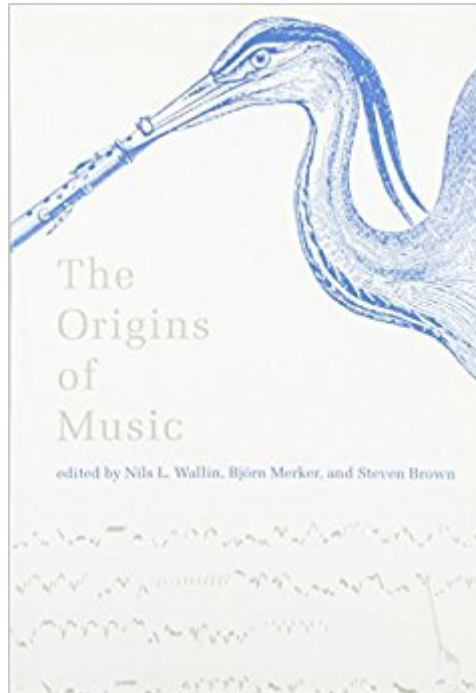




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The Origins Of Music



Synopsis

What biological and cognitive forces have shaped humankind's musical behavior and the rich global repertoire of musical structures? What is music for, and why does every human culture have it? What are the universal features of music and musical behavior across cultures? In this groundbreaking book, musicologists, biologists, anthropologists, archaeologists, psychologists, neuroscientists, ethologists, and linguists come together for the first time to examine these and related issues. The book can be viewed as representing the birth of evolutionary biomusicology -- the study of which will contribute greatly to our understanding of the evolutionary precursors of human music, the evolution of the hominid vocal tract, localization of brain function, the structure of acoustic-communication signals, symbolic gesture, emotional manipulation through sound, self-expression, creativity, the human affinity for the spiritual, and the human attachment to music itself.

Contributors: Simha Arom, Derek Bickerton, Steven Brown, Ellen Dissanayake, Dean Falk, David W. Frayer, Walter Freeman, Thomas Geissmann, Marc D. Hauser, Michel Imberty, Harry Jerison, Drago Kunej, François-Bernard Mâche, Peter Marler, Björn Merker, Geoffrey Miller, Jean Molino, Bruno Nettl, Chris Nicolay, Katharine Payne, Bruce Richman, Peter J.B. Slater, Peter Todd, Sandra Trehub, Ivan Turk, Maria Ujhelyi, Nils L. Wallin, Carol Whaling.

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Customer Reviews

"This book provides the foundation for a new understanding of music fuelled by the return to some

of the original concerns of musicologists following a hiatus of half a century." - Robert Reigle,
Resonance

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This is a compilation of professional papers from some of the leading researchers in their respected
fields. An amazing book and reference.

Doesn't pinpoint the source. A bit disorganized with the content. Each expert should have a brief
introduction.

After an 18 page introduction to biomusicology the reader is left to sift through the papers of around
25 experts in this field. Quality ranges widely as do the topics. There is some worthwhile information
in this book but finding it may not be worth your time. Nonetheless, it is a positive step forward.

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