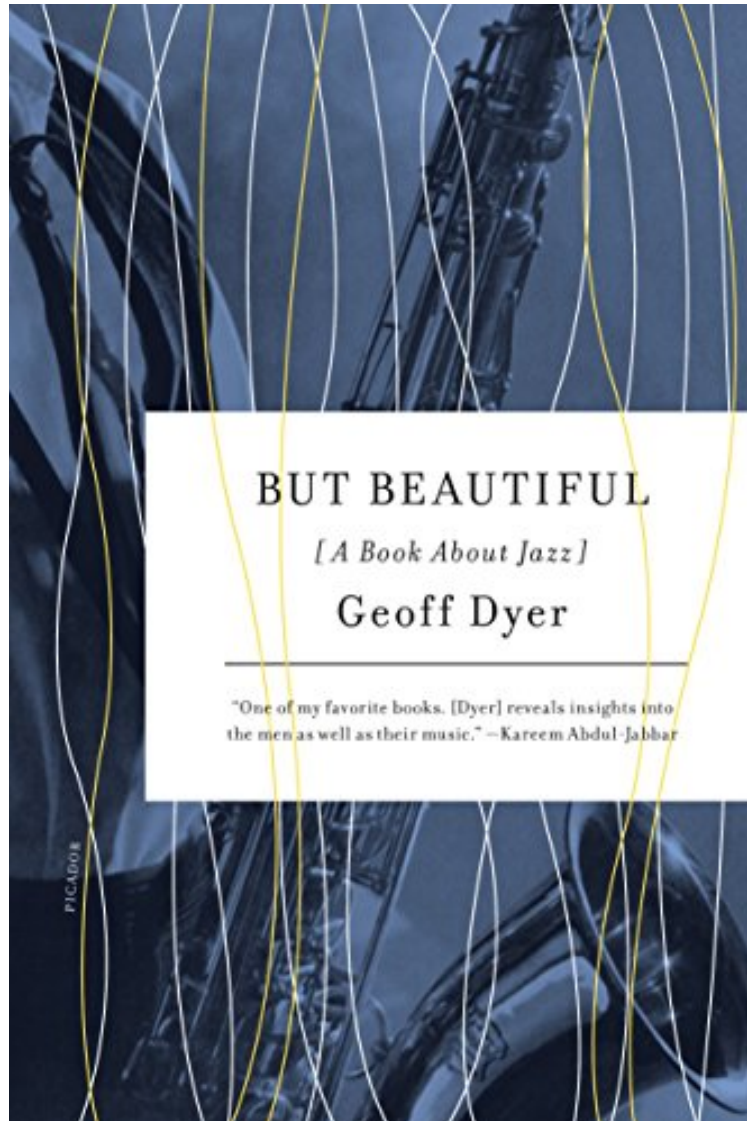


But Beautiful: A Book About Jazz

Von Geoff Dyer

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Von Geoff Dyer : But Beautiful: A Book About Jazz before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised But Beautiful: A Book About Jazz:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Gelungene Symbiose aus Fakt u. FiktionVon AleksandreGeoff Dyers Buch ist eines der faszinierendsten und originellsten Bcher ber Jazzmusiker und das Genre im allgemeinen. Das Buch beinhaltet Unwahrheiten oder Verdrehungen der biographischen Fakten. Dies - wird aber auch vom Autor im Vorwort ausdrcklich angesprochen. Er will die Musiker nicht so schildern wie sie waren, sondern wie er sie wahrgenommen hat; das ist "interpretierte"

Rezeption und viel spannender als lexikalische Prosa. Dyer nert sich einer ausgesuchten Gruppe von Musikern, die vornehmlich in den 50er und 60er Jahren aktiv waren: Lester Young, Thelonious Monk, Bud Powell, Charlie Mingus, Chet Baker, Art Pepper und als "Refrain" und Rahmenhandlung Duke Ellington. Die einzelnen Episoden beschreiben meist eine oder mehrere Stationen aus dem Leben der Musiker. Dabei pat Dyer den literarischen Stil dem jeweiligen Sujet auf sehr sensible Art und weise an. Gerade die Episoden, in denen Drogen und/oder psychische Probleme eine Rolle spielen (Young, Powell, Pepper), sind besonders beeindruckend und ergreifend. So nah kommt kein "Biograph" an den Meschen heran. Der zweite Teil des Buches ist ein Essay, der knapp aber hchst scharfsinnig und kenntnisreich die Entwicklung des Jazz seit Charlie Parker bis heute skizziert. Auch hier geht es eher um groe Zusammenhnge und (fast philosophische) Gedanken zu dem Genre Jazz an sich. Fazit: Gelungene Symbiose aus Fakt und Fiktion. Wer Interesse an fiktionalisierter Jazzgeschichte hat, ist auch gute aufgehoben bei Walter M. Ellis' "Prince of Darkness", ein Roman, der auf Motiven aus dem Leben von Miles Davis beruht - zwar konventioneller als Dyer, aber sehr unterhaltsam.

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Truly beautiful
 Von BFitzhugh@aol.com I'm a writer. Go ahead, search , you'll find me. So to the extent that I've got a novel published, I'm a writer. I also happen to be a jazz fan. I've got autographs from Dexter Gordon and McCoy Tyner and others framed and on my wall to prove it. All that having been said, I wish I had written But Beautiful. However, I'm not that good a writer. If you know jazz, you'll love this book. If you don't know jazz, it's a great way to get to know it. Go out and get, say, Clifford Brown and Max Roach or John Coltrane and Johnny Hartman or Gerry Mulligan meets Ben Webster and listen to them and read this terrific book. Geoff Dyer knows how to use words to convey meaning, emotion, and sound. This is a beautiful little book. I hope he writes another.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A great book even if you don't love jazz
 Von Ein Kunde I read But Beautiful the day that I bought it. I loved it so much that I recommended it to a friend of mine who's a jazz critic and flautist. The next time I met him I asked him what he thought, and he told me that he didn't like it - that it was, quote, patronising. I have no idea what he meant by this. The only musician in the book whose work I knew at all is Bud Powell, and the book is worth reading for that section alone; Dyer's insights on what it's like to listen to the music are almost more remarkable than his reconstructions of the musicians' lives. The section on Art Pepper has a grisly intensity, as Dyer wonders how such a small and severely damaged personality could make such great music. It could almost turn a loud-guitars man like me into a jazz fan.

Kurzbeschreibung "May be the best book ever written about jazz." David Thomson, Los Angeles Times
 In eight poetically charged vignettes, Geoff Dyer skillfully evokes the music and the men who shaped modern jazz. Drawing on photos, anecdotes, and, most important, the way he hears the music, Dyer imaginatively reconstructs scenes from the embattled lives of some of the greats: Lester Young fading away in a hotel room; Charles Mingus storming down the streets of New York on a too-small bicycle; Thelonious Monk creating his own private language on the piano. However, music is the driving force of But Beautiful, and wildly metaphoric prose that mirrors the quirks, eccentricity, and brilliance of each musician's style.

de Besides colorful and expressive music, jazz greats such as Lester Young, Thelonius Monk and Duke Ellington led equally colorful, albeit self-destructive, lives. Through this collection of essays, Geoff Dyer recounts some of the more vivid episodes and events these personalities engaged in and illuminates unique aspects of their character that contributed to their music. He also sheds light on the oppression of working within an atmosphere of race-alienation, a hardship that led many to abuse alcohol and drugs, and find solace only in their incredible music.

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 **'Swings Geoff Dyer straight into the front line of writers' THE TIMES
 **'Remarkable. there can be few books on jazz written with such tenderness and care.' Adam Lively, TLS
 **'A little gem' Keith Jarrett
 ** 'BUT BEAUTIFUL is just that. A moving and highly original tribute to Black American Music' Bryan Ferry