



Sweet Soul Music: Rhythm and Blues and the Southern Dream of Freedom

By Peter Guralnick

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Traces the history of soul music from the 1950s when rhythm and blues singers began to adopt the sound of gospel and throughout the next 10 years began to reach an unprecedentedly wide audience. The author also wrote "Feel Like Going Home" and "Lost High".

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Amazon.com Review

Nat Hentoff has called Peter Guralnick "a national resource," and for once this isn't a piece of hype. Guralnick may be a premiere chronicler of American popular music, which he writes about with brains, reverence, and a peculiar tenderness for dashed dreams. In this volume, he records the rise and fall of Stax Records--the Memphis powerhouse that produced a string of classics from the likes of Otis Redding, Sam and Dave, Carla Thomas, Booker T. and the MGs, and Johnnie Taylor. The birth of modern rhythm-and-blues makes for a fascinating story. But there's another story behind that one--the racial tensions that eventually tore Stax apart--which makes the book richer, and sadder, than we have any right to expect.

From the Publisher

"The best history of '60s soul music anyone has written . . . as important for what it says about America, class and race issues, and the '60s as for its outstanding musical insights. . . . A classic."--Robert Palmer, *New York Times*

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