

Passport to the Future: The Amazing Life and Sounds of Electronic Pop Music Pioneer Jean-Jacques Perrey



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Reviews

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(Lawrence Keeling)

PASSPORT TO THE FUTURE: THE AMAZING LIFE AND SOUNDS OF ELECTRONIC POP MUSIC PIONEER JEAN-JACQUES PERREY

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Sterling Swan Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 312 pages. Dimensions: 8.8in. x 6.0in. x 0.8in. You might not know the name Jean-Jacques Perrey, but chances are that you've heard his music. It's been everywhere: on commercials, in cartoons, and Top 40 hits. It's been sampled by over 70 hip-hop artists including Ice T, Dr. Dre and A Tribe Called Quest. Even the Beatles sampled his music. Just this year, his music was recently used in an episode of South Park, and in a television commercial for NFL Fantasy Football. For nearly 40 years his Baroque Hoedown tune (with Gershon Kingsley) has been featured in Disneylands much-loved Main Street Electrical Parade. This book chronicles Perreys musical transformation from being just another young accordion player in France, to eventually becoming a pioneer of electronic pop music. By chance, as a young man, Perrey came upon a new French-invented electronic keyboard instrument called the Ondioline, and soon he became its chief salesperson. While demonstrating the instrument all over Europe, in the late 1950s, he was discovered by legendary French chanteuse Edith Piaf. She became Perreys mentor, and arranged for Perrey to travel to America, where he quickly became a musical innovator at the forefront of the synthesizer revolution. (Perrey was the second musician to own and record with a Moog synthesizer.) In the 60s, Perrey also recorded four albums for Vanguard Records, which are now considered electronic pop masterpieces. With their whimsical electronic sounds and catchy melodies, Perreys albums still stand the test of time, unlike other Moog albums of the same period. His musical playfulness and most of all, his sense of humor make Perreys music both clever and memorable. Long before computers and digital technology, Perrey devised an ingenious method of sampling, using recording...



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