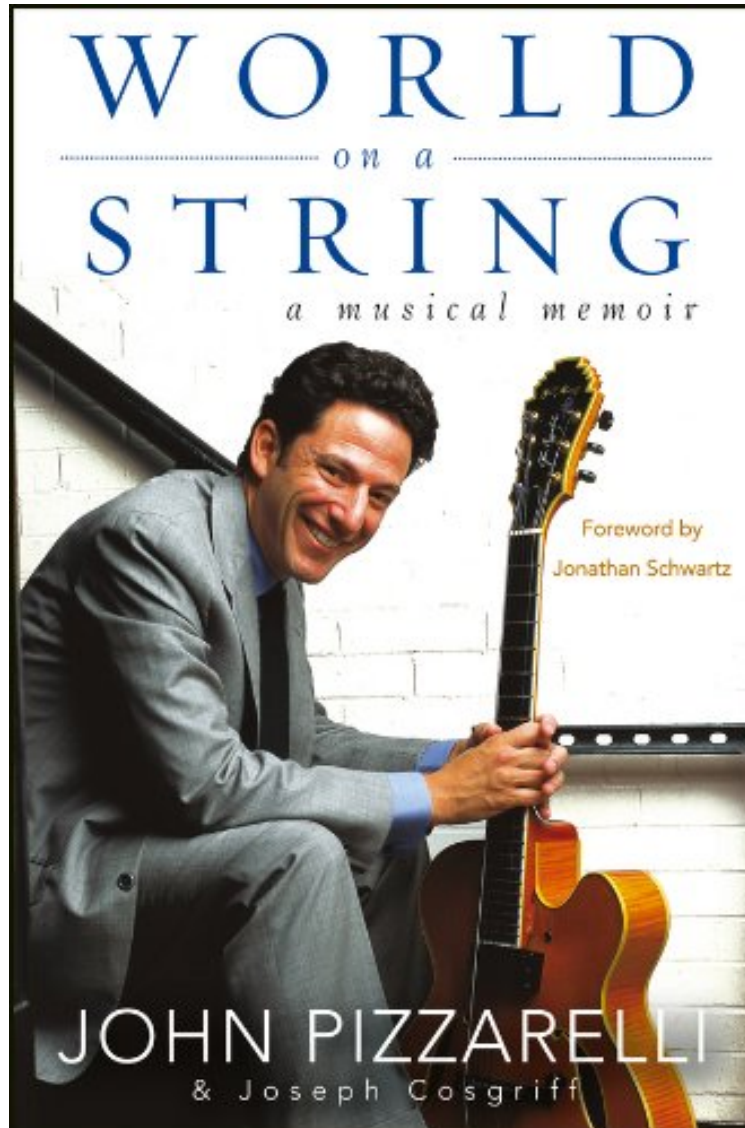


(Read now) World on a String: A Musical Memoir

World on a String: A Musical Memoir

John Pizzarelli, Joseph Cosgriff
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#132039 in Books 2012-10-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.40 x 1.06 x 6.471, 1.23 #File Name: 1118062973304 pages | File size: 15.Mb

John Pizzarelli, Joseph Cosgriff : World on a String: A Musical Memoir before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised World on a String: A Musical Memoir:

15 of 15 people found the following review helpful. As Entertaining as a Pizzarelli Concert By Brian R. Sheridan Seeing John (and his band) in person is a joy to behold, as is listening to he and "Molaskey" on Radio Deluxe. While he is self-deprecating about his stories, they are wonderful and add so much to the appreciation and enjoyment of his music. Somehow, the fun of those shows is perfectly captured in this book. Jazz musicians always have great stories. Those are captured here as Pizzarelli riffs on sidemen, his father, and the King of Swing himself, Benny

Goodman. I hope this is first of several books of road stories. This one ended way too soon. Get the book, listen to the radio show, see him in concert, and buy the records - John Pizzarelli will enrich your life in so many ways. I have been able to interview John a few times and he is as personable and charming off-stage as he is on-stage. UPDATE after listening to Audible Edition: While I still stand by my review of the book, I wanted to add that you should seriously consider the audio version of John's book. He reads it, plays guitar, and even does impressions (a fair-to-middling Walter Cronkite, Billie Holiday, Bucky, but an uncannily accurate Molaskey). It is like sitting around a dinner table (eating eggplant marinara) while John spins these interesting, often hilarious, tales of his time in the music business and growing up in the 1970s. Download it to your music device and you won't want to turn it off. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Music is Good By Dave from section 109 For those of you who have seen John Pizzarelli in concert, attended BLOHARDS lunches over the past 25+ years, or can't decide whether your favorite version of "I Like Jersey Best" is the Paul Simon version or the Beach Boys, it will come as no surprise that this debut offering from John Pizzarelli and Joseph Cosgriff is a highly entertaining read. The book is much more than a memoir. It is really a history of jazz and cabaret music in New York that bridges the eras of Frank Sinatra, Rosemary Clooney, Benny Goodman, and the days of the "Tonight Show" band in New York City, with the modern day jazz scene. The book is also a lovely tribute to Bucky Pizzarelli, whose contributions to jazz and pop music over the decades are unparalleled. The chapter on Frank Sinatra is particularly interesting, as it provides rarely discussed insights into what life on the road during a Sinatra tour was like for the musicians. In particular, the authors go out of their way to praise Frank Sinatra, Jr. for his role as Band Leader. You leave this chapter with a real appreciation for "Junior" and what it is like to go through pre show rehearsals and preparations for an act like Sinatra. Chapters involving Benny Goodman, affectionately referred to as "KOS", and Rosemary Clooney, who John often collaborated with at Rainbow Stars and on an album of Brazilian music, are also highly entertaining. The book also highlights John Pizzarelli's radio career with some amusing stories and offers some insights for actors involved in under-funded Broadway productions. The "My Favorite Things" and "Frequently Asked Questions" (FAQ) sections in the back are nice touches that share numerous obscure, humorous facts about Pizzarelli. For example, I always thought "Doobie Wah" was John's favorite song from "Frampton Comes Alive". It turns out to be "Shine On". All in, this is much more than a biography. This is a history book that will bring back lots of memories for people who have followed the New York music scene over the past 40 years. And, to quote John, "Music is Good". 7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. A charming, personal tale of growing up, working hard, and living the dream! By Thomas J. Cray Anyone who's ever seen John Pizzarelli live has already been introduced to his warm and engaging personality - and it comes across clearly in print, as well. John welcomes you with open arms into his childhood, growing up with a well-known and exceptional jazz guitarist father, and forging his own path as a musician, a singer, and an extraordinary guitarist in his own right. His career (so far) has been filled with high points such as working with Rosemary Clooney, Frank Sinatra, James Taylor, and Paul McCartney. I'd have enjoyed this book if it were twice as long! A MUST READ for guitarists, singers, fans of the American Songbook, Jazz, New York City, etc.

Behind the scenes in the life of a musician an exuberant, entertaining memoir from jazz guitarist, singer, and raconteur John Pizzarelli John Pizzarelli, the son of jazz guitar legend Bucky Pizzarelli, is a connoisseur of American song who grew up among the legends of jazz. From teenage explorations of rock music to life on the road with his father, he worked his way from gigs in tiny clubs to opening for Frank Sinatra during his final international tour. Now Pizzarelli performs in festivals and top venues across the United States and the world, and he shares his unique journey in this revealing, charming, and heartwarming memoir. Includes firsthand stories of famous jazz greats and popular music icons including Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett, Rosemary Clooney, Benny Goodman, Joe Pass, James Taylor, and Paul McCartney Reveals what it was like to grow up among great musicians and storytellers and shares the day-to-day experiences of a touring musician's life Includes thirty-five terrific photographs that take you inside John Pizzarelli's life and music Part of the Wiley-Lincoln Center alliance Absorbing, upbeat, funny, and down to earth, *World on a String* is an irresistible celebration of music and life that will appeal to John Pizzarelli's large and growing following.

* ""The only other thing that need be said about 'World on a String' is that sitting alone reading it, I found myself erupting in laughter at least a dozen times."" (Playbill.com, December 2012)