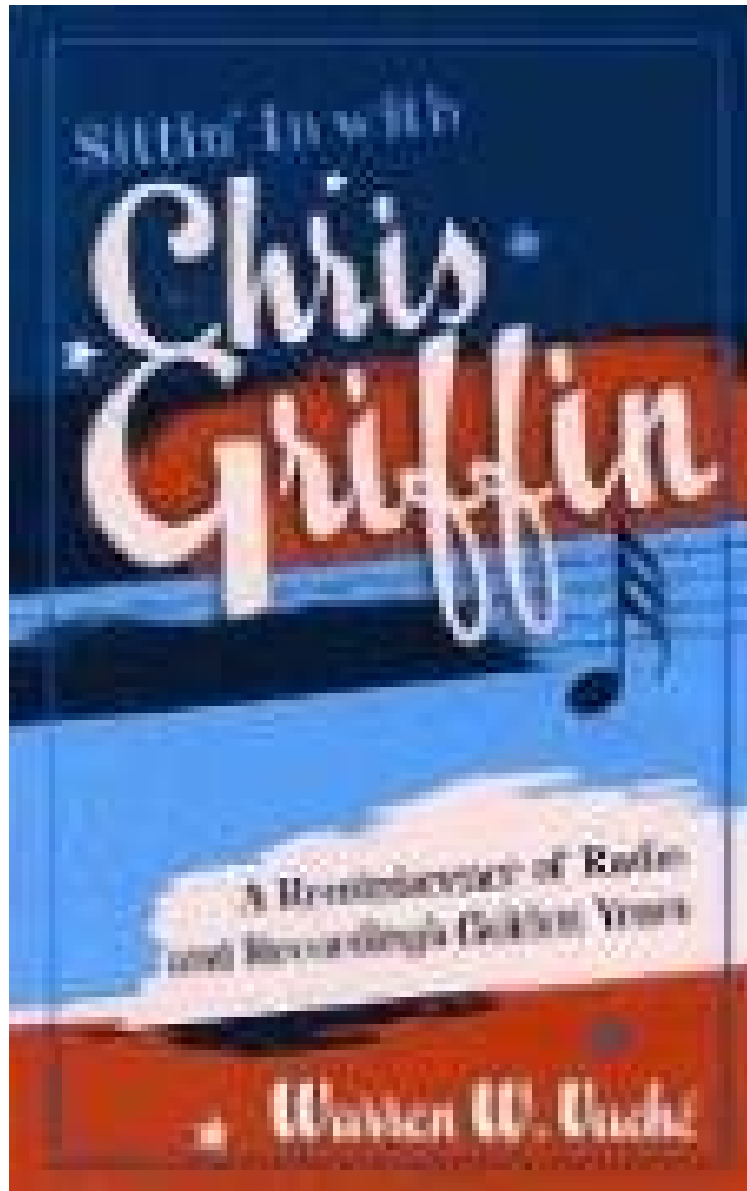


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Sittin' in with Chris Griffin: A Reminiscence of Radio and Recording's Golden Years (Studies in Jazz)

Warren W. Vach

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Warren W. Vach : Sittin' in with Chris Griffin: A Reminiscence of Radio and Recording's Golden Years (Studies in Jazz) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Sittin' in with Chris Griffin: A Reminiscence of Radio and Recording's Golden Years (Studies in Jazz)*:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. but interesting comments from someone who was in the middle of Goodmans band when it was at its best.By wwI mavenShort...but interesting comments from someone who was in the middle of Goodmans band when it was at its best.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four StarsBy A user of goodsgood easy read0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. the read was short,the price was tallBy Joseph MullinI was disappointed to say the least, I got into the book one day and it was over before I knew it.I wished for another hundred pages at least and I thought the price was over the top.

This authentic account of the Big Band Era and the Age of Swing is alive with firsthand dialogue by Chris Griffin. Vach traces the events spanning Griffin's career from his time in the Benny Goodman band with Harry James and Ziggy Elman in what Duke Ellington dubbed the best brass section of its day through his freelance years in radio, television and records where he recorded with legendary musicians such as Louis Armstrong, Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday, Tony Bennett, and Frank Sinatra. Griffin's honesty and humor shine through the text as he recalls a time when talent and dedication to quality were supreme. Seventeen photographs and an excellent discography provided by Ed Berger further the understanding of Griffin as a man and an artist.This book is ideal for music lovers, especially those with a keen interest in the big bands of the 1930s and the lives of the era's most memorable musicians.

...I'm delighted that one of the unsung heroes of the Swing Era is not forgotten... (The Jazz Rag)This small book offers Griffin's affectionate tales of Goodman, Gleason, Charlie Barnet, Frank Sinatra and others. He comes across as a modest, witty raconteur and any new first-hand testimony about those long-gone days when, for a moment, jazz was American popular music, is worth having. (All About Jazz, March 2007)This biography of trumpet player Chris Griffin collects his reminiscences of playing with the Benny Goodman band and the Ed Sullivan Show band and working with Charlie Barnet, Ziggy Elman, Frank Sinatra, Mel Torme, Dinah Shore, and Tony Martin. Black and white photographs and a discography are provided. (Reference and Research Book News)About a year ago Warren told me of his new and exciting project, the story of big band trumpeter Chris Griffin. I was so excited about the news as Mr. Griffin was a true giant of the golden age of the swing era, yet never really made the 'name status' of other trumpet stars that in many respects learned from Griffin, Ziggy Elman and Harry James included. Jazz fans everywhere rejoice in the idea that those who should be given their dues do in fact gain some of that in historical documentation such as Warren's book, released recordings or newly found concert performances. The fact that someone such as Warren was finally putting into print the story of Chris Griffin caused many to smile. And then there is the chance that people who never knew of his great sound could finally learn of it and in doing so keep it alive. This is perhaps why I write this review, because to me this book now serves as a tribute. On February 27, 2005 Murray Davison passed away, the same week his old army buddy Warren Vach passed. A few months later on June 18, 2005 Chris Griffin joined the two in a jazz reunion in the sky. This book therefore, is meaningful in several ways to those who knew the men behind this great story. (Dan Del Fiorentino, NAMM, THE INTERNATIONAL MUSIC PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION)About the AuthorThe late Warren W. Vach was a freelance writer and jazz musician. He was a co-founder and charter member of the New Jersey Jazz Society, the co-founder of the American Federation of Jazz Societies, and founder of the American Jazz Hall of Fame.