



The Rough Guide Rock: The Definitive Guide to More than 1200 Artists and Bands (3rd Edition: Expanded and Completely Revised)

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The third edition of "The Rough Guide to Rock" is more extensive than ever. It features over 3000 album reviews, 1200 biographies, 300 original images and 268 classic album covers, covering all areas of rock music and touching on the fringes of dance, hip-hop, blues, country and soul. Compiled by a group of music journalists and enthusiastic fans, this is the guide that is not afraid to say what's hot and what's not.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Compact discs make great gifts--they're easy to wrap, they won't break the bank (depending on how many you buy), and everyone loves music. *Rough Guide's* rock encyclopedia contains a thousand plus entries covering every phase of rock, from R&B through punk and soul to hip-hop. It's also great to browse, with more interesting details about Little Richard and the Everly Brothers than you ever would have thought to ask. Included are career biographies of more than 1,000 bands and artists, with more than 5,000 CD recommendations.

Review

"Sexy, all-conquering guide with big, brash entries written by opinionated maniacs" The Guardian "Unafraid to stick its neck out for the sake of passion" Q magazine "Indispensable, better than ever. Indispensable." The Independent

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Introduction

The Rough Guide to Rock is an unusual book: it is written by the people who know the music best - fans, rather than professional critics - and its huge number of contributors (see page opposite) means that it is based upon multiple lifetimes of interest, experience and enthusiasm. Which is not to say that you'll find articles of slavish devotion in the pages following. When the music turns to dust, our writers say so as fervently as they champion the triumphs.

The book is unusual, too, in its relation to the Internet. The first edition (1996) was commissioned partly from adverts in the press and partly through the Net, where we posted entries as a work-in-progress. This new (1999) edition has been developed almost entirely on and through the Net and, as the project has grown more interactive, fans, and often the artists themselves, have contributed updates and corrections, and fought their corners for the inclusion of neglected or forgotten bands.

Like everyone else who's ever done a rock book, or a rock magazine, we found ourselves locked right from square one in the 'But Is It Rock?' debate. Sure, we all had the same basic idea of what constitutes the term (noisy, guitar-based stuff, in the main, from America and Britain), but, as the decades have rolled on, the edges have become ever more blurred. We wanted a book with its feet firmly in the present, that gave at least as much space to indie/alternative groups as to the MTV/radio establishment. But we also wanted a book that reflected rock's history, and might introduce new audiences to enduring or seminal figures from decades past. So we made decisions to include key rock'n'roll, R&B, Motown and soul musicians - people who retain an influence in the rock world. And we decided to fade in and out of hip-hop, rap, dance, techno and country areas, again focusing on bands exerting a rock influence or with a rock audience. Given the constraints of space, we opted to exclude 'world music' and reggae: a rare, easy decision, as we have separate books on both. Oh, and we broke all of our rules just whenever it seemed appropriate. Which was basically when our burgeoning roster of authors sent us pieces that fired up our enthusiasm.

It's for that reason that you'll find surprising choices in this book. There are not too many other rock books that include pieces on To Rococo Rot or Slapp Happy alongside Slade, The Rolling Stones, Nirvana, Smokey Robinson and Neil Young. Still, their proponents made them sound interesting enough for us to

feature, and we hope some of you will feel moved to check them out. We hope, too, that readers of the previous edition will enjoy discovering the 200 or so completely new entries in this book. We've re-evaluated a whole bunch of stuff - we're still wondering how we managed to print a rock book without Run-DMC or The Monks - and, driven by a barrage of email, have welcomed into the fold some of the rockier 'electronica' acts, the stompier 1970s glitter-pop acts, and even a drop more Gothic rock (we're suckers for entries that arrive written in blood).

Our roster of bands now nudges the 1400 mark - even more if you include the 'what happened next' bands covered in many of the articles. There's always room for more online but, to keep the book a manageable size and weight and price, and to cram all this juicy new material into the guide, we've had to make a few cuts and harsh editorial decisions - so, gosh darn it, there's still no room for the Electric Light Orchestra or Moody Blues. If you are outraged by this or any other of our exclusions, don't scowl at the book: write to us, send us (or email) an account that stakes the claim for a band, and we'll let you know what we think. We've set up this project with a deliberately democratic brief, and we'll be issuing another edition before the next Millennium is very old. In the meantime, of course, we hope to see you on the Net.

A note on THE Structure and ICONS

The individual entries in the guide are arranged alphabetically by band or artist, while further bands and artists (especially solo careers of key personnel) are discussed at the end of the main accounts. For an index of all bands and artists discussed at any length, turn to the Directory of Bands and Artists that begins on page 1132. Within the entries, you'll notice groups and individuals in THIS FONT, which means there's an individual entry on them which can be referred to for more detail.

The discographies at the end of each entry are listed in order of their recording dates, and the title of each disc is followed, in brackets, by the date of the original recording and the current label. Each disc is preceded by a symbol: c for an album on CD, r for one that's still only issued on vinyl. To make sense of the quantity of discs, we've been selective: the number of album recommendations are to some extent a reflection of status, though with younger bands and artists we've often included reviews of everything to date.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Desiree Thorne:

The ability that you get from *The Rough Guide Rock: The Definitive Guide to More than 1200 Artists and Bands (3rd Edition: Expanded and Completely Revised)* could be the more deep you rooting the information that hide in the words the more you get enthusiastic about reading it. It does not mean that this book is hard to know but *The Rough Guide Rock: The Definitive Guide to More than 1200 Artists and Bands (3rd Edition: Expanded and Completely Revised)* giving you joy feeling of reading. The writer conveys their point in particular way that can be understood through anyone who read the item because the author of this publication is well-known enough. This book also makes your personal vocabulary increase well. So it is easy to understand then can go together with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We propose you for having this *The Rough Guide Rock: The Definitive Guide to More than 1200 Artists and Bands (3rd Edition: Expanded and Completely Revised)* instantly.

Christopher Olsen:

Reading can be called a mind hangout, why? Because while you are reading a book especially a book entitled *The Rough Guide Rock: The Definitive Guide to More than 1200 Artists and Bands (3rd Edition: Expanded and Completely Revised)* your head will drift away through every dimension, wandering in each and every aspect that maybe unknown for but surely can be your mind friends. Imagining each word written in a guide then become one type of conclusion and explanation that maybe you never get just before. *The Rough Guide Rock: The Definitive Guide to More than 1200 Artists and Bands (3rd Edition: Expanded and Completely Revised)* giving you yet another experience more than blown away your head but also giving you useful details for your better life with this era. So now let us teach you the relaxing pattern is your body and mind will probably be pleased when you are finished looking at it, like winning a. Do you want to try this extraordinary wasting spare time activity?

Sherrill Height:

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Wilma Richards:

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