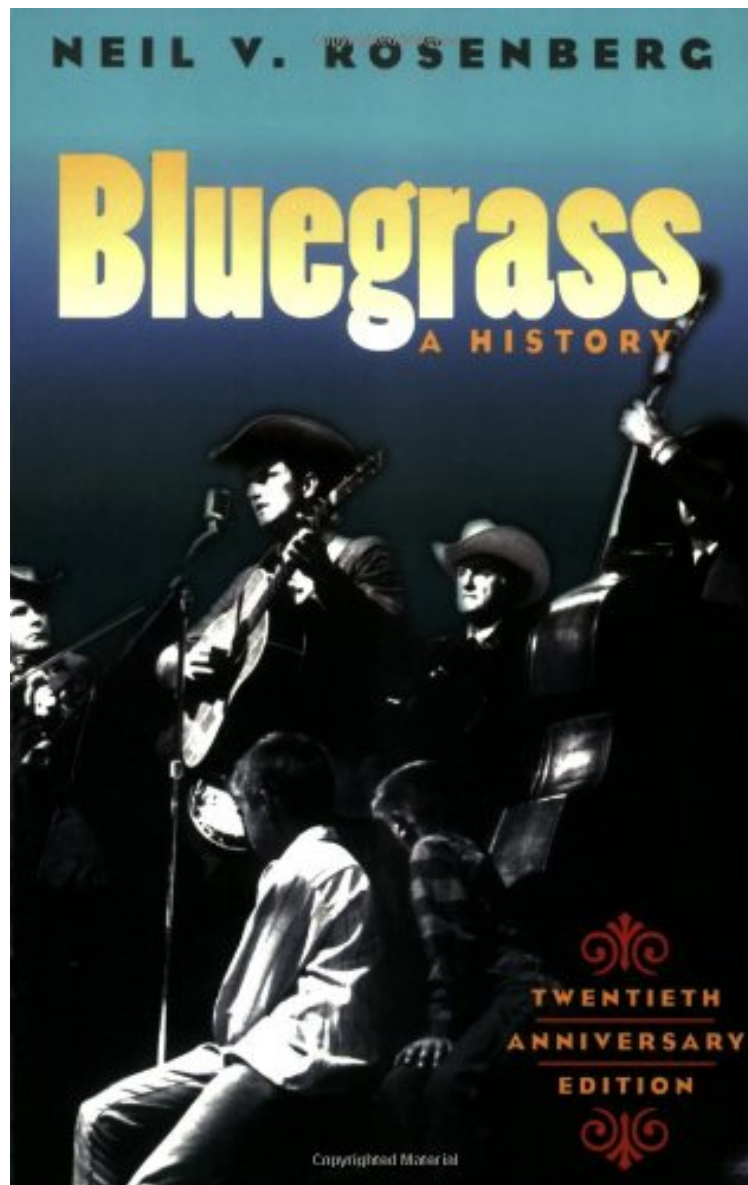


(Free and download) Bluegrass: A HISTORY 20TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION (Music in American Life)

Bluegrass: A HISTORY 20TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION (Music in American Life)

Neil V. Rosenberg

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Neil V. Rosenberg : Bluegrass: A HISTORY 20TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION (Music in American Life)
before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bluegrass: A
HISTORY 20TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION (Music in American Life):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Three and a half stars, a fine starter/introduction into the genre
By Sid Griffin
Neil Rosenberg has written a fine starter-kit book for those interested in bluegrass. This one gets you into the music and allows you to understand the principals but you will have to read another book or two which are a tad more contemporary to get the entire and indeed current picture of what bluegrass music really is today. Three and a half stars if you ask me.
6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. What do you want to learn about early bluegrass?
By Dennis Waters
If you want to learn about the history of bluegrass all the way from Bill Monroe to Cherryholmes and Cadillac Sky, then Rosenberg is NOT the book for you. Although this "revised" edition was published in 2005, it is essentially the same book originally published in 1985, and even that narrative pretty well stopped in the mid-1970s. That said, this is a terrific history of the formative decades of bluegrass. Rosenberg's chronology is almost dizzying in its detail - so many musicians, record executives, festival promoters, radio station owners, magazine publishers, etc. to track in your mind as you read along. I am a former broadcaster and it was especially fun to remember what the "ecosystem" of the radio and music industries was like in the 50s and 60s. Rosenberg is at his best when analyzing the individual and cultural forces that led to the big breakthroughs for this musical form, and he exhibits a good understanding of the tensions between urban and rural fans and between young innovators and older traditionalists. The only place I think he went off track was in some overly academic analyses of bluegrass in film and television. Thanks, but I don't need to have *The Beverly Hillbillies* deconstructed. Overall, though, I learned a lot and gained a deeper appreciation for a musical form that I have enjoyed for many years. Well worth reading.
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. "Bluegrass" does a great job balancing an explanation of the musical components
By anonymous
The definitive book on the history of bluegrass, "Bluegrass" does a great job balancing an explanation of the musical components, the cultural background of the music and the history in individual musicians who created it. Essential reading for anybody interested in bluegrass or Americana.

Beginning with the musical cultures of the American South in the 1920s and 1930s, this title traces the genre through its pivotal developments during the era of Bill Monroe and his Blue Grass Boys in the forties. It also describes early bluegrass' role in postwar country music, and its trials following the appearance of rock and roll.

From Library Journal
Rosenberg's book is the publisher's second excellent bluegrass history in two years. Robert Cantwell's *Bluegrass Breakdown* (LJ 5/15/84) was a scholarly study of the music and its cultural roots, while this one expands the reader's appreciation by focusing on the performers. There is considerable overlap, of course, as both authors describe Bill Monroe's founding influence and the contributions of pioneers such as the Stanley Brothers and Flatt and Scruggs. Rosenberg offers many more biographical details, however, and discusses the musical impact of many more persons than does Cantwell. Fans as well as scholars will find much to like in this well-researched, well-indexed work. William Hepfer, SUNY at Buffalo Libs.
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From the Back Cover
A history of bluegrass. Winner of the Country Music People Critics' Choice Award for Favorite Country Book of the Year and of the International Bluegrass Music Association Certificate of Merit.
About the Author
Grammy Award winner Neil V. Rosenberg is professor emeritus of folklore at Memorial University of Newfoundland, and is the coauthor of *Bluegrass Odyssey: A Documentary in Pictures and Words*, 1966-86.