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Feeding Back: Conversations With Alternative Guitarists From Proto-Punk To Post-Rock



Synopsis

Feeding Back: Conversations with Alternative Guitarists from Proto-Punk to Post-Rock offers a counter-history of rock music through the lens of interviews with musicians including Richard Thompson, J Mascis, James Williamson, Bob Mould, Tom Verlaine, Lydia Lunch, Lee Ranaldo, Johnny Marr, and John Frusciante. Individually, the book's in-depth discussions explore these subjects' ideas and innovations; taken together, they document an alternative-guitar tradition with roots in free jazz, punk, avant-garde, folk, and garage rock styles. Of all the conversations in *Feeding Back*, the most compelling is the one among the guitarists themselves, the way they both influence and respond to each other while redefining the instrument and the rock genre. From the proto-punk of the Stooges to the post-punk of Sonic Youth, from the krautrock of Neu! to the post-rock of Tortoise, the book charts this alternative thread as it makes its way through rock guitar from the late '60s to the present.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

David Todd pulls off the difficult task of getting people to talk about themselves and their work while not getting in the way. It's great to read interviews with the likes of modern guitar explorers including Richard Thompson, Bob Mould, Tom Verlaine, and my favorite, Keith Levene. Some of the discussion focus on the playing, others on events and circumstances, but all are interesting. Todd steers the discussions well. There's not a whole lot of gear-head nuts-and-bolts details; what you get is insight into how some musical pioneers think about their craft.

Blah, a guitarist book. It probably consists of the same people repeating the same stuff over again, and photos of them in macho poses....well, NOT THIS ONE. This is a set of interviews with 26 guitarists who are making their own rules; of both genders. Unique, insightful and deep.

This book is a must-read for guitarists and music lovers who feel alienated by the gear and technique fetish of most guitar-related publications. It's a series of thoughtful, extended interviews with a idiosyncratic guitars from the proto-punk (Lenny Kaye, Wayne Kramer), art-punk (Tom Verlaine!, Lee Ranaldo), no-wave, post-punk (Johnny Marr!), and sui generis (Richard Thompson!) traditions. If you are interested in strange, noisy, sometimes lovely guitar sounds made in deliberate opposition to the blues-rock guitar hero tradition, you will likely find something interesting in this book. It should be sufficient just to list a few more names, with exclamation points: Bob Mould! J. Mascis! Both Kim and Kelley Deal! Michio Kurihara! Michael Rother! I also learned about several musicians I've not heard but whose interviews make me curious enough to seek out. Very little in the way of gear or technique discussion, but Mr. Todd is a very well-informed interviewer, much like Simon Reynolds. Even if you're not a guitar obsessive, this goes well on a bookshelf next to *Our Band Could Be Your Life* and Reynolds' book of post-punk interviews. Wishful thinking, but I'd love to see a second volume (might I suggest Carrie Brownstein, Nels Cline, Johnny Greenwood?)

I was looking for a book like this since long time ago. The book is mainly a series of interviews with pre-punk and post-punk guitarists but it doesn't matter what kind of instrument or music or branch of art is about. It's in essence about the search of inspiration, the sources of creation, and the attitude of those who broke with the standards of their time and found their own voice. My kindle copy is almost completely yellow with highlights. A gem.

I bought it as a Christmas gift for my friend, but it came earlier and i decided to give it away before the holiday. Well to be honest my friend was astonished, although he had never seen anything of a kind before, he said he loved it. Each guitar player or non-guitar player with passion for good music should buy it. It's worth reading , as you actually start to understand what music means for exact person-guitarist and later you manage to create your own point of view based on what you have read.

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