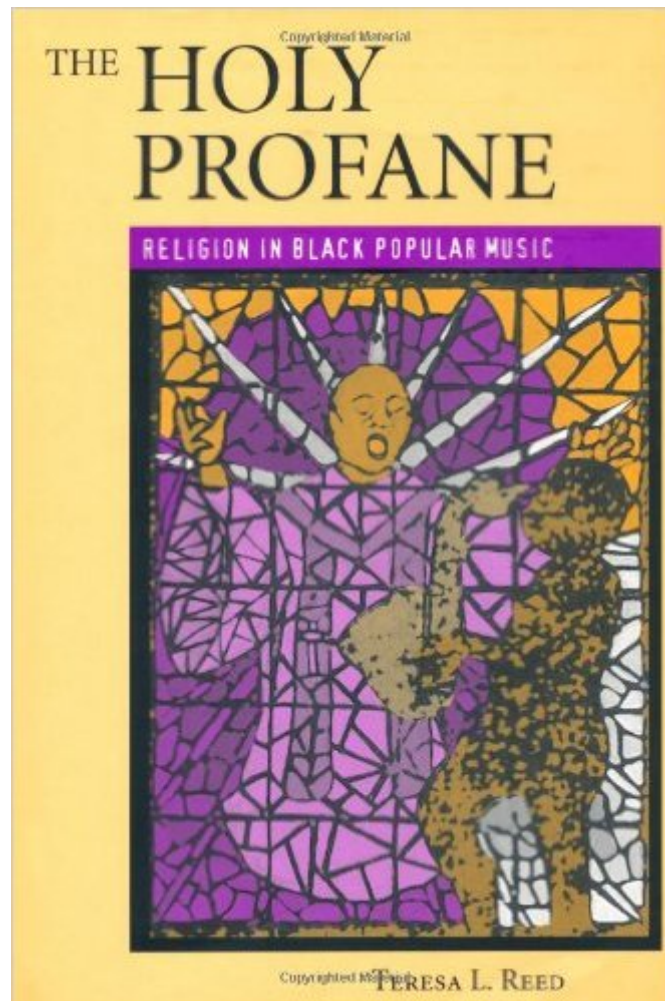


The book was found

The Holy Profane: Religion In Black Popular Music



Synopsis

Winner of the 2004 ARSC Award for Best Research in Recorded Rock, Rhythm & Blues or Soul, *The Holy Profane* explores the strong presence of religion in the secular music of twentieth-century African American artists as diverse as Rosetta Tharpe, Sam Cooke, Stevie Wonder, Marvin Gaye, Earth, Wind & Fire, and Tupac Shakur. Analyzing lyrics and the historical contexts which shaped those lyrics, Teresa L. Reed examines the link between West-African musical and religious culture and the way African Americans convey religious sentiment in styles such as the blues, rhythm and blues, soul, funk, and gangsta rap. She looks at Pentecostalism and black secular music, minstrelsy and its portrayal of black religion, the black church, "crossing over" from gospel to R&B, images of the black preacher, and the salience of God in the rap of Tupac Shakur. Traditionally, west European culture has drawn distinct divisions between the secular and the sacred in music. Liturgical music belongs in church, not on pop radio, and artists who fuse the two are guilty of sacrilege. In the West-African worldview, however, both music and the divine permeate every imaginable part of life—so much so that concepts like sacred and secular were entirely foreign to African slaves arriving in the colonies. The Western influence on African Americans eventually resulted in more polarization between these two musical forms, and black musicians who grew up singing in church were often lamented as hellbound once they found popular success. Even these artists, however, never completely left behind their West-African musical ancestry. Reed's exploration of this trend in African American music connects the work of today's artists to their West-African ancestry—a tradition that over two-hundred years of Western influence could not completely stamp out.

Book Information

Hardcover: 200 pages

Publisher: University Press of Kentucky; First Edition edition (January 2, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0813122554

ISBN-13: 978-0813122557

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.6 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (1 customer review)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,800,692 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #413 in [Books > Arts &](#)

[Photography > Music > Musical Genres > Ethnic & International > Ethnic](#) #422 in [Books > Arts &](#)

[Photography > Music > Musical Genres > Soul](#) #637 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Music >](#)

Musical Genres > Rap

Customer Reviews

A fascinating book for everyone! I learned so much!

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Holy Profane: Religion in Black Popular Music Memory, Music, and Religion: Morocco's Mystical Chanters (Studies in Comparative Religion) Five Percenter Rap: God Hop's Music, Message, and Black Muslim Mission (Profiles in Popular Music) Confessions Of A Heretic: The Sacred And The Profane: Behemoth And Beyond Sacred Gifts, Profane Pleasures: A History of Tobacco and Chocolate in the Atlantic World The Sacred and the Profane Caravaggio: A Life Sacred and Profane Calm: Make Today Your Bitch the Epic Profane Adult Coloring Book: Swear Word finds Swear Fun Way - Swearword for Stress Relief Hell: The Dogma of Hell, Illustrated by Facts Taken from Profane and Sacred History The Intimate Universal: The Hidden Porosity Among Religion, Art, Philosophy, and Politics (Insurrections: Critical Studies in Religion, Politics, and Culture) Santeria: the Religion: Faith, Rites, Magic (Llewellyn's World Religion & Magick) Buddhism the Religion of No-Religion (Alan Watts Love of Wisdom) Acute Melancholia and Other Essays: Mysticism, History, and the Study of Religion (Gender, Theory, and Religion) Magic Witchcraft and Religion: A Reader in the Anthropology of Religion Mass and the Sacraments: A Course in Religion Book II (A Course in Religion for Catholic High Schools and Academies Ser.) When Religion Becomes Lethal: The Explosive Mix of Politics and Religion in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam Spirit Possession and Popular Religion: From the old world to the new world: Origins of the Shakers Rehras Sahib - English Translation and Transliteration: Sikh Religion Prayer, Holy Scriptures Black Noise: Rap Music and Black Culture in Contemporary America (Music/Culture) Five Percenter Rap: God Hop's Music, Message, and Black Muslim Mission (Profiles in Popular)

[Dmca](#)