

lives, epic parties, scrambles to survive, passionate manifestos, heated public debates, social and environmental concerns, and hard-won exhibitions, Alinder achieves an f.64 degree of crisp and commanding detail in this landmark group portrait of the visionary photographers who succeeded in “forever changing our way of seeing.” —*Donna Seaman*

**Is That All There Is? The Strange Life of Peggy Lee.**  
 By James Gavin.  
 Nov. 2014. 608p. illus. Atria, \$32 (9781451641684). 782.421.

Peggy Lee developed her soft and sultry sound from the influences of black singers and her early days of singing in dinner clubs, where she deliberately softened her voice to force the audience to listen. When she purred, audiences would lean in. That softness and an equally hard-edged sexiness set her apart from others, from her beginning as a singer in the swing era to her voice-over work with Disney to her inspiring of the Muppet character, Miss Piggy. Lee, born Norma Deloris Egstrom, had a hardscrabble childhood in desolate North Dakota but an outsize talent and personality that eventually drove her to a career in Hollywood. Gavin (*Stormy Weather: The Life of Lena Horne*, 2009) offers a penetrating portrait of a woman embittered by childhood memories and failed marriages, struggling

with alcohol and drugs, yet determined to have a career worthy of her voice. Best known for her songs “Fever” and “Is That All There Is?,” Lee sang with legendary musicians Benny Goodman, Ray Charles, Duke Ellington, and Louis Armstrong. Old and new fans will appreciate this revealing portrait of troubled and talented woman. —*Vanessa Bush*

**Jeff Koons: Conversations with Norman Rosenthal.**  
 By Jeff Koons and Norman Rosenthal.  
 Nov. 2014. 296p. illus. Thames & Hudson, \$29.95 (9780500093825). 709.2.

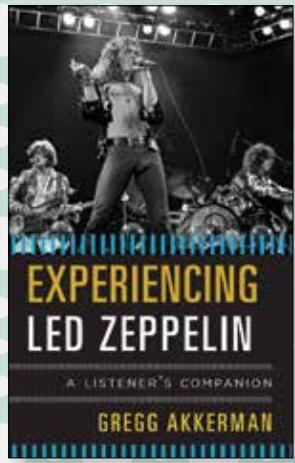
Jeff Koons has attained international fame and great wealth while arousing outrage, controversy, and contempt. His art is subversive, baffling, and coyly philosophical as he celebrates banality in extravagantly fabricated sculptures and paintings depicting balloon animals, cartoon characters, puppies, and flowers. He also stars in his own pseudo-pornographic images. Much has been and will be written about Koons, but there’s nothing like the artist’s own words, no matter how canned, to inform our perspective on his work. In conversation with art historian and curator Rosenthal, who tries to break through Koons’ practiced spiel, the artist sounds like a new-age proselytizer in such pronouncements as, “The motivation of art is the removal of any kind of guilt or shame.” Koons talks about anxiety and archetypes and approaches art-making and self-promotion like

a CEO while creating mischievous artworks that combine antiquities with advertising and graffiti in heady, irreverent, and provocative juxtapositions. Clever, slick, and mesmerizing, Koons purrs, “I want people to feel good. . . . I want them to enjoy their life. I want their life to be vaster.” —*Donna Seaman*

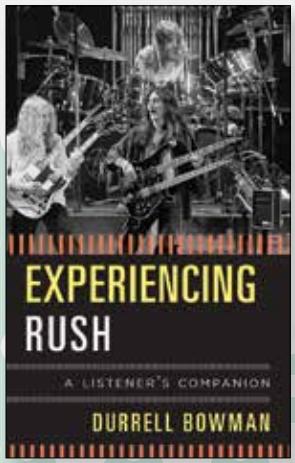
**Modern Man: The Life of Le Corbusier, Architect of Tomorrow.**  
 By Anthony Flint.  
 Nov. 2014. 288p. illus. Houghton/Amazon/New Harvest, \$25 (9780544262225). 720.92.

Swiss architect and sculptor Charles-Édouard Jeanneret-Gris (1887–1965) adopted the moniker Le Corbusier, signaling his rejection of elaborate Victorian convention and embrace of the minimal. Flint (*Wrestling with Moses*, 2009) suggests the name was a savvy branding maneuver, encapsulating the hubris of the modernist master, a figure who was “not just a man, but a force.” In this richly entertaining biography, Flint maps the unbridled ambition, romantic conquests, and artistic genius of the world’s first “starchitect.” He charts Le Corbusier’s early influences in industrial design and tracks his many international commissions for the rationalist projects that came to epitomize the International Style. Special attention is given to the Chapel of Notre Dame du Haut (1954) and the Indian city of Chandigarh (1947), a masterpiece of utopian planning. Flint maintains that Le

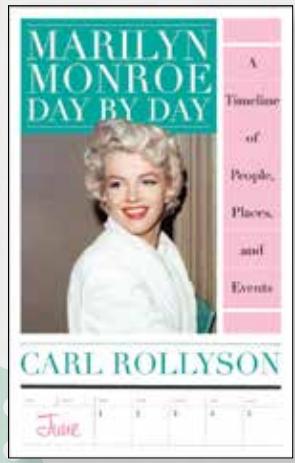
NEW POP CULTURE TITLES FROM **ROWMAN & LITTLEFIELD**



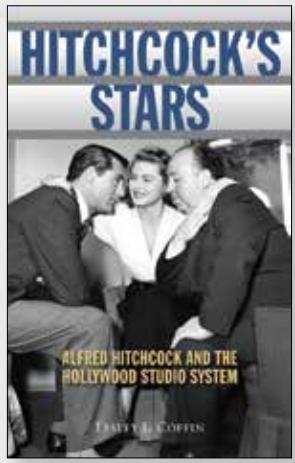
October 2014 • 200 pages  
 978-0-8108-8915-6 • \$40.00 • Cloth  
 978-0-8108-8916-3 • \$39.99 • eBook



October 2014 • 194 pages  
 978-1-4422-3130-6 • \$45.00 • Cloth  
 978-1-4422-3131-3 • \$44.99 • eBook



October 2014 • 362 pages  
 978-1-4422-3079-8 • \$36.00 • Cloth  
 978-1-4422-3080-4 • \$35.99 • eBook



September 2014 • 246 pages  
 978-1-4422-3077-4 • \$38.00 • Cloth  
 978-1-4422-3078-1 • \$37.99 • eBook



Corbusier's vision singularly changed the landscape of contemporary urban environments. His biography will resonate beyond art and architecture categories, appealing to anyone engaged in the current popular dialogues of entrepreneurship, innovation, and human-centered design. —*Lindsay Bosch*

### Patti Smith: America's Punk Rock Rhapsodist.

By Eric Wendell.

Dec. 2014. 188p. illus. Rowman & Littlefield, \$40 (9780810886902). 782.421.

Quintessential female punk rocker. Poet. Feminist hero. And a National Book Award winner for her memoir, *Just Kids* (2010), Patti Smith grew up as a tomboy with a lyrical bent, discovered rock and roll at age seven when she first saw Little Richard, and has used religion—her mother was a Jehovah's Witness, her father an ardent but "open-minded" atheist—as her most fundamental foundation. Wendell points out that her musical influences range from the obvious (Dylan) to the surprising (Hank Williams). He chronicles her life as she moves from New Jersey to New York, explores her friendship with the photographer Robert Mapplethorpe, examines the impact living at the infamous Chelsea Hotel had on her artistic evolution, and looks at her early performances on the New York underground scene, where she rubbed shoulders with everyone from Andy Warhol to Lou Reed. He also offers critical ob-

servations on her recordings, from her critically acclaimed first album, *Horses*, onward. An excellent look at a premiere, multitalented artist. —*June Sawyers*

### Paul Simon: An American Tune. By Cornel Bonca.

Nov. 2014. 194p. Rowman & Littlefield, \$40 (9780810884816); e-book, \$39.99 (9780810884823). 782.421.

How did a Jewish kid from Queens end up on top of the musical pyramid? That's the question Bonca seeks to answer in his insightful portrait of Paul Simon, who, at 72, remains at the top of his game. Simon met his future songwriting partner, Art Garfunkel, in sixth grade. They lived three blocks apart, became fast friends, and soon began writing songs together. At 15, they tried selling their wares at the famous Brill Building in midtown Manhattan. Their first album, *Wednesday Morning 3 A.M.*, set the template for what was to follow: literate songwriting, lush harmonies, gorgeous melodies. That their songs appeared on *The Graduate* soundtrack only sealed the deal. When the duo parted ways in 1970, Simon began an exploration of world music, most successfully on *Graceland* and *The Rhythm of the Saints*. In spite of occasional missteps, such as the disastrous film, *One-Trick Pony*, Simon, Bonca affirms, continues to create important work, including his recent album, *So Beautiful or So What*. —*June Sawyers*

**ONLINE ALERT!** Don't miss Donna Seaman's "Great Reads: Musicians Tell All, or Some Variation Thereof" on *Booklist Online*. "Musicians' memoirs are irresistible," writes Donna—and we're sure you'll agree.

### Ralph Peer and the Making of Popular Roots Music.

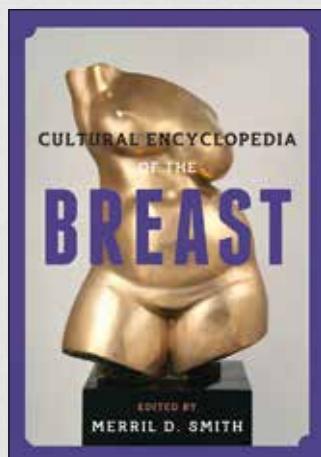
By Barry Mazor.

Nov. 2014. 320p. illus. Chicago Review, \$28.95 (9781613740217). 781.640.

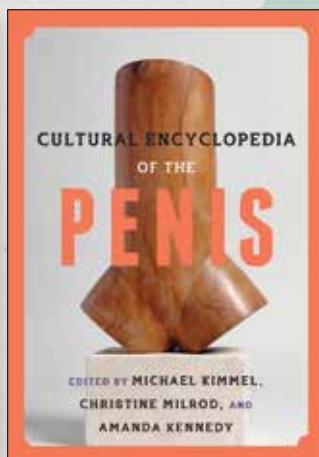
Ralph Peer may not be a household name, but he is one of the most important figures in popular music history. In his own way, he was ahead of his time—he thought that what we now call roots music or Americana could appeal to a broad audience, and he was right. As Mazor, Peer's first biographer, notes, Peer was not a musicologist, a performer, or a composer; he was simply a businessman and a music publisher. But because of his work, the music of Jimmie Rodgers, the Carter Family, Louis Armstrong, Fats Waller, and Blind Willie McTell, among others, lives on. Mazor traces the career of the "popular-music prophet" through the years, including the recording of Mamie Smith's seminal "Crazy Blues," which spawned the blues craze; the first country recordings (Peer's pioneering Bristol sessions in 1926–27 marked the "birth" of country music); the popularizing of Latin American

## NEW REFERENCE WORKS FOR YOUR PATRONS FROM

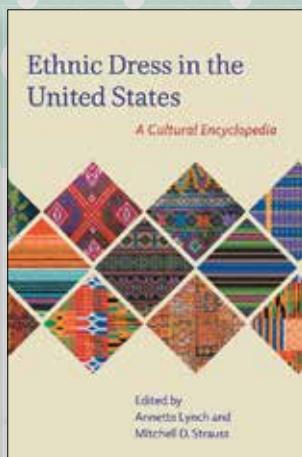
## ROWMAN & LITTLEFIELD



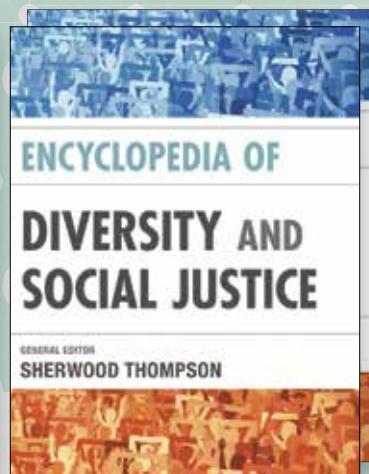
September 2014 • 300 pages  
978-0-7591-2331-1 • \$85.00 • Cloth  
978-0-7591-2332-8 • \$84.99 • eBook



September 2014 • 262 pages  
978-0-7591-2312-0 • \$85.00 • Cloth  
978-0-7591-2314-4 • \$84.99 • eBook



October 2014 • 336 pages  
978-0-7591-2148-5 • \$75.00 • Cloth  
978-0-7591-2150-8 • \$74.99 • eBook



2 volume set  
December 2014 • 900 pages  
978-1-4422-1604-4 • \$225.00 • Cloth  
978-1-4422-1606-8 • \$224.99 • eBook

Copyright of Booklist is the property of American Library Association / Booklist Publications and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.