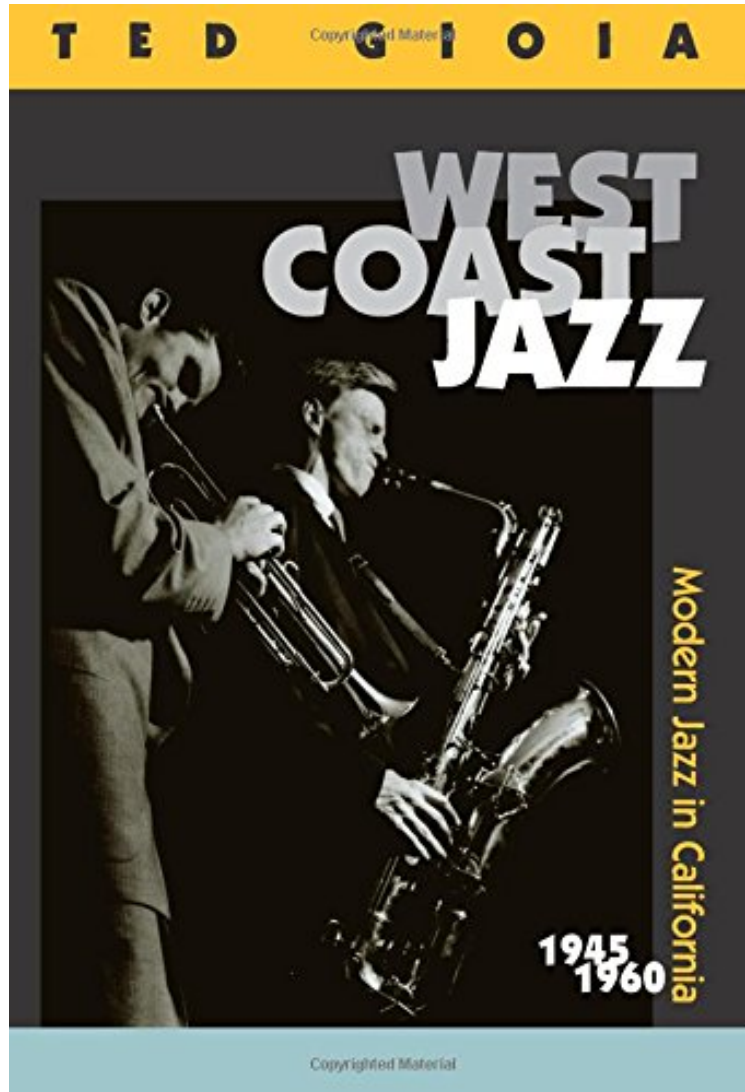


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West Coast Jazz: Modern Jazz in California, 1945-1960

Ted Gioia

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Ted Gioia : West Coast Jazz: Modern Jazz in California, 1945-1960 before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised West Coast Jazz: Modern Jazz in California, 1945-1960:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. WEST COASTING. By Richard J. Oravitz One of the best books I've read in the last 10 years, it opened doors for me not only for an appreciation of jazz in general, but an understanding of what jazz was, meant and felt throughout the 1940s-60s, especially on the West Coast. This book has increased my jazz cd collection from 50 to over 200, it's that good of an incentive. Gioia brings his characters to life. I feel as if I personally know everyone from Charlie Parker to Sonny Criss to Shorty Rogers to Hampton Hawes to Howard McGhee to Dave Brubeck to Chet Baker to Jimmie Giuffre to Wardell Gray to Dexter Gordon to Chico Hamilton and

so on. This book surges with life, a time capsule, frozen and now forgotten, vividly presented and well documented. If you love jazz, this book is invaluable, West Coast, East Coast, whatever...an excellent history of what was going on jazz-wise during its crucial years, 1945-65. Super Highly Recommended. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. where are the photos? By W. Segen This is not an easy book to come by. Kinda pricey, but a very good read. Here's the negativity of my review. Originally I got the book from the library to check it out, and loved the photos. It was the 1998 edition with a bunch of Claxton's photos. really great one of Harry Babson with Chet and Bird at the Trade Winds. (1952). But the book I received, even though it was pictured on like the one I knew, had a different cover (the photo of the lighthouse all stars at the beach - great album cover btw.) and no pics inside. It's a larger hardback, and maybe a first printing. I would order another but there is no way to tell. For example, if it says 1998 pp reprint, is it the one with the photos? or not? So that's my take. But the stories are great. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great book on West Coast Jazz By Billy B Great book on West Coast Jazz. If you like this genre of Jazz as I do, Gioia has done a fine job of documenting it. For me, it was a "Must-Read" and I'm glad I did.

From the Preface by Ted Gioia:

From Library Journal Gioia, founder of Stanford's jazz studies program, provides a fresh view of West Coast jazz during its heyday. Avoiding the hackneyed debate over West Coast cool versus East Coast bop, he emphasizes the variety in West Coast jazz in chapters about such talents as cool trumpeter Chet Baker, the muscular-sounding Dexter Gordon, the classically oriented Dave Brubeck, innovative bandleader Stan Kenton, and avant-garde hornman Ornette Coleman. The author attributes this West Coast diversity to the urban sprawl of Southern California and to supportive jazz clubs, critics, and such record companies as Fantasy, Contemporary, Capitol, and Pacific Jazz. Basing his account on numerous interviews, Gioia offers the first comprehensive history of postwar West Coast jazz, which should quickly become a standard. Recommended for general and scholarly collections in American music. - David Szatmary, Univ. of Washington, Seattle Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc. "A book that desperately needed to be written and has turned out to be a surprise landmark and masterpiece." --Bruce and Joel Klauber, "Jazziz From the Inside Flap" A book that desperately needed to be written and has turned out to be a surprise landmark and masterpiece."