

Synopsis

The Ultimate Guide To Great Reggae celebrates (and helps you find) the greatest songs of reggae. It focuses on every style of reggae, from mento to Jamaican R&B, ska, rock steady, dub, DJ roots, dancehall and more. It opens with an exceptionally comprehensive brief history of reggae. This is followed by 52 chapters, each devoted to in-depth descriptions of the greatest songs for a particular artist or style. Over 750 great songs are detailed, and many more are discussed. More than 200 of reggae's stars, cult artists, one-hit wonders and forgotten greats are profiled, encompassing the music's full six decade span. Many of the songs and artists receive their overdue first coverage in print. The seven chapters on Bob Marley describe every one of his more than 600 recordings, his 200 best songs receiving detailed profiles. Well written, insightful and engaging, The Ultimate Guide To Great Reggae is more than an invaluable buyer's guide and more than a comprehensive history. It's a love letter to reggae that's joy to read. It's the one essential book for any reggae fan, and is interesting and accessible for anyone who enjoys reading about music.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

You can't be but a little wary when you buy a book that includes the words, "Ultimate Guide to" in its title, but in this case, it's true. I mean, wow! Not only are there seven chapters on Bob Marley alone, and five chapters on Lee Perry, but the chapters on Marley & The Wailers discuss every song they ever recorded! You wanna talk about "Ultimate?" How about a book that also includes chapters on

The Abyssinians, Augustus Pablo, Stanley Beckford, Big Youth, Black Slate, Black Uhuru, Dennis Brown, Burning Spear, Chin's Calypso Sextet, Jimmy Cliff, The Congos, Count Lasher, Count Ossie, Nora Dean, Desmond Dekker, Eek-A-Mouse, The Ethiopians, Gregory Isaacs, Linton Kwesi Johnson, Leslie Kong, Barrington Levy, Bob Marley (like I said, seven chapters!), Junior Murvin, Johnny Osbourne, Lee Perry (5 chapters!), Prince Buster, Ernest Ranglin, Shaggy, Sly & Robbie, Steel Pulse, The Skatalites, Toots & The Maytals, Peter Tosh, U-Roy and Bunny Wailer. I'm saying, you'll be wearing your Ph.D. Reggae Robes after reading the chapters on Jamaica's History of Great Records, Great Songs From The Golden-age of Mento Singles, Great Jamaican R&B, Great Ska Songs, Great Treasure Isle Rock Steady Songs, Great Rock Steady From Other Studios, Great Studio One Rock Steady and Reggae Instrumentals, Great Early Reggae, Great Dub, Great Mento-Reggae, Great Mento After The Golden-Age, Great Reggae Instrumentals, Great Nyabinghi and Nyabinghi-Reggae Songs, Great Roots Reggae, Great DJ Songs, Great Dub Poetry, Great Jamaica Jazz, The Birth of Dancehall, Great Dancehall, and if you remember some of those tunes that were difficult to assign to any one particular category, you'll love the chapter on Great Songs That Are Difficult to Categorize! No foolin'!

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