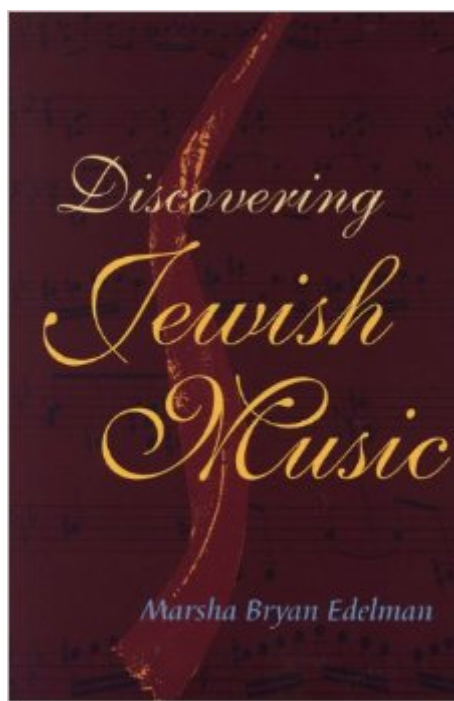


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# Discovering Jewish Music



## Synopsis

Most of us have experienced Jewish music, whether it's through synagogue attendance, a bar mitzvah celebration, a klezmer concert, or the playing of Hava Nagila at a baseball game. The many different kinds of Jewish music are reflected by the multitude of Jewish communities throughout the world, each having its own unique set of experiences and values. This book puts the music into a context of Jewish history, philosophy, and sociology. Edelman begins 3,000 years ago, with a discussion of music in the Bible, and then examines the nature of folk and liturgical music in the three major Diaspora communities that evolved over centuries, after the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem. From there, she explores music of the 20th century, including the explosion of popular music in North America and Israel and its impact on Jews and their musical identities.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (5 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

Discovering Jewish Music by Marsha Bryan Edelman (Professor of Music and Education, Gratz College, Melrose Park, Pennsylvania, and President of the Zamir Choral Foundation) takes the reader on an informed and informative tour of Jewish music as reflected through 4000 years of history. An accompanying audio CD enhances the intelligent, accessible, scholarly text written for readers of all backgrounds. An impressive and very strongly recommended contribution to Judaic Studies and Cultural Music History collections, Discovering Jewish Music ranges from ancient music related artifacts down to Judaic musical expressions of the 20th century.

Great intro book for Jewish music, presented from a historical perspective. Musical examples are numerous, well-chosen, and extremely well documented: not only are some of them provided with the accompanying CD but there is also a pretty long list of references provided at the end of the book. The book itself manages to be both specific in its language, yet retain a high accessibility for lay people. In terms of the material it covers, I simply regret that it doesn't delve more on the musical modes of the ashkenazi and the sefardi liturgical traditions.

Excellent scholarly history of Jewish Music, or music history from a Jewish Lens. Could be written easier to read as much of the writing is tedious. It has lots of great information. Basically written as a dry textbook. The information is exciting. Would like to find a better written book on subject.

I didn't expect to like this book as much as I do. I only ordered it because it had the words to a song I was looking for. I opened it to the song, and then read a little more...and then half an hour disappeared without my noticing, I was just drawn in. It's very broad in the scope of its research; the author is clearly knowledgeable. But it's written in an interesting, accessible way, so that you learn about culture and history and all kinds of unexpected things that swirl around the music in its times and places.

Very good and informative. Well written by and easy to follow.

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