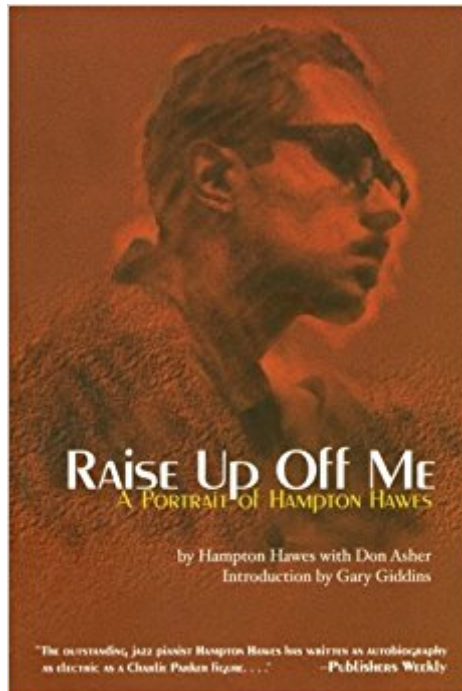




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Raise Up Off Me: A Portrait Of Hampton Hawes



Synopsis

Hampton Hawes [1928–1977] was one of jazz's greatest pianists. Among his peers from California the self-taught Hawes was second only to Oscar Peterson. At the time of his celebration as New Star of the Year by downbeat magazine (1956), Hawes was already struggling with a heroin addiction that would lead to his arrest and imprisonment, and the interruption of a brilliant career. In 1963 President John F. Kennedy granted Hawes an Executive Pardon. In eloquent and humorous language Hampton Hawes tells of a life of suffering and redemption that reads like an improbable novel. Gary Giddins has called it "a major contribution to the literature of jazz." This book includes a complete discography and eight pages of photographs.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This was a great read. The book is written in an informal, jazz-like, free-flowing style which (according to the author) mimicked Hawes's speaking style. Hamp didn't romanticize his heroin habit; he portrayed it honestly. And ultimately, he kicked, so this isn't a rise-and-fall narrative. The story is chockfull of amusing anecdotes about his adventures in the military, the New York and L.A. music scenes, and his pursuit of the fine art of jazz. I would recommend this book to anyone who is into the golden years of American jazz, the 50s and 60s.

Hampton Hawes is one of the most "underrated" jazz musicians of the all time! He was great and played with many legends of jazz!!! Is very important for all people who like jazz and wants to know

the histor, read this book!

I had never heard of Hawes and I'm too old to fully appreciate his cool jazz and I've never been into drugs, but I enjoyed the book. Read it in two sittings over two days. Its the rhythms of his speech and the atmospheres he recreates that appeal to me. Anyone who loves Miles and laterjazz musicians will find his portraits of that era appealing.

Very interesting read. Fascinating to get the inside scoop from one of bebop's legends. WRitten in an unassuming, nonchalant style.

Not many musicians end up with a Presidential pardon. Hampton Hawes deserves to be more well known than he is and this book goes a long way in telling his story. Highly recommended.

This was a spectacular read on Jazz. Hawes deserves a much higher rank in the pantheon of great piano players. This is a really cool story.

Hamp plays a mean Piano. Also, I enjoyed the read.

Outstanding. A deeply felt and deeply moving personal account from a great musician and sensitive soul

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