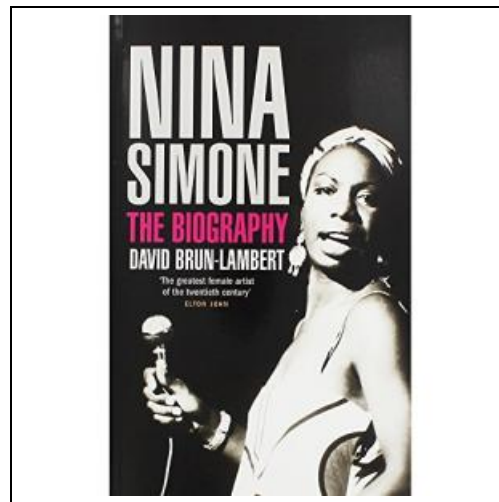


Nina Simone: The Biography



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Reviews

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(Letha Okuneva)

NINA SIMONE: THE BIOGRAPHY



Aurum. 1 Paperback(s), 2005. soft. Book Condition: New. "Long before the end of Nina Simone's life, her tantrums and eccentricities had come to overshadow her performances," noted London's Sunday Times in their review of this biography from French journalist and radio producer David Brun-Lambert. "In those final years you sensed that one reason people went to her concerts was to see her lash out at her antagonists, real and imaginary." Brun-Lambert introduces readers to the volatile woman Elton John called "the greatest female artist of the 20th century," whose unforgettable voice and magnetic performances rose up out of an undiagnosed mental disorder, a volatile temper, terrible abuse at the hands of men, and the racism she felt all around her."In her brilliant song 'Four Women,' recorded in 1965, Simone sings about four very different black women, one who lives 'Between two worlds,' another who says: 'I'm awfully bitter these days because my parents were slaves.' In his new biography of the great jazz diva, David Brun-Lambert asserts: 'If you listen carefully to her music, you hear within in it two opposite people, two beings with nothing in common, as though trapped together and forced to share the same means of expression. An artist leading a double artistic life, unable to find her own place anywhere.'. Brun-Lambert charts the birth of Nina Simone the artist, her musical successes, her terrible marriage to her manager, Andy Stroud, her bad relationships, her fragile mental state, her bipolar disorder, her gigs, her gigs, her gigs. He charts her friendships with folk singer Odetta, Lorraine Hansberry (for whom she wrote the seminal 'To Be Young, Gifted and Black') and Miriam Makeba. Most of all, he charts her terrible loneliness . mapping her political awakening and the rise of black power, Martin Luther King, Malcolm X,...



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