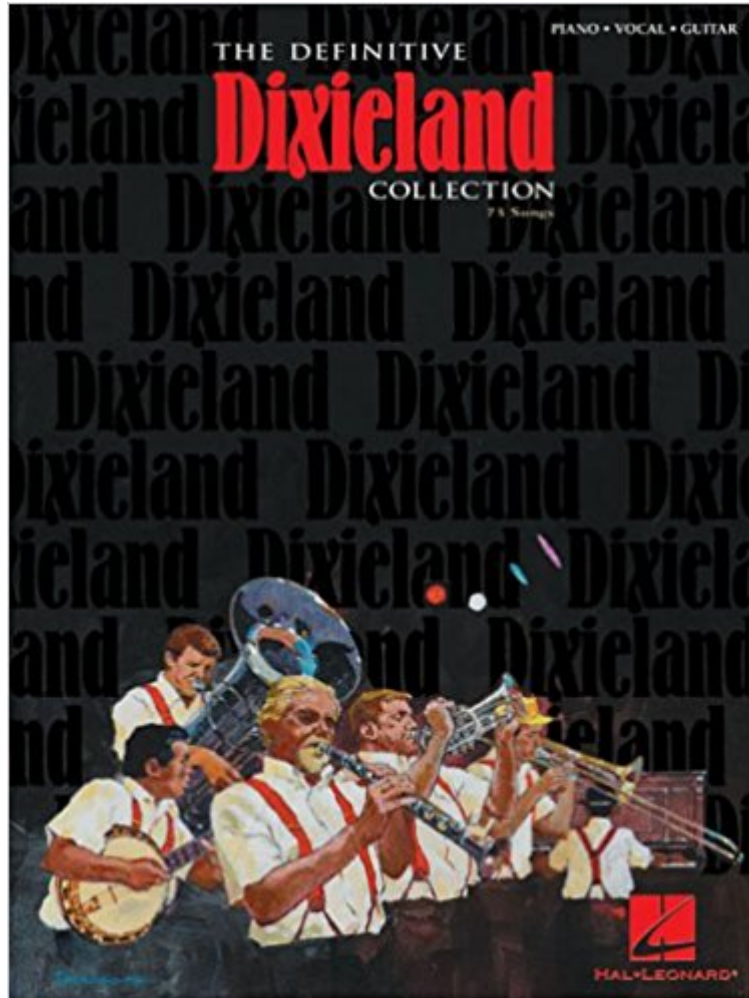


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The Definitive Dixieland Collection (Definitive Collections)



Synopsis

Over 70 Dixieland classics, including: Ain't Misbehavin' * Alexander's Ragtime Band * Basin Street Blues * Bill Bailey, Won't You Please Come Home? * Dinah * Do You Know What It Means to Miss New Orleans? * I Ain't Got Nobody * King Porter Stomp * Shreveport Stomp * When the Saints Go Marching In * and more.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This collection of one of the earliest forms of jazz provides some ancient tunes that nevertheless keep people's feet moving decades later. Many of the 73 tunes will be familiar to those who have spent even a second in New Orleans. Scattered throughout are also some venerable blues. Anyone looking for the written notes of some of the songs featured in Ken Burns' "Jazz" can find many here, including "Livery Stable Blues" and "Maple Leaf Rag." The only complaint is that some of the arrangements are written in a poor key or have been overly simplified. Nevertheless, you won't be disappointed. Songs included: After You've Gone/ Ain't Misbehavin'/ Alexander's Ragtime Band/ Angry/ Baby, Won't You Please Come Home/ Ballin' the Jack/ Basin Street Blues/ Beale Street Blues/ Bill Bailey, Won't You Please Come Home/ Black Bottom Stomp/ Blues My Naughty Sweetie Gives to Me/ Bugle Call Rag/ The Chant/ Climax Rag/ Copenhagen/ Dallas Blues/ Darktown Shuffle/ Deep Henerson/ Dinah/ Do You Know What It Means to Miss New Orleans/ Doctor Jazz/ Everybody Loves My Baby/ Farewell Blues/ Frog-I-More Rag/ A Good Man is Hard to Find/ Grandpa's Spells/ High Society/ Honeysuckle Rose/ I Ain't Got Nobody/ I Wish I Could Shimmy Like

My Sister Kate/ I'm Gonna Sit Right Down and Write Myself a Letter/ I've Found a New Baby/ Ida (Sweet as Apple Cider)/ Indiana (Back Home Again in Indiana)/ The Jazz-Me Blues/ Kansas City Stomp/ King Porter Stomp/Livery Stable Blues/ Mahogany Hall Stomp/ Mama's Gone, Goodbye/ Maple Leaf Rag/ Melancholy/ Milenberg Joys/Mississippi Mud/ Muskrat Ramble/ My Honey's Lovin' Arms/ Original Dixieland One-Step/ Ory's Creole Trombone/ The Pearls/ Rosetta/ Royal Garden Blues/ San/ Shreveport Stomps/ Sidewalk Blues/ Sobbin' Blues/ Some of these Days/ St.

This is a fine collection of tunes. Not all are what I would call "Dixieland." Many are simply pop tunes of the Dixieland era. But I suppose the argument could be made that ANY pop tune, if played by a Dixieland band, then becomes a Dixieland tune. Regardless, this is fine collection. Some of the choices struck me as odd. For example, the version of Jelly Roll Morton's "Wolverine Blues" is James Dapogny's painstakingly precise transcription of one of Morton's recordings of the piece from a 1982 collection jointly published by G. Schirmer and the Smithsonian Institution Press. Dapogny did an amazing job, but you have to be a pretty damn good pianist to be able to play it, let alone approximate Morton's sound. I should think a simpler version might have better served the buyer of this folio. (This version also lists the lyricists of the song, but there are no lyrics, since this is a piano transcription.) "That's a Plenty" is the song version, which is fine. But I myself would have preferred a reproduction of the original piano solo from 1914. I read somewhere that Ray Gilbert, who wrote the lyrics, was something like two years old when the piano solo was published! There are other problems that I have with the choices, but in all it's a wonderful collection and certainly helped fill out my library. Editor Ronny Schiff gives credit to Tex Wyndham, who wrote the foreword, for being "extremely helpful in advising on and validating the choice of tunes in this book." That could mean he only gave advice on titles, not necessarily which versions were chosen. I know (or knew) Tex, and he has an incredible vintage sheet music collection. He could well have supplied Schiff with everything in this collection, but I doubt it, because I don't think he would have made some of the choices I mention.

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