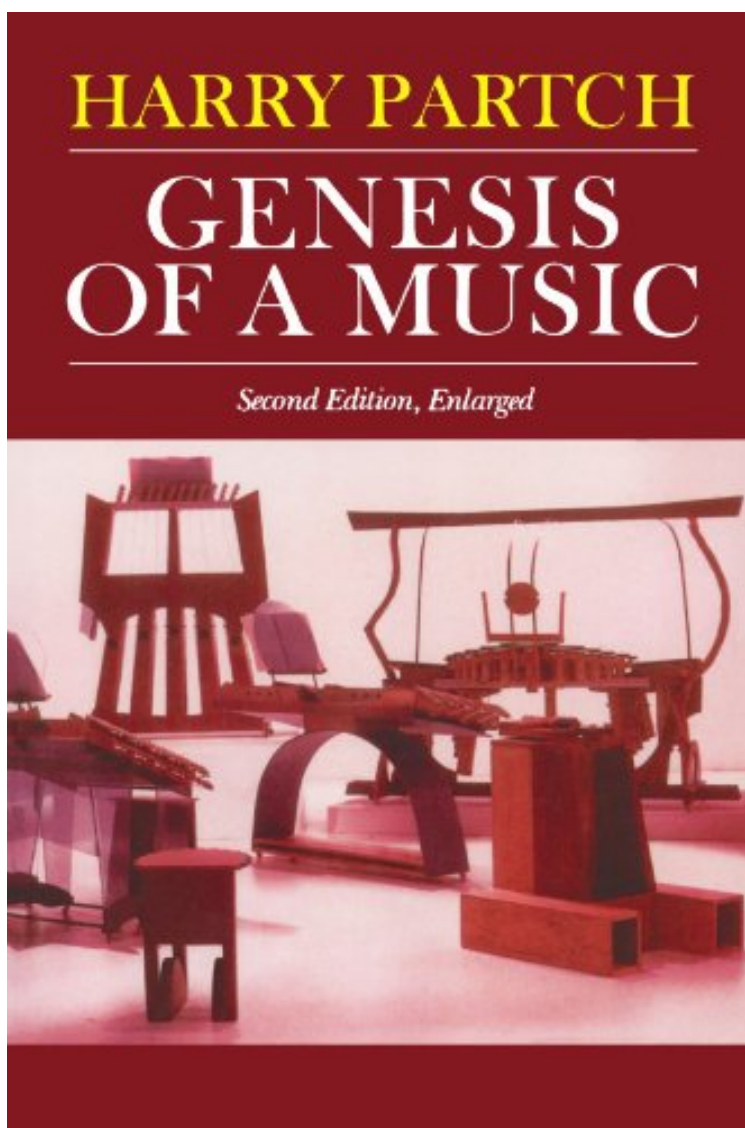


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Genesis Of A Music: An Account Of A Creative Work, Its Roots, And Its Fulfillments, Second Edition

Harry Partch

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Music: An Account Of A Creative Work, Its Roots, And Its Fulfillments, Second Edition:

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Excellent BookBy CIIt's Harry Partch's book! He goes into detail about his thoughts / ideas / how he built his instruments etc.What else needs to be said? This is frigging aaaaawesome!Somebody else I discovered lately is Bart Hopkin, who writes books in this similar experimental vein.I have just written some reviews for his books this minute, and since it doesn't look like he's getting much attention on , but I think if you like Partch, and you like building weird instruments / getting strange sounds, "Genesis of a Music" and Bart Hopkin books are my favourites on this subject so far.1 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Reads a lot of BooksBy Happy CustomerHello book buyers!The book I ordered arrived quickly and came just as good as (or slightly better than) advertised. In general I have had great luck with private book vendors. Here's another one to add to my list :)I gave 5 stars for fast service--book was shipped the same day I ordered it. Also because the book came in great condition. Really, what else could any of us realistically ask for?I would highly recommend this seller.Happy Reading!1 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Partch didn't have much better luck than they didBy Violin PainterInstrument builders 300 or so years ago tried to do the same thing, and failed. Mr. Partch didn't have much better luck than they did.

Among the few truly experimental composers in our cultural history, Harry Partch's life (1901-1974) and music embody most completely the quintessential American rootlessness, isolation, pre-civilized cult of experience, and dichotomy of practical invention and transcendental visions. Having lived mostly in the remote deserts of Arizona and New Mexico with no access to formal training, Partch naturally created theatrical ritualistic works incorporating Indian chants, Japanese kabuki and Noh, Polynesian microtones, Balinese gamelan, Greek tragedy, dance, mime, and sardonic commentary on Hollywood and commercial pop music of modern civilization. First published in 1949, *Genesis of a Music* is the manifesto of Partch's radical compositional practice and instruments (which owe nothing to the 300-year-old European tradition of Western music.) He contrasts Abstract and Corporeal music, proclaiming the latter as the vital, emotionally tactile form derived from the spoken word (like Greek, Chinese, Arabic, and Indian musics) and surveys the history of world music at length from this perspective. Parts II, III, and IV explain Partch's theories of scales, intonation, and instrument construction with copious acoustical and mathematical documentation. Anyone with a musically creative attitude, whether or not familiar with traditional music theory, will find this book revelatory.

From the Back Cover'Harry Partch's pioneering theoretical investigations of tuning and his practical application of these investigations to instruments of his own construction show him to be a composer of remarkable and enduring individuality. Partch's perseverance without widespread support or recognition during most of his lifetime has always struck me as particularly courageous.'--Steve Reich