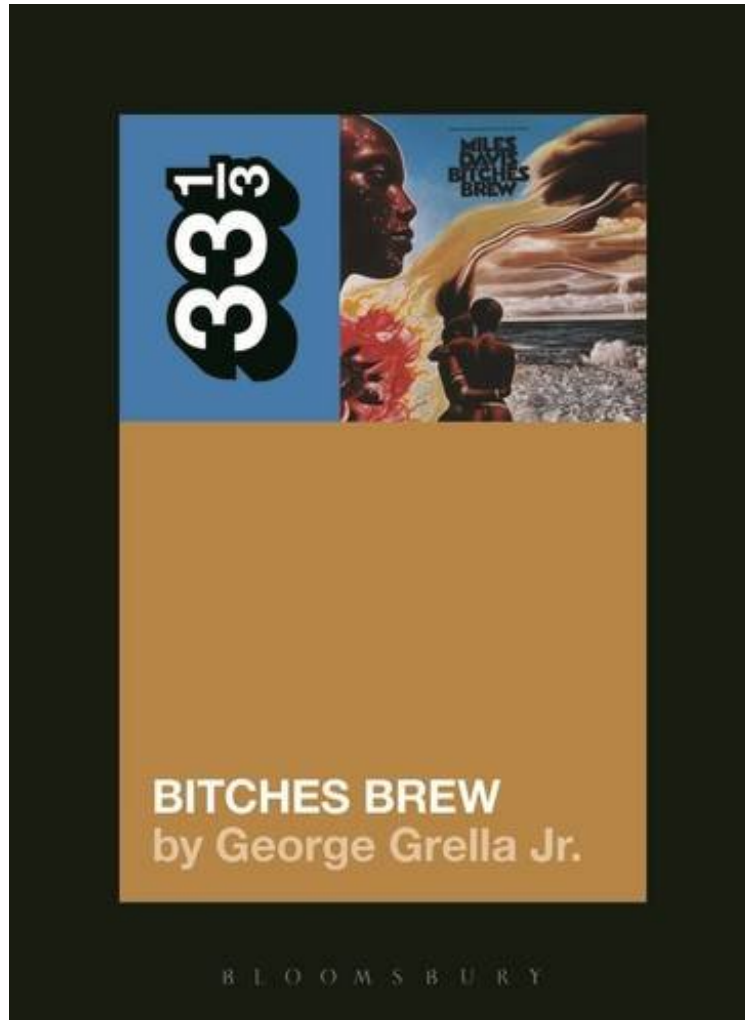


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## Miles Davis' Bitches Brew (33 1/3)

George Grella

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**George Grella : Miles Davis' Bitches Brew (33 1/3)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Miles Davis' Bitches Brew (33 1/3):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Deeply researched and informative By BJP in SCCool book. You'll probably learn a lot more about Miles Davis and his career -- not just the Bitches Brew album -- than you expected 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Short but sweet By P. Gleeson Well done. The unresolvable problem for Miles' writers is that even academic presses require a certain degree of accessibility for readers who are not professional musicians--that's reasonable, but it also requires writers to "paint a picture" of what's going on in the music rather than actually describing and analyzing it. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Rich and stimulating! By Impressus There are plenty of details to accompany the analysis of this iconic recording, and G. Grella is an attentive listener who will guide you through them with rigor and precision. But this is mainly a book about the

art of jazz in America and its power of transformation written in splendid prose by someone that has the ability and the knowledge to look at, and express, the many facets of this cultural phenomenon.

It was 1969, and Miles Davis, prince of cool, was on the edge of being left behind by a dynamic generation of young musicians, an important handful of whom had been in his band. Rock music was flying off in every direction, just as America itself seemed about to split at its seams. Following the circumscribed grooves and ambiance of *In A Silent Way*; coming off a tour with a burning new quintet-called 'The Lost Band'-with Wayne Shorter, Chick Corea, Dave Holland and Jack DeJohnette; he went into the studio with musicians like frighteningly talented guitarist John McLaughlin, and soulful Austrian keyboardist Joe Zawinul. Working with his essential producer, Teo Macero, Miles set a cauldron of ideas loose while the tapes rolled. At the end, there was the newly minted Prince of Darkness, a completely new way forward for jazz and rock, and the endless brilliance and depth of *Bitches Brew*. *Bitches Brew* is still one of the most astonishing albums ever made in either jazz or rock. Seeming to fuse the two, it actually does something entirely more revolutionary and open-ended: blending the most avant-garde aspects of Western music with deep grooves, the album rejects both jazz and rock for an entirely different idea of how music can be made.

George Grella dissects the creative process engineered by Miles Davis album, delves into the motivations that led its creator to break with the basics of swing and incorporate influences from rock and unprecedented use of recording techniques in jazz . Grella also devotes two chapters to study the outstanding technical features of each of the six items on the double LP and explores with passion, wit and analytical rigor [the] constellation of musical, social and psychological forces that came together to produce one of the most revolutionary works of contemporary music. - *El Intruso* (translated from Spanish) About the Author George Grella is a composer, musician and critic. He's played CBGB and Carnegie Hall, is Music Editor at The Brooklyn Rail, and publishes internationally.