Reference Books

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Editor


Almost two decades ago, a professor of music theory told this reviewer how he chuckled when thinking of music stu-

dents busily working on music analyses, unaware that right next door in the library, there was a book that could help them find all the answers. What was that illuminating text? It was Arthur Wenk’s Analyses of Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century Music, 1940–1985 (Music Library Association, 1987). Well-known and well-used by music scholars since its first iteration in 1975, it was an essential reference book for any music collection. This most recent update by D. J. Hoek, providing access to analyses through 2000, will undoubtedly be welcomed by music researchers, librarians, and students alike.

In this publication, which subsumes Wenk’s 1987 work, Hoek provides the researcher with citations for “writings through 2000 that address form, harmony, melody, rhythm, and other structural aspects of music by composers of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries” (xxv). This index is not limited to journal literature or the English language; citations to Festschriften, books, and dissertations are included, and entries additionally represent German, Italian, French, and other European musical scholarship. The book is efficiently organized—alphabetically by composer—and easy to use. While one might question the value of a print index in this digital age, the speed with which reliable, relevant information can be retrieved from this book will convince any skeptic.

What is generally not included here, as Hoek states in his introduction, are analyses of music outside of the western art tradition, such as popular music, jazz, and world music. Nevertheless, this resource is, as was its predecessors, an essential reference tool for any collection supporting undergraduate or graduate music programs. Highly recommended.—Kristina Lampe Shanton, Music Librarian, Ithaca College, Ithaca, New York


The goal of the second annual edition of Asian Americans: A Statistical Sourcebook is to serve as a one-volume reference source for statistics about this American ethnic group. According to the publisher, it is “not intended as a detailed research tool, but rather as a ready reference source, the first place to turn” (xix). The volume is one of Information Publications’ American Profile Series, which includes other volumes of statistical compilations about Black Americans and Hispanic Americans.

A lengthy introduction discusses the intent of the book, defines the term Asian (as self-identified), and suggests the intended audience (anyone interested in these particular statistics). The statistics themselves are all from the U.S. federal government: the various censuses, the American Community Survey, the U.S. Department of Justice, the U.S. Department of Labor, Statistical Abstract of the United States (U.S. G.P.O., 1879–present), and some census estimates. There are two categories of sources: complete count data and survey information.