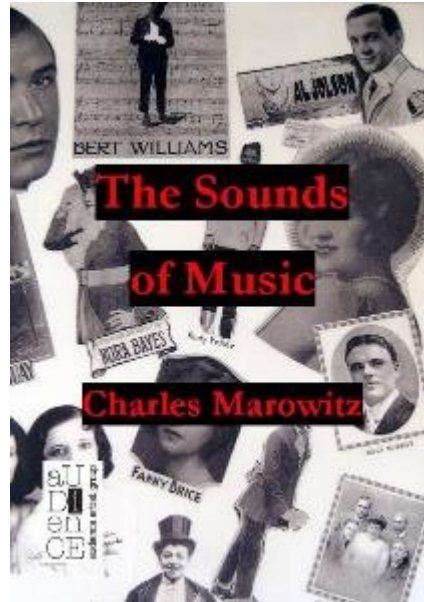




World Audience, Inc.
A Literary Press
is pleased to announce the new release of



The Sounds of Music: Early Recording Artists
by **Charles Marowitz**

ISBN: 978-0-9820540-4-8, Price: \$25

The music of America was finitely captured for the first time in the late 19th century when Thomas Edison's invention of the phonograph made music tangibly accessible bringing the voices of celebrated artists into the parlors of millions of American homes. In the early years of the 20th century, this musical boom was the equivalent of the computerized revolution of our own era. For the first time, all of America could play and re-play the recorded 'sounds of music', a boon which had been denied to past generations. THE SOUNDS OF MUSIC: EARLY RECORDING ARTISTS is a personalized view of some of the most charismatic artists of this fertile period of American music.

The book provides sharp and concise profiles of legendary artists such as Al Jolson, Eddie Cantor, Billy Murray, Ada Jones, Sophie Tucker, Fannie Brice, Eva Tanguay, Nora Bayes, Rudy Vallee, The Boswell Sisters and dozens of other outstanding recording artists of the period. It also fills in the social milieu in which these artists rose to prominence reflecting the spirit of both the roaring Twenties and the turbulent Thirties. It is a book for anyone who has ever fallen in love with a ballad, blues, torch-song or novelty number out of the great American Song Book.

“An indispensable reference book – well-written, too, unlike so many of those arid list books assembled by nerdy, if useful, aficionados. This is, refreshingly, about songs and singers rather than matrix numbers and record labels. I know of no other book that gathers together so professionally and humanely such an array of pioneer recording artists, all deserving to be brought back to life. In the Marowitz magic hands a musty curtain is ripped down to reveal an army of fresh gleaming songsters who, with strong melodies and barrel chests, are ready to do battle with today's boastful hip-hoppers and slushy ballad peddlers.”

– Ian Whitcomb, *After The Ball, Irving Berlin & Ragtime America*, Rock Odyssey

“A delightful collection of stories and little known facts about the great recording personalities of the past. It deserves a special place on every personality collector's shelf.”

– Milt Larsen, “Hear Them Again – For the First Tim”, CRN Radio. Founder, The Magic Castle

“Listening to old 78s is a most enjoyable experience for those of us who love the music, the era and the records themselves. But an intimate knowledge of the artists who made those recordings allows for a much greater appreciation of the music. The biographical vignettes in Marowitz's book serve to illuminate these fascinating personalities within their own cultural and historical settings. A very entertaining work!”

– Kurt Nauck, *owner & director of Nauck's Vintage Records*

“Charles Marowitz promises to analyse and celebrate the music and musicians from the early years of recording, but he does far more than provide us merely with fond criticism and nostalgia. He documents the work of legends such as Billy Murray, Eva Tanguay, Fannie Brice and Van and Schenck but also finds space for Britishers such as cross-dressing Vesta Tilley and American-style vocalist Elsie Carlisle. He discusses groups, such as the Brox and Boswell Sisters, and also non-familial groupings such as the Revelers whose understanding of rhythmic style is lassic. This remarkable volume, which does not fall easily into any obvious category, interweaves the development of early 20th century entertainment as exemplified by the phonograph record with stories on a very select group of artists, and includes the most detailed, personal history of the Edison Phonograph that I have ever read. It is an affectionate and intelligent tribute to an age when recording meant a cylinder or a disc and not a CD or an internet download.”

– Anthony Slide, *The Vaudevillians, The Encyclopedia of Vaudeville, Silent Players, & etc.*

“A worthy collection historic show business biographies that chronicles the careers of entertainers and recording artists covering the days of minstrels, ragtime, jazz and early swing. Emphasis is rightly given to past icons including Sophie Tucker, Eva Tanguay, Eddie Cantor, Fanny Brice and Al Jolson. However, I was especially pleased to find a few overlooked performers such as Al Bernard and Irving

Kaufman included here. This is an interesting and informative Read.”

– Jim Bedoian, producer, ‘Take Two’ Records

“Today's wide wonderful world of recorded music first took shape in the early years of the 20th century, long before the Internet, TV, or even radio. Charles Marowitz tells the fascinating stories of the pioneering singers, musicians and comedians who established the phonograph as the world's first mass audio medium.”

– *Dr. Demento, Syndicated Radio Personality*

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AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



CHARLES MAROWITZ is the author of over thirty books, including works on acting and theatre as well as plays, reviews, memoirs and biographies. His works include: ‘HOW TO STAGE A PLAY (Amadeus-Press, Limelight Editions); under the imprint of Applause Books: THE OTHER CHEKHOV, the first English-language biography of Michael Chekhov, ROAR OF THE CANON: KOTT & MAROWITZ ON SHAKESPEARE, PROSPERO’S STAFF, ALARUMS & EXCURSIONS, STAGE DUST, THE OTHER WAY, SEX WARS, etc. etc. MAROWITZ was a close collaborator with Peter Brook at the ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY acting as Assistant Director on the Paul Scofield KING LEAR and Co-director on the ‘THEATRE OF CRUELTY SEASON at LAMDA. He is also the Founding Artistic Director of The OPEN SPACE THEATRE in London and one of the few people to successfully combine drama-criticism, playwriting, and a career in stage-direction. His play SHERLOCK’S LAST CASE, after winning the Louis B. Mayer Playwriting Award was presented on

Broadway starring Frank Langella. His free adaptations of Shakespeare collected under the rubric THE MAROWITZ SHAKESPEARE, are performed worldwide. His play MURDERING MARLOWE premiered at the Malibu Stage Company, a theatre originally founded by Marowitz in 1990. It received its British premiere in 2008. His latest work for the stage, SILENT PARTNERS, an adaptation of Eric Bentley's 'The Brecht Memoir', premiered at the Scena Theatre in Washington, D.C. in 2006 and is being published by Dramatists Play Service. Marowitz is currently a regular columnist on www.SWANS.com.

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