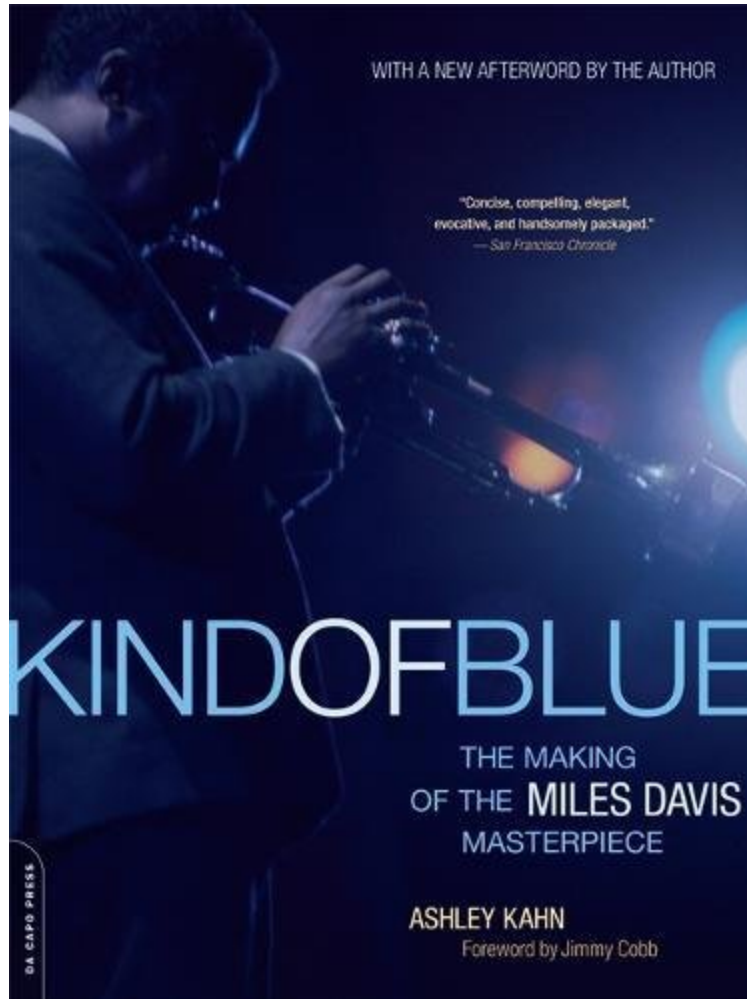


[Read free] Kind of Blue: The Making of the Miles Davis Masterpiece

Kind of Blue: The Making of the Miles Davis Masterpiece

Ashley Kahn

audiobook / *ebooks / Download PDF / ePub / DOC



 Download

 Read Online

#476824 in Books 2007-07-03 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.50 x .50 x 6.50l, .86 #File Name: 0306815583240 pages | File size: 58.Mb

Ashley Kahn : Kind of Blue: The Making of the Miles Davis Masterpiece before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Kind of Blue: The Making of the Miles Davis Masterpiece:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Khan Creates His Own Masterwork - SeriouslyBy Ajo WayKahn takes the reader right inside Columbia Studios at 207 E. 30th Street for the two sessions that brought us Kind of Blue. YOU ARE THERE, 'nuf said (as Stan Lee likes to write in his Spidey comics). Listen: What's so great about this book is it fulfills and hits the mark where so many other books fall short. This book is about HOW THE MUSIC WAS MADE. I've only read a couple other books about musicians that actually manage to pull this off. For example, Lewis Porter's John Coltrane, His Life and His Music and A Love Supreme, The Story of John Coltrane's Signature Album. This book hits the mark where writers like Chambers (Milestones) Thomas (Chasin' the Trane) Zappa (The Real Frank Zappa Book) fall short. When I read a book about Miles, Trane, Zappa, The Rolling Stones, Hendrix. I want to read

about the music, the process of discovery. Kahn's books (along with Lewis Porter's) are the only books I've discovered that actually "get" the point of even writing the book. I don't care about the musician's personal habits and debauchery, I want to learn about THE MUSIC. I'm not going into a bunch of details about this book. I'm going to tell you that this book is very well researched, contains lots of pictures I have never seen - though I've read 1/2 dozen or so books on Miles and own darn near all of those Legacy Prestige remasters and boxsets with the new liner notes and photos. It's just a beautiful presentation. A book I will keep for the rest of my life though I wish I had the hardback edition. This is an impressive work, it sets the high-water mark for music journalism and literature, period. It does not flirt with hero worship and it keeps Kahn's personal views in check. You get the the back-story, story, and the epilogue (not literally... well yes, literally but that isn't what I mean) of the story of Kind of Blue. Hands down, this is the best book about music I have ever read. It was a quick, entertaining read. I was sorry when I arrived at the last page I enjoyed reading is so much and I'm sure I'll re-read it many times during the remainder of my life. I also highly recommend Khan's book on A Love Supreme (that one flirts with hero-worship but it's still a great book). Next: Impulse, The House That Trane Built. A Kahn Wish: I would love to read a book by Khan on the Miles Davis/Gil Evans partnership. There is plenty to write about, including the way Miles (whom I dearly love despite his human flaws) used and abused Gil Evans talent and failed to compensate him fairly and without Evans' begging for what he did get in some cases (Filles de Kilimanjaro for example). I'm such a fan of this guy's work that I tried to find a way to contact him to suggest such a work but couldn't find any contact information. Kind of Blue is an awesome book but Kahn has only scratched the surface of the life and career of Miles Davis. Here's hoping there is more to come.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. what it is
By paul
There is a glaring weakness in this book. Ashley Kahn is a writer and not a musician. So far as specifics of modal music are concerned this book darkens counsel. So why give it five stars? The strong points overcome any shortcomings. First of all it describes the studio event-- very important history. Kahn did the research and got it right, and sets us in the studio as witnesses (it almost feels like being a participant). If a book is to be considered very good it usually must have something more however. In this book Kahn shows us something that others have overlooked. It is a photograph no one has seen for decades. The previously unpublished photograph of Cannonball Adderly's music stand is a tiny look inside the goals, intentions and methods of Davis and Evans. Improvisation is an ephemeral thing but at least there is the recording. Until now there was no evidence for what the original modal "compositions" looked like (very different from a bop chart). Khan clearly understood the significance of his find (although not fully able to explain its' details) and showcases it twice in the book. Modalism is not hard to explain, but I'm afraid this piece of music is a little more iconoclastic. I have played jazz modally since the 1970s on guitar and for a musician familiar with the theory the book is easy and fun. For a non musician some parts are confused and thus may be misleading.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Solid read...
By Peter A. Johnson
Really nice book with a lot of obscure items about the recording of "Kind of Blue". Of particular interest to me is that the book expands on Bill Evans' role in the album beyond what I have found in other books. I appreciate that the author attempts to present multiple views of some controversial subjects (authoring of some of the music, personalities) without judgment. This would have 5 stars if not for the fact that I found the writing to be scatter-brained at times, jumping around from subject to subject. I found this distracting in couple of instances. Otherwise, the book was excellently written and a great addition to other books on Miles Davis and Jazz of this era. Certainly an easy recommendation for any fan of Jazz.

Don Cheadle directed, co-wrote, and stars in the film Miles Ahead, which will be released by Sony Pictures in April 2016. This acclaimed tribute to the most popular jazz album of all time is now available in a beautiful 50th anniversary edition, complete with a new afterword by Ashley Kahn. Featuring transcriptions of the unedited session tapes; in-depth interviews with musicians; freshly discovered Columbia Records files; never-before-seen photographs, and more, Kind of Blue is a vital piece of music history-and will be essential for fans and scholars for years to come.

Keyboard, 3/09
Amazing.