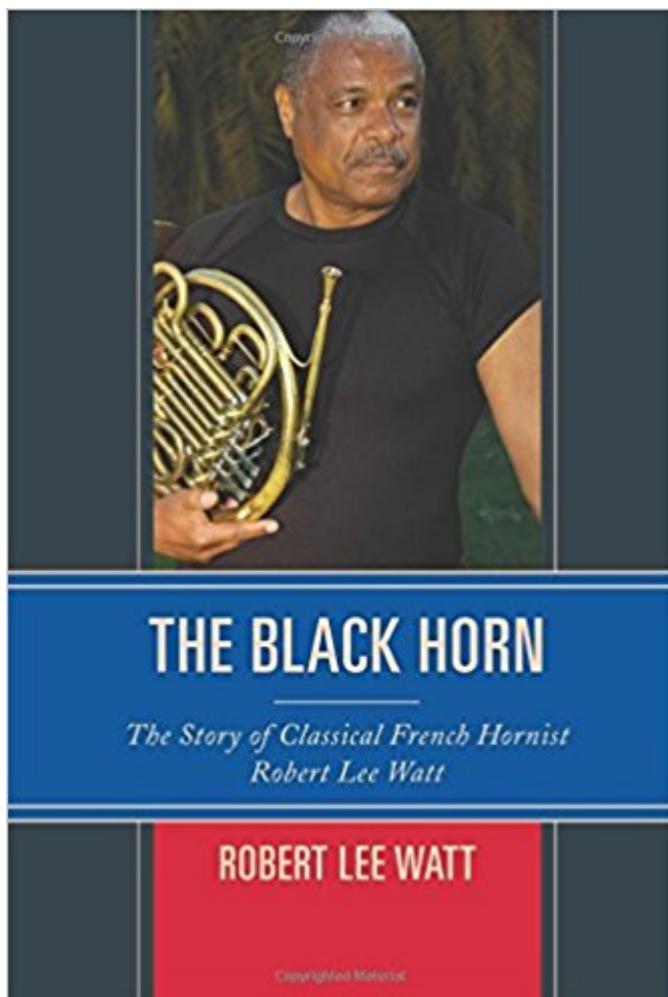


The book was found

The Black Horn: The Story Of Classical French Hornist Robert Lee Watt (African American Cultural Theory And Heritage)



Synopsis

The Black Horn: The Story of Classical French Hornist Robert Lee Watt tells the story of the first African American French Hornist hired by a major symphony in the United States. Today, few African Americans hold chairs in major American symphony orchestras, and Watt is the first in many years to write about this uniquely exhilaratingâ "and at times painfulâ "experience. The Black Horn chronicles the upbringing of a young boy fascinated by the sound of the French horn. Watt walks readers through the many obstacles of the racial climate in the United States, both on and off stage, and his efforts to learn and eventually master an instrument little considered in the African American community. Even the authorâ ™s own father, who played trumpet, sought to dissuade the young classical musician in the making. He faced opposition from within the communityâ "where the instrument was deemed by Wattâ ™s father a â œmiddle instrument suited only for thin-lipped white boysâ •â "and from without. Watt also documented his struggles as a student at a nearly all-white major music conservatory, as well as his first job in a major symphony orchestra after the conservatory canceled his scholarship. Watt subsequently chronicles his triumphs and travails as a musician when confronting the realities of race in America and the world of classical music. This book will surely interest any classical musician and student, particularly those of color, seeking to grasp the sometimes troubled history of being the only â œblack horn.â •

Book Information

Series: African American Cultural Theory and Heritage

Paperback: 300 pages

Publisher: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers; Reprint edition (February 17, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1442268719

ISBN-13: 978-1442268715

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.8 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 starsâ Â See all reviewsâ (6 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,039,314 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #97 inâ Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Instruments > Brass > French Horns #841 inâ Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Biographies > Classical #4157 inâ Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Ethnic & National > African-American & Black

Customer Reviews

My rating has nothing to do with the book. It's the price that I take issue with. There might be a few people interested in the story of Robert Watt but why would anyone other than perhaps his mother pay such an outrageous price? Me, I'll have to be content with the Kindle sample.

You know, I love classical music, and I'm also a bit of a film score geek. When I was a kid, the saxophone was my favorite horn. But then I saw Out of Africa ... and Dances with Wolves (both scores by John Barry, by the way) ... and that big bold powerful sound that lifts your spirit while you're looking out over the vast landscapes in both of those movies ... that's the French Horn. So, yeah, I'm a fan. Well, I was running an errand during my lunch break today, and drove a few blocks west to the ocean to soak in a little balmy sun. On my way back to my car, I struck up a brief conversation with a charming man. I was in a rush so I made my apologies, and he said, "The Black Horn ... it's on ." Cryptic, right? Well, I remembered that much. Long story short, the friendly gentleman I met is the man on the cover of this book! Isn't life interesting? Well, I look forward to reading this book. His is an important story in the history of Los Angeles, the history of classical music and the history of Africans in America. A pleasure meeting you today, Mr. Watt! :o)

A true story of a man's inspiration and challenges to become a black orchestral horn player 40 years ago, when playing classical music was thought to be only for white musicians. He speaks warmly of his highly influential teacher in Boston, Harry Shapiro. His detailed descriptions of preparing and taking auditions will speak to all musicians, young and old, though few musicians can relate to his making the finals of two major symphonies within a single week. Stories about orchestra and studio politics and prejudice are blunt and their message obvious. Along the way there are some spicy stories of the novelty of a black musician in a predominantly white institution. One of my favorite sections involved the natural friendship and conversations with another black horn player in New York, Jerome Ashby. More than coincidence, the younger Jerome had caught his eye when the author was walking up for an audition years before. Neither realizing that years later they would become close and important friends, and that both of them would remember that chance crossing of their paths. A vivid portrayal of overcoming challenges, both personal and societal. A good read!

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Black Horn: The Story of Classical French Hornist Robert Lee Watt (African American Cultural Theory and Heritage) J.J. Watt: The Inspirational Story of Football Superstar J.J. Watt (J.J. Watt Unauthorized Biography, Houston Texans, University of Wisconsin, NFL Books) Classical Sheet Music For French Horn With French Horn & Piano Duets Book 1: Ten Easy Classical Sheet Music

Pieces For Solo French Horn & French Horn/Piano Duets (Volume 1) Bruce Lee Striking Thoughts: Bruce Lee's Wisdom for Daily Living (Bruce Lee Library) African Masks Coloring Book: A Coloring Book Featuring Over 30 Images Inspired By Traditional African Masks,Cultural History,Folk Art Coloring Book,African Art Decor African American Haiku: Cultural Visions (Margaret Walker Alexander Series in African American Studies) Alfred French Horn Note Speller French Horn The American Heritage Essential Student Thesaurus (American Heritage Dictionary) James Watt: The Development of Steam Engines and How They Created Our Industrial Society (Scientists Who Have Changed the World) Concerto for French Horn and Orchestra Benjamin Lees - Piano Reduction and Solo Horn Part Sonata for Alto Horn Mellophone in E flat and Piano: Also French Horn or Alto Saxophone Horn Sonata in F Major, Op. 17 - Piano Score Sheet Music (French Horn/Piano) The Man Who Would Not Be Washington: Robert E. Lee's Civil War and His Decision That Changed American History African Rhythm and African Sensibility: Aesthetics and Social Action in African Musical Idioms Easy Classical French Horn & Piano Duets: Featuring music of Brahms, Beethoven, Wagner and other composers Easy Classical French Horn Solos: Featuring music of Bach, Beethoven, Wagner, Handel and other composers Easy Classical Masterworks for French Horn: Music of Bach, Beethoven, Brahms, Handel, Haydn, Mozart, Schubert, Tchaikovsky, Vivaldi and Wagner Remembering the Master: Bruce Lee, James Yimm Lee, and the Creation of Jeet Kune Do Bruce Lee: The Celebrated Life of the Golden Dragon (Bruce Lee Library) Bruce Lee: Artist of Life (Bruce Lee Library)

[Dmca](#)