



Repeated Takes: A Short History of Recording and its Effects on Music

By Michael Chanan

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Repeated Takes is the first general book on the history of the recording industry, covering the entire field from Edison's talking tin foil of 1877 to the age of the compact disc.

Michael Chanan considers the record as a radically new type of commodity which turned the intangible performance of music into a saleable object, and describes the upset which this caused in musical culture. He asks: What goes on in a recording studio? How does it affect the music? Do we listen to music differently because of reproduction?

Repeated Takes relates the growth and development of the industry, both technically and economically; the effects of the microphone on interpretation in both classical and popular music; and the impact of all these factors on musical styles and taste. This highly readable book also traces the connections between the development of recording and the rise of new forms of popular music, and discusses arguments among classical musicians about microphone technique and studio practice.

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- Sales Rank: #910225 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Verso
- Published on: 1995-05-17
- Released on: 1995-05-17
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 10.85" h x .50" w x 8.25" l, 1.09 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 214 pages

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Editorial Review

Review

“*Repeated Takes* is an informed journey through the parts that other music books rarely reach. It tells a story of technology, industrial change and corporate warfare. It is a fascinating book rich in reference.”—Stuart Cosgrove, *Channel Four Television*

About the Author

Michael Chanan is a filmmaker, writer and teacher. He has written books on various aspects of film and music, including *Repeated Takes*, *The Dream that Kicks* and *The Cuban Image*.

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