Black Music, Black Poetry offers readers a fuller appreciation of the diversity of approaches to reading black American poetry. It does so by linking a diverse body of poetry to musical genres that range from the spirituals to contemporary jazz. The poetry of familiar figures such as Paul Laurence Dunbar and Langston Hughes and less well-known poets like Harryette Mullen or the lyricist to Pharaoh Sanders, Amos Leon Thomas, is scrutinized in relation to a musical tradition contemporaneous with the lifetime of each poet. Black music is considered the strongest representation of black American communal consciousness; and black poetry, by drawing upon such a musical legacy, lays claim to a powerful and enduring black aesthetic. The contributors to this volume take on issues of black cultural authenticity, of musical imitation, and of poetic performance as displayed in the work of Paul Laurence Dunbar, Langston Hughes, Sterling Brown, Amiri Baraka, Michael Harper, Nathaniel Mackey, Jayne Cortez, Harryette Mullen, and Amos Leon Thomas. Taken together, these essays offer a rich examination of the breath of black poetry and the ties it has to the rhythms and forms of black music and the influence of black music on black poetic practice.

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Editorial Review

Review

'Black Music, Black Poetry makes an important contribution to African American Studies, not least because Gordon Thompson has assembled a group of scholars who actually, truly listen to the music-and whose critical practice therefore exemplifies what interdisciplinarity at its best looks (and sounds) like.' --Jürgen E. Grandt, University of North Georgia, USA, author of *Kinds of Blue: The Jazz Aesthetic in African American Narrative* (2004)

... these essays provide rich insight into the fascinating subject of jazz, improvisatory music, and poetry, and how their forms and structures enhance each art form. Recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty. --Choice

About the Author

Gordon Thompson is Professor of English at City College of New York (CUNY), USA.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Margaret Jackson:

Have you spare time for any day? What do you do when you have far more or little spare time? Yeah, you can choose the suitable activity regarding spend your time. Any person spent their particular spare time to take a move, shopping, or went to the actual Mall. How about open or perhaps read a book entitled *Black Music, Black Poetry: Blues and Jazz's Impact on African American Versification*? Maybe it is to get best activity for you. You recognize beside you can spend your time with your favorite's book, you can smarter than before. Do you agree with it is opinion or you have different opinion?

Randall Wilmes:

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George Chadwick:

Spent a free time to be fun activity to accomplish! A lot of people spent their down time with their family, or

their very own friends. Usually they accomplishing activity like watching television, planning to beach, or picnic inside park. They actually doing same thing every week. Do you feel it? Do you wish to something different to fill your own free time/ holiday? Could be reading a book could be option to fill your free time/ holiday. The first thing you will ask may be what kinds of publication that you should read. If you want to test look for book, may be the publication untitled Black Music, Black Poetry: Blues and Jazz's Impact on African American Versification can be fine book to read. May be it could be best activity to you.

Tommy Worm:

Many people spending their time by playing outside together with friends, fun activity using family or just watching TV the whole day. You can have new activity to shell out your whole day by looking at a book. Ugh, ya think reading a book can actually hard because you have to take the book everywhere? It okay you can have the e-book, having everywhere you want in your Mobile phone. Like Black Music, Black Poetry: Blues and Jazz's Impact on African American Versification which is finding the e-book version. So , try out this book? Let's find.

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