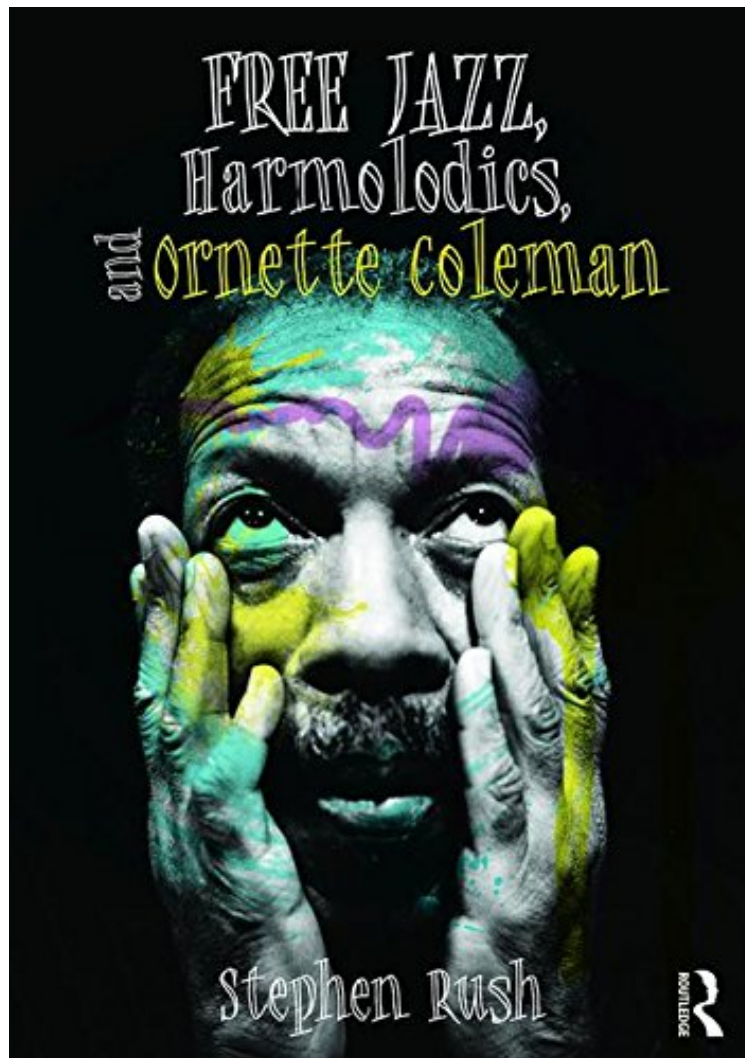


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Free Jazz, Harmolodics, and Ornette Coleman

Stephen Rush

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Stephen Rush : Free Jazz, Harmolodics, and Ornette Coleman before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Free Jazz, Harmolodics, and Ornette Coleman:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Priceless! By Steve Swell This book is a game changer for all who care about music, art and how and why one should pursue one's individual course while acknowledging a group/human/community dynamic to all we do. So many years people have been dissecting harmolodics making it complicated and ultimately missing the mark. Here it is laid out in Master Coleman's own words and it couldn't be more easy to understand. Harmolodics is, in one word: love. Stephen Rush has done a remarkable job in bringing to anyone who really loves Ornette's music and improvising and composing out beyond all the cliches and towards an understanding what this uniquely American genius managed through much adversity to give to all of us. 2 of 2 people

found the following review helpful. Highly recommended even if the technical part of it may be ...By Francis Taylor
This book is a reflection on Ornette's philosophy and music in a quite unusual way. Highly recommended even if the technical part of it may be difficult to understand, his voice is real and his reasoning profoundly interesting. For listeners of his music, it might be precious to learn what stands behind it and has guided him through all these years.9 of 14 people found the following review helpful. Warning- You need to be able to read Music.By jamesjazzyRating: 1 Star for me, probably 5 stars if you can read music, hence 3 stars. This book is primarily for people that know how to read music as a lot of the pages show scales, bars, chords and notes (not even sure what the technical word is it for it) but I can't read music so I'm not able to understand the book. There is some text and reading with Ornette's philosophies on life but mostly technical breakdowns of how his songs are written with direct analysis of the actual musical structure of written music....which I'm lost.

Free Jazz, Harmolodics, and Ornette Coleman discusses Ornette Coleman's musical philosophy of "Harmolodics," an improvisational system deeply inspired by the Civil Rights Movement. Falling under the guise of "free jazz," Harmolodics can be difficult to understand, even for seasoned musicians and musicologists. Yet this book offers a clear and thorough approach to these complex methods, outlining Coleman's position as the developer of a logical and historically significant system of jazz improvisation. Included here are detailed musical analyses of improvisations, accompanied by full transcriptions. Intimate interviews between the author and Coleman explore the deeper issues at work in Harmolodics, issues of race, class, sex, and poverty. The principle of human equality quickly emerges as a central tenet of Coleman's life and music. Harmolodics is best understood when viewed in its essential form, both as a theory of improvisation and as an artistic expression of racial and human equality.

"Dr. Rush's thorough investigation of Ornette's theories and performances supports the idea that innovation is the logical extension of a tradition, not a radical departure from it. The parallels to the music of Mr. Coleman's youth and the historical events surrounding Black Americans' fight for civil rights is also quite compelling." Branford Marsalis
"Free Jazz, Harmolodics, and Ornette Coleman is one of the most important books on Coleman's philosophy and music. An essential read for anyone who wants to dig deep." David Menestres, Burning Ambulance
About the Author
Stephen Rush is a Professor of Music at the University of Michigan.