



Man in the Music: The Creative Life and Work of Michael Jackson

By Joseph Vogel

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"Joseph Vogel has brilliantly cracked the DNA, the code of the work, the artistry of Michael Joseph Jackson. This is the book I have been long awaiting -- a pointed, intelligent dissection of an epic body of work." -Spike Lee

Over his four decades in the public spotlight, Michael Jackson dazzled audiences, broke down barriers, and transformed popular music. Yet his brilliance as an artist has often been overshadowed by the tabloid frenzy that surrounded his unusual life. Now author Joseph Vogel returns to the albums, songs and videos that made the King of Pop a cultural force in the first place. From *Off the Wall* and *Thriller*, to *Bad*, *Dangerous*, *HISStory* and beyond, Vogel takes us deep inside Jackson's vast musical catalog. Each song is carefully considered, from well-known classics like "Billie Jean" and "Beat It" to lesser-known standouts like "Stranger in Moscow" and "Who Is It."

Meticulously researched and documented, *Man in the Music* draws on hundreds of sources, including news archives, reviews, Jackson's own words, and interviews with key collaborators. With each chapter, Vogel takes the reader back in time, placing the music in its social and historical context, discussing its relation to Jackson's personal life, and revealing never-before-heard stories from the studio. Featuring a foreword by *Rolling Stone* contributing editor Anthony DeCurtis and a wealth of color photos, this unique book provides the first comprehensive assessment of the "man in the music."

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Editorial Review

Review

"A thoroughly enjoyable analysis of the music and life of the most popular musician of an era." -*Library Journal*

"Immerses readers in a chronological exploration of Michael Jackson's remarkable solo career. Chapter by chapter and literally song by song, [Vogel] discusses Jackson's albums, videos, dances, cinematic influences, musical heroes, idiosyncrasies, and artistic transformations...Readers will enjoy." -*Publishers Weekly*

"Man in the Music is a sensitive, perceptive, comprehensive and compelling exploration of the creative genius of Michael Jackson. The author provides a special insight into the imagination and magic of perhaps the greatest musical artist of our time. All who love Michael Jackson will appreciate this original work." —Thomas A. Mesereau, Jr.

"The most thorough and accurate portrayal of Michael's musical life I've ever seen." -Brad Buxer, Music Director for *Dangerous* and *HISStory* World Tours

"Man in the Music is thankfully all about just that — the music. Vogel takes the reader album-by-album, song-by-song and examines in exhaustive detail how Jackson produced a lifetime's worth of music that became a soundtrack to the lives of millions.... Each song Jackson recorded during his solo career is examined with a critical eye. It's a fascinating read and really a must-have for any Jackson fan." -Mike Householder, Associated Press

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Cinthia Beltran:

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