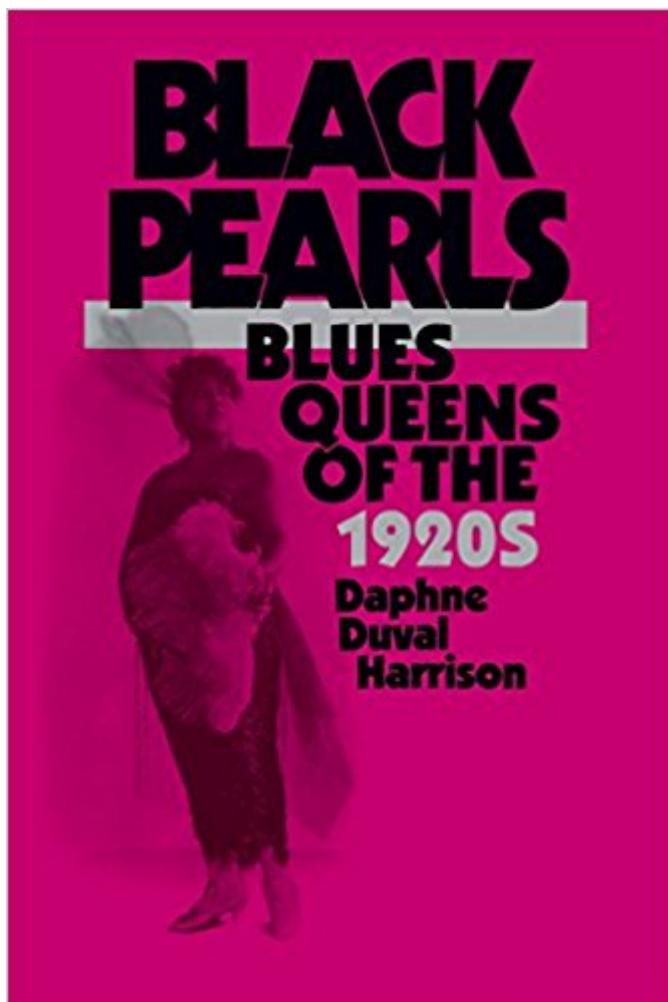


The book was found

# Black Pearls: Blues Queens Of The 1920s



## **Synopsis**

Throughout the 1920s, in tents, theaters, dance halls and cabarets, and on "race" records, black American women captivated large audiences with their singing of the blues. University of Maryland professor Harrison examines the subjects and texts of their songs, the toll these performers paid for their right to be heard, and what they did to transform a folk tradition into a popular art. She describes the singing and lifestyles of Sippie Wallace, Victoria Spivey, Edith Wilson and Alberta Hunter to illustrate how they introduced a new model of the black woman: assertive and sexy, gutsy yet tender, bereft but not downtrodden, exploited but not resentful, independent yet vulnerable. The author shows that their choice of performing style, inflection, emphasis and improvisation provided a perspective and expressiveness that profoundly affected later American popular music.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 320 pages

Publisher: Rutgers University Press; Reprint edition (March 1, 1988)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0813512808

ISBN-13: 978-0813512808

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.7 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 3 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #384,660 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #88 in Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Musical Genres > Soul #136 in Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Musical Genres > Blues #975 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Sheet Music & Scores > Forms & Genres > Popular

## **Customer Reviews**

Throughout the 1920s, in tents, theaters, dance halls and cabarets, and on "race" records, black American women captivated large audiences with their singing of the blues. "Harrison examines the subjects and texts of their songs, the toll these performers paid for their right to be heard, and what they did to transform a folk tradition into a popular art," said PW. Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Blues music spawned legendary performers whose influence has been felt in many musical forms here and around the world. Until now the important role of the great women blues singers has

largely gone unexplored. This book tells of the cultural and social impact of the blues during the 1920s when the genre was dominated by women, both on stage and on record. Harrison (Afro-American Studies Department, University of Maryland) writes with authority, focusing particularly on Sippie Wallace, Edith Wilson, Victoria Spivey, and Alberta Hunter as she analyzes the music and the collective black experience out of which it grew. A significant book, particularly for collections of music history, black studies, and women's studies. Daniel J. Lombardo, Jones Lib., Amherst, Mass. Copyright 1988 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This was a great, look at the early history of Blues music. A must for folks interested in important figures in music in general (without the Blues, there'd be no Rock) and wondering where all the ladies are.

Great!

Did you know that women were the first popular blues singers? Black Pearls explores the pioneering women who in the 20's changed the record industry and music as we know it. Having read a few blues books by now, I found that portions in the introductory sections lacked the sort of awe-inspiring insight that makes for an excellent blues book. And my attention span had me skipping half-way through the chapter on lyrical analysis. However, once I got to the sections that focus on the individual performers, this book excelled. There are many who seem hellbent on denying these particular women a hallowed place in the history of popular music (read Alan Lomax's brief dismissal of the classic blues era in his "The Land Where the Blues Began"), but Harrison's prodigious biographical and musical insights really open the door to a greater appreciation of the women she features. As a companion, I might suggest the cd "Classic Blues Women" by Rhino Records.

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

Black Pearls: Blues Queens of the 1920s The Croc Ate My Homework: A Pearls Before Swine Collection (Pearls Before Swine Kids) When Crocs Fly: A Pearls Before Swine Collection (Pearls Before Swine Kids) Beginning Pearls (Pearls Before Swine Kids) Pearls Hogs the Road: A Pearls Before Swine Treasury Pearls Falls Fast: A Pearls Before Swine Treasury Pearls Gets Sacrificed: A Pearls Before Swine Treasury Gastroenterology and Hepatology Board Review: Pearls of Wisdom, Third Edition (Pearls of Wisdom (McGraw Hill)) Sleep Medicine Pearls, 3e (Pearls Series)

Anesthesiology Board Review Pearls of Wisdom 3/E (Pearls of Wisdom Medicine) Blues Harmonica Method, Level 2 Book/CD Set An Essential Study of Blues for the Intermediate Player in the Tongue Block Style (School of the Blues) The Caged System and 100 Licks for Blues Guitar: Complete With 1 hour of Audio Examples: Master Blues Guitar (Play Blues Guitar Book 5) 48 Razor-Sharp 12-Bar Blues Riffs for Swing Bands and Blues Bands: B Flat Instruments Edition (Red Dog Music Books Razor-Sharp Blues Series) 48 Razor-Sharp 12-Bar Blues Riffs for Swing Bands and Blues Bands: Guitar Edition (Red Dog Music Books Razor-Sharp Blues Series) Blues Harmonica, Level 1: An Essential Study of Blues for the Beginning Player in the Tongue (School of Blues) Uptempo Blues: Blues Play-Along Volume 10 (Hal Leonard Blues Play-Along) Christmas Blues - Blues Play-Along Volume 11 (Book/Cd) (Hal Leonard Blues Play-Along) Texas Blues: Blues Play-Along Volume 2 (Hal Leonard Blues Play-Along) Queens of the Conquest: England's Medieval Queens Book One Queens of the Conquest: England's Medieval Queens Book One: 1

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)