



Play it Again: Cover Songs in Popular Music (Ashgate Popular and Folk Music Series)

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Covering "the musical practice of one artist recording or performing another composer's song" has always been an attribute of popular music. In 2009, the internet database Second Hand Songs estimated that there are 40,000 songs with at least one cover version. Some of the more common variations of this "appropriationist" method of musical quotation include traditional forms such as patriotic anthems, religious hymns such as Amazing Grace, Muzak's instrumental interpretations, Christmas classics, and children's songs. Novelty and comedy collections from parodists such as Weird Al Yankovic also align in the cover category, as does the "larcenous art" of sampling, and technological variations in dance remixes and mash-ups. Film and television soundtracks and advertisers increasingly rely on versions of familiar pop tunes to assist in marketing their narratives and products. The cover phenomenon in popular culture may be viewed as a postmodern manifestation in music as artists revisit, reinterpret and re-examine a significant cross section of musical styles, periods, genres, individual records, and other artists and their catalogues of works. The cover complex, with its multiple variations, issues, contexts, and re-contextualizations comprises an important and rich popular culture text. These re-recordings represent artifacts which embody artistic, social, cultural, historical, commercial, biographical, and novel meanings. Through homage, allusion, apprenticeship, and parody, among other modes, these diverse musical quotations express, preserve, and distribute popular culture, popular music and their intersecting historical narratives. Play it Again represents the first collection of critical perspectives on the many facets of cover songs in popular music.

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Editorial Review

Review

'From "American Idol" to Weird Al Yankovic, from Japanese enka to mash-ups, Play it Again reveals the many layers of connection to be found in our increasingly recombinant media culture. The fifteen essays in this collection invite us to consider just how prevalent the act of covering is—far beyond its usual association with "copying someone else's song." Indeed, whether as apprenticeship, as tribute, or as sabotage, the phenomenon of covers have penetrated film, television, and the advertising world. Together, the essays in this collection suggest a number of new avenues of inquiry for popular music studies.' Kevin Holm-Hudson, University of Kentucky, USA 'It is timely that cover songs should be treated with scholarly respect. ...Play it Again: Cover Songs in Popular Music deserves a strong readership from undergraduate and postgraduate courses in popular music and popular cultural studies.' Times Higher Education 'Recommended.' Choice

About the Author

George Plasketes is Professor of Radio-Television-Film and Popular Culture in the Department of Communication & Journalism at Auburn University, USA.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Karon Hall:

Book is written, printed, or descriptive for everything. You can recognize everything you want by a book. Book has a different type. As it is known to us that book is important issue to bring us around the world. Beside that you can your reading proficiency was fluently. A publication Play it Again: Cover Songs in Popular Music (Ashgate Popular and Folk Music Series) will make you to end up being smarter. You can feel much more confidence if you can know about every little thing. But some of you think in which open or reading a new book make you bored. It's not make you fun. Why they are often thought like that? Have you looking for best book or ideal book with you?

Ronnie Miller:

Nowadays reading books are more than want or need but also work as a life style. This reading habit give you lot of advantages. Advantages you got of course the knowledge your information inside the book in which improve your knowledge and information. The information you get based on what kind of publication you read, if you want have more knowledge just go with education and learning books but if you want sense happy read one with theme for entertaining including comic or novel. The particular Play it Again: Cover Songs in Popular Music (Ashgate Popular and Folk Music Series) is kind of guide which is giving the reader erratic experience.

Megan Urick:

This Play it Again: Cover Songs in Popular Music (Ashgate Popular and Folk Music Series) is great reserve for you because the content that is certainly full of information for you who have always deal with world and have to make decision every minute. This specific book reveal it facts accurately using great coordinate word or we can point out no rambling sentences in it. So if you are read it hurriedly you can have whole details in it. Doesn't mean it only provides straight forward sentences but challenging core information with beautiful delivering sentences. Having Play it Again: Cover Songs in Popular Music (Ashgate Popular and Folk Music Series) in your hand like keeping the world in your arm, information in it is not ridiculous a single. We can say that no guide that offer you world with ten or fifteen tiny right but this e-book already do that. So , this is certainly good reading book. Hey there Mr. and Mrs. busy do you still doubt which?

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