

# ornette coleman science fiction

Ornette Coleman Science Fiction: Exploring the Avant-Garde Masterpiece

**ornette coleman science fiction** isn't just a phrase that combines the legendary jazz musician's name with a genre of imaginative storytelling—it's the title of one of Ornette Coleman's most groundbreaking albums. Released in 1972, *\*Science Fiction\** stands as a testament to Coleman's fearless innovation in the world of jazz, blending free jazz elements with experimental sounds that pushed the boundaries of musical expression. Whether you're a long-time jazz aficionado or a curious newcomer, diving into Ornette Coleman's *\*Science Fiction\** offers a fascinating journey into the evolution of avant-garde jazz and its impact on contemporary music.

## The Genesis of Ornette Coleman's Science Fiction

Ornette Coleman was already a revolutionary figure in jazz by the early 1970s. Known for pioneering the free jazz movement with albums like *\*The Shape of Jazz to Come\** and *\*Free Jazz\**, Coleman sought to challenge traditional harmony and structure. *\*Science Fiction\**, released on Columbia Records, marked a new chapter where he incorporated electric instruments and unconventional compositions, reflecting a more exploratory and expansive approach.

The album gathered an impressive roster of musicians, including Charlie Haden on bass, Ed Blackwell on drums, and new collaborators like Billy Higgins and Dewey Redman. This blend of familiar and fresh faces resulted in a dynamic soundscape that was both adventurous and deeply rooted in jazz traditions.

## What Makes Science Fiction Stand Out?

Unlike many albums of its time, *\*Science Fiction\** is a blend of composed pieces and spontaneous improvisations. Coleman's use of harmolodics—a musical philosophy he developed that emphasizes equality between harmony, melody, and rhythm—shines throughout the album. This approach allows musicians to communicate on a more democratic level, breaking free from the constraints of conventional jazz forms.

The album's title track, "Science Fiction," is a perfect example of this ethos. The piece combines abstract melodies with unpredictable rhythms, creating an otherworldly atmosphere that challenges listeners' expectations. This blend of futuristic sounds with deeply emotional performances sets *\*Science Fiction\** apart as a landmark in jazz history.

## The Influence of Science Fiction on Jazz and Beyond

*\*Science Fiction\** wasn't just another jazz album; it was a statement. Ornette Coleman's fearless approach to composition and improvisation influenced countless musicians across genres. The album's blend of free jazz with electric instrumentation foreshadowed later developments in jazz

fusion and experimental music.

## Impact on Avant-Garde and Free Jazz Movements

By the early 1970s, free jazz was evolving rapidly, and Coleman's *\*Science Fiction\** helped push the genre into new territories. The album's experimental nature inspired artists to further explore non-traditional sounds and structures. Musicians like John Zorn and the members of the Art Ensemble of Chicago have cited Coleman's work as a major influence on their own boundary-pushing projects.

Moreover, the album's emphasis on collective improvisation and emotional expression helped redefine what jazz could be. It encouraged a generation of musicians to embrace risk-taking and reject commercial pressures, fostering a more authentic and personal approach to music-making.

## Bridging Jazz and Other Art Forms

Interestingly, the album's title and its sonic themes have led some critics and listeners to draw parallels between Coleman's music and the genre of science fiction in literature and film. Just as science fiction explores futuristic worlds and alternative realities, Coleman's music creates soundscapes that seem to exist beyond traditional time and space.

This intersection of jazz and speculative creativity has made *\*Science Fiction\** a cultural touchstone, influencing not only musicians but also artists and writers interested in the fusion of sound and imagination.

## A Guide to Listening to Ornette Coleman's Science Fiction

Approaching *\*Science Fiction\** can be an exhilarating but challenging experience, especially if you are new to Ornette Coleman or free jazz in general. Here are some tips to enhance your listening experience:

- **Listen Actively:** Pay attention to the interplay between instruments. Unlike conventional jazz, where solos dominate, *\*Science Fiction\** focuses on collective improvisation.
- **Don't Expect Traditional Melodies:** The album often eschews familiar harmonic progressions, so try to appreciate the emotional and textural qualities of the music instead.
- **Explore the Musicians:** Learn about the individual players on the album, such as Dewey Redman's unique saxophone voice or Charlie Haden's melodic bass lines, to better understand their contributions.
- **Revisit the Album:** *\*Science Fiction\** reveals new layers with each listen. Give yourself time to absorb its complexity.

# Ornette Coleman's Legacy Through Science Fiction

While Ornette Coleman's career spanned decades and his discography is vast, *\*Science Fiction\** remains a pivotal work that captures his artistic vision during a critical moment in jazz history. The album exemplifies his commitment to pushing the boundaries of sound and form, inspiring musicians to think beyond conventional limits.

In the years following *\*Science Fiction\**, Coleman continued to innovate, influencing not only jazz but also rock, classical, and experimental music. His harmolodic theory, showcased in this album, remains a subject of study and fascination among musicians and scholars alike.

Listening to *\*Science Fiction\** today, one can appreciate how Ornette Coleman's fearless creativity opened doors to new musical possibilities, encouraging artists to embrace improvisation, collaboration, and innovation.

The album stands not only as a masterpiece of free jazz but also as a celebration of artistic freedom—a reminder that music, much like science fiction, allows us to explore uncharted territories and imagine new realities.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Who is Ornette Coleman and what is his connection to science fiction?

Ornette Coleman was an innovative American jazz saxophonist and composer known for pioneering the free jazz movement. His album *'Science Fiction,'* released in 1972, blends avant-garde jazz with experimental sounds, evoking themes that resonate with the imaginative and exploratory nature of science fiction.

### What is the significance of Ornette Coleman's album 'Science Fiction'?

Ornette Coleman's *'Science Fiction'* album is significant for its groundbreaking approach to jazz, incorporating free improvisation and unconventional structures. It features collaborations with notable musicians and explores futuristic and otherworldly themes through its music, influencing the direction of avant-garde jazz.

### Which musicians collaborated with Ornette Coleman on the 'Science Fiction' album?

On the *'Science Fiction'* album, Ornette Coleman collaborated with musicians such as Don Cherry (trumpet), Dewey Redman (tenor saxophone), Charlie Haden (bass), and Billy Higgins (drums), among others. These artists contributed to the album's innovative sound and experimental approach.

## How does the 'Science Fiction' album reflect Ornette Coleman's musical philosophy?

The 'Science Fiction' album reflects Ornette Coleman's musical philosophy of harmolodics, which emphasizes equality between harmony, melody, and rhythm. The album's free-form improvisations and unconventional compositions embody his belief in musical freedom and expression beyond traditional jazz constraints.

## Why is Ornette Coleman's 'Science Fiction' considered influential in jazz history?

Ornette Coleman's 'Science Fiction' is considered influential because it pushed the boundaries of jazz by combining free jazz elements with experimental sounds and structures. It inspired future generations of musicians to explore new musical territories and challenged conventional jazz norms, solidifying Coleman's legacy as a pioneer of avant-garde jazz.

## Additional Resources

Ornette Coleman Science Fiction: A Revolutionary Jazz Odyssey

**ornette coleman science fiction** is more than just an album title; it represents a pivotal moment in the evolution of jazz and the avant-garde music scene. Released in 1972, Ornette Coleman's "Science Fiction" stands as a testament to his innovative approach to improvisation, composition, and genre-blending. The album not only solidified Coleman's reputation as a pioneer of free jazz but also showcased his fearless exploration of sonic landscapes that defied conventional jazz norms. This article investigates the significance of "Science Fiction" within Ornette Coleman's oeuvre, its impact on jazz, and the ways it continues to inspire musicians and listeners today.

## The Context and Creation of Ornette Coleman's Science Fiction

By the early 1970s, Ornette Coleman had already made a profound impact on jazz with his groundbreaking work in the late 1950s and 1960s, particularly with albums like "The Shape of Jazz to Come" and "Free Jazz." However, "Science Fiction" emerged after a period of relative quiet in terms of recordings. It marked Coleman's return with a renewed sense of musical exploration and collaboration.

Recorded in 1971 and released a year later, "Science Fiction" was distinct in its assembly of musicians and its conceptual ambition. The album features an eclectic mix of performers including trumpet player Don Cherry, guitarist Jim Hall, and drummer Ed Blackwell, among others. This diverse lineup contributed to a rich tapestry of sound that fused free jazz improvisation with structured composition, blues, and even elements of rock and world music.

# Innovative Musical Features of Science Fiction

One of the defining characteristics of "Science Fiction" is its blend of free-form improvisation with melodic and harmonic frameworks that remain accessible yet complex. The album is often described as a bridge between Coleman's earlier free jazz experiments and his later works that incorporated more rhythmic and melodic constraints.

Key features include:

- **Polyphonic Textures:** Multiple instruments weave independent lines that simultaneously create a cohesive musical narrative.
- **Emotional Expressiveness:** Tracks like "Civilization Day" and "Science Fiction" embody a sense of urgency and freedom, reflecting the socio-political climate of the era.
- **Innovative Use of Harmolodics:** Coleman's own theory, which emphasizes equal importance of harmony, melody, and rhythm, is evident throughout the album.
- **Collaborative Spirit:** The interplay between seasoned players and younger musicians lends the record a dynamic and unpredictable quality.

## Ornette Coleman Science Fiction and Its Place in Free Jazz Evolution

Free jazz, as a genre, challenges traditional jazz structures such as fixed chord progressions and steady tempos. Ornette Coleman is widely credited as one of the architects of this movement, and "Science Fiction" exemplifies his continued commitment to pushing these boundaries.

Unlike earlier free jazz recordings that might embrace chaos or atonality, "Science Fiction" balances freedom with form. This nuanced approach allowed Coleman to maintain emotional depth and listener engagement while still advancing the avant-garde.

## Comparisons to Other Landmark Works

When juxtaposed with seminal free jazz albums like John Coltrane's "Ascension" or Albert Ayler's "Spiritual Unity," "Science Fiction" occupies a unique space. While Coltrane's work often emphasized spiritual transcendence and Ayler's was raw and intense, Coleman's album strikes a contemplative and cerebral tone.

Moreover, "Science Fiction" differs from Coleman's earlier "Free Jazz" double album (1961) by incorporating more melodic elements and a broader instrumental palette. This evolution demonstrates Coleman's versatility and his refusal to be pigeonholed within a single stylistic box.

# Impact and Legacy of Science Fiction

The release of "Science Fiction" was met with critical acclaim, though it did not achieve commercial success comparable to mainstream jazz records. Nonetheless, its influence permeated the jazz community and beyond.

## Influence on Musicians and Genres

Ornette Coleman's "Science Fiction" has inspired countless musicians across different genres:

1. **Jazz Innovators:** Artists like Charles Mingus and Cecil Taylor acknowledged Coleman's impact on their approach to improvisation and composition.
2. **Experimental Rock and Fusion:** Bands such as the Grateful Dead and musicians like Frank Zappa drew from Coleman's adventurous spirit and willingness to incorporate diverse musical elements.
3. **Modern Avant-Garde and Free Improvisation:** Contemporary artists continue to explore the boundaries that Coleman pushed, often citing "Science Fiction" as a key influence.

## Relevance in Contemporary Music Studies

Musicologists and jazz historians frequently analyze "Science Fiction" for its innovative compositional techniques and its role in the broader narrative of 20th-century music. The album serves as a case study in how avant-garde music can balance experimentation with accessibility.

## Exploring the Tracks: A Closer Look

To fully appreciate Ornette Coleman's "Science Fiction," it is essential to examine some of its standout tracks:

- **"Science Fiction":** The title track opens with a haunting melody, layered with intricate rhythmic patterns. It encapsulates the album's theme of exploring unknown territories, both musically and metaphorically.
- **"Civilization Day":** This piece combines lyrical saxophone lines with a driving rhythm section, evoking a sense of urgency and social commentary.
- **"Street Woman":** Featuring blues-inflected guitar work alongside Coleman's saxophone, this track highlights the blending of traditional and avant-garde elements.

- **"All My Life":** A more tender, melodic composition that contrasts with the album's more frenetic moments, showcasing Coleman's emotional range.

## Production and Sound Quality

Produced by Michael Cuscuna and recorded in New York City, "Science Fiction" benefits from a clear and intimate sound quality that captures the nuances of each instrument. The production allows listeners to hear the spontaneous interactions among musicians, an essential aspect of free jazz recordings.

## The Broader Cultural and Artistic Significance

Ornette Coleman's "Science Fiction" is not merely a musical artifact; it reflects a broader cultural moment marked by experimentation, social upheaval, and a reimagining of artistic expression. The album's title itself suggests a forward-looking perspective, blending art with ideas of futurism and possibility.

In this sense, "Science Fiction" transcends its genre, inviting listeners to consider music as a form of storytelling and visionary exploration. It challenges preconceived notions of structure and harmony and encourages an open-minded engagement with sound.

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Ornette Coleman's "Science Fiction" continues to resonate as a milestone in jazz history. Its daring approach to composition and improvisation not only encapsulates the spirit of free jazz but also exemplifies the transformative power of artistic innovation. As new generations discover Coleman's work, the album remains a vital reference point for those seeking to understand the evolving landscape of modern music.

## Ornette Coleman Science Fiction

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**ornette coleman science fiction:** *The Science Fiction of Poetics and the Avant-Garde Imagination* Michael Golston, 2023-11-19 How the tropes of science fiction infuse and inform avant-garde poetics and many other kindred arts This insightful, playful monograph from Golston does exactly what it advertises: modeling poetics based on how poetry (and some parallel artistic endeavors) has filtered through a century-plus of science fiction. This is not a book about science

fiction in and of itself, but it is a book about the resonances of science-fiction tropes and ideas in poetic language. The germ of Golston's project is a throwaway line in Robert Smithson's *Entropy and the New Monuments* about how cinema supplanted nature as inspiration for many of his fellow artists: "The movies give a ritual pattern to the lives of many artists, and this induces a kind of 'low budget' mysticism, which keeps them in a perpetual trance." Golston charts how the demotic appeal of sci-fi, much like that of the B-movie, cross-pollinated into poetry and other branches of the avant garde. Golston creates what he calls a "regular Rube Goldberg machine" of a critical apparatus, drawing on Walter Benjamin, Roman Jakobson, and Gilles Deleuze. He starts by acknowledging that, per the important work of Darko Suvin to situate science fiction critically, the genre is premised on cognitive estrangement. But he is not interested in the specific nuts and bolts of science fiction as it exists but rather how science fiction has created a model not only for other poets but also for musicians and landscape artists. Golston's critical lens moves around quite a bit, but he begins with familiar enough subjects: Edgar Rice Burroughs, Mina Loy, William S. Burroughs. From there he moves into more "alien" terrain: Ed Dorn's long poem *Gunslinger*, the discombobulated work of Clark Coolidge. Sun Ra, Ornette Coleman, and Jimi Hendrix all come under consideration. The result of Golston's restless, rich scholarship is the first substantial monograph on science fiction and avant-garde poetics, using Russian Formalism, Frankfurt School dialectics, and Deleuzian theory to show how the avant-garde inherently follows the parameters of sci fi, in both theme and form.

**ornette coleman science fiction: Experiencing Ornette Coleman** Michael Stephens, 2017-10-06 Saxophonist, violinist, trumpeter, composer, and bandleader Ornette Coleman, along with pianist Cecil Taylor, was one of the founding forces of the Free Jazz movement which took the music world by storm in the 1950s and 60s. His brilliance as an instrumentalist at first positioned him as a polarizing figure, but eventually brought him recognition as an American original and international jazz treasure. Jazz drummer Michael Stephens explores the personal challenges Coleman faced, the music he created from one decade to the next, and the incredibly positive attitude he maintained in the face of so much negativity throughout his life. Revealing how Coleman became an iconic, enigmatic figure not only in jazz, but in much of contemporary improvisational music, Stephens weaves together analysis of Coleman's recordings with interviews of those who knew Coleman best. *Experiencing Ornette Coleman: A Listener's Companion* encourages both jazz devotees and readers with little knowledge of the music to trace the inspirational journey of this now-seminal figure from his early years through the beginnings of the new millennium. Along the way, readers will learn about the music and motivations of the free jazz movement while experiencing an utterly human story of artistic genius and expression.

**ornette coleman science fiction: Ornette Coleman, Psychoanalysis, Discourse** A. L. James, 2024-11-29 Ornette Coleman, *Psychoanalysis, Discourse* develops tools from psychoanalysis for the analysis of Ornette Coleman's discourse. In this psychoanalytic, philosophical and musical meditation on what it means to follow, A. L. James presents an approach to the analysis of discourse that is a kind of listening for listening – an attempt to discern in and between the lines of Coleman's speech the implication of new ways to listen, new ways to experience Coleman's music as movement and space – as Movements in Harmolodic Space. Each chapter of this book is oriented with respect to fragments from Coleman's discourse, dealing with a piece, or collection of pieces, from Coleman's work, with particular attention to the implication of relations and relationality. Insofar as Coleman's discourse about his work also contains allusions to fields beyond music, it develops tools that draw elements and structures from these fields together, finding in their relation echoes and parallels. *Ornette Coleman, Psychoanalysis, Discourse* will be of great interest to psychoanalysts, musicians, and musicologists. It will be relevant for academics and scholars of psychoanalytic and Lacanian studies, music, and cultural studies.

**ornette coleman science fiction: The Trumpet Kings** Scott Yanow, 2001-08 This collection of 500 profiles covers legends plus lesser-known but also noteworthy trumpeters from all jazz eras. Overall contributions to the world of jazz are described, plus stories of colleagues, individual career details, and recommended recordings. Photos.



**ornette coleman science fiction: All Music Guide** Vladimir Bogdanov, Chris Woodstra, Stephen Thomas Erlewine, 2001-11 Arranged in sixteen musical categories, provides entries for twenty thousand releases from four thousand artists, and includes a history of each musical genre.

**ornette coleman science fiction: *History and Tradition of Jazz*** Thomas E. Larson, Tom Larson, 2002

**ornette coleman science fiction: *Strange Stars*** Jason Heller, 2018-06-05 A Hugo Award-winning author and music journalist explores the weird and wild story of when rock 'n' roll met the sci-fi world of the 1970s As the 1960s drew to a close, and mankind trained its telescopes on other worlds, old conventions gave way to a new kind of hedonistic freedom that celebrated sex, drugs, and rock 'n' roll. Derided as nerdy or dismissed as fluff, science fiction rarely gets credit for its catalyzing effect on this revolution. In *Strange Stars*, Jason Heller recasts sci-fi and pop music as parallel cultural forces that depended on one another to expand the horizons of books, music, and out-of-this-world imagery. In doing so, he presents a whole generation of revered musicians as the sci-fi-obsessed conjurers they really were: from Sun Ra lecturing on the black man in the cosmos, to Pink Floyd jamming live over the broadcast of the Apollo 11 moon landing; from a wave of Star Wars disco chart toppers and synthesiser-wielding post-punks, to Jimi Hendrix distilling the "purplish haze" he discovered in a pulp novel into psychedelic song. Of course, the whole scene was led by David Bowie, who hid in the balcony of a movie theater to watch 2001: A Space Odyssey, and came out a changed man... If today's culture of Comic Con fanatics, superhero blockbusters, and classic sci-fi reboots has us thinking that the nerds have won at last, *Strange Stars* brings to life an era of unparalleled and unearthly creativity—in magazines, novels, films, records, and concerts—to point out that the nerds have been winning all along.

**ornette coleman science fiction: *Cyberfiction*** P. Youngquist, 2010-03-29 *Cyberfiction: After the Future* explores a world where cybernetics sets the terms for life and culture - our world of ubiquitous info-tech, instantaneous capital flows, and immanent catastrophe. Economics fuses with technology to create a new kind of speculative fiction: cyberfiction. Paul Youngquist reveals the ways in which J. G. Ballard, Philip K. Dick, Samuel Delany, Octavia Butler, and William Gibson, among others, map a territory where information reigns supreme and the future is becoming a thing of the past.

**ornette coleman science fiction: *Ornette Coleman*** Peter Niklas Wilson, 1999 As Ornette Coleman approaches his 70th birthday, this book takes full measure of the man who has been called the most important jazz figure since Charlie Parker.

**ornette coleman science fiction: *Texan Jazz*** Dave Oliphant, 1996 While *Texans Jazz* includes Anglo Texan and Latino Texan musicians, its great strength is its record of the historic contributions to jazz made by African-American Texans.

**ornette coleman science fiction: *Afrofuturism and Black Sound Studies*** Erik Steinskog, 2017-11-06 This book interrogates the meeting point between Afrofuturism and Black Sound Studies. Whereas Afrofuturism is often understood primarily in relation to science fiction and speculative fiction, it can also be examined from a sonic perspective. The sounds of Afrofuturism are deeply embedded in the speculative - demonstrated in mythmaking - in frameworks for songs and compositions, in the personas of the artists, and in how the sounds are produced. In highlighting the place of music within the lived experiences of African Americans, the author analyses how the perspectives of Black Sound Studies complement and overlap with the discussion of sonic Afrofuturism. Focusing upon blackness, technology, and sound, this unique text offers key insights in how music partakes in imagining and constructing the future. This innovative volume will appeal to students and scholars of sound studies, musicology and African American studies.

**ornette coleman science fiction: *The World of Jazz Trumpet*** Scotty Barnhart, 2005-12 In *The World of Jazz Trumpet - A Comprehensive History and Practical Philosophy*, acclaimed jazz trumpet soloist Scotty Barnhart examines the political, social and musical conditions that led to the creation of jazz as America's premier art form. He traces the many factors that enabled freed slaves and their descendants to merge the blues, gospel, classical marches, and African rhythms to create a timeless

and profound art that, since its inception, circa 1900, continues to have a major impact on all music. *The World of Jazz Trumpet* is a must-have study of the jazz trumpet for students, instructors, and professional musicians, as well as for anyone who appreciates the genre. Readers will appreciate Barnhart's personal and professional connection to a major part of American and world history. This book fills a major void in the world of jazz education as well as in general music education. With entries on 800 trumpeters, it is destined to become required reading in thousands of colleges, schools and homes around the world.

**ornette coleman science fiction: *The Drummer's Bible*** Mick Berry, Jason Gianni, 2012-09-01 Updated to include 50 additional grooves, this encyclopedic book and two-CD set contains more than 450 musical examples in standard notation, showing grooves and practical variations. Overviews of the history and development of almost all popular music styles are covered alongside innumerable helpful performance tips. The two accompanying CDs feature performances of nearly 200 of the grooves, including every primary style example, all performed both with and without a click track. Styles covered include blues, rock, jazz, reggae, country, klezmer, ska, samba, punk, surf, heavy metal, latin rock, and funk; virtually every style a performing drummer will ever need to play is in there. This revised second edition also includes an updated bibliography and discography, as well as more historical information about the individual styles.

**ornette coleman science fiction: *Ugly Beauty: Jazz in the 21st Century*** Philip Freeman, 2022-01-28 What does jazz mean 20 years into the 21st century? Has streaming culture rendered music literally meaningless, thanks to the removal of all context beyond the playlist? Are there any traditions left to explore? Has the destruction of the apprenticeship model (young musicians learning from their elders) changed the music irrevocably? Are any sounds off limits? How far out can you go and still call it jazz? Or should the term be retired? These questions, and many more, are answered in *Ugly Beauty*, as Phil Freeman digs through his own experiences and conversations with present-day players. Jazz has never seemed as vital as it does right now, and has a genuine role to play in 21st-century culture, particularly in the US and the UK.

**ornette coleman science fiction: *Four Jazz Lives*** A.B. Spellman, 2011-06-22

**ornette coleman science fiction: *The Musician as Philosopher*** Michael Gallope, 2024-03-15 An insightful look at how avant-garde musicians of the postwar period in New York explored the philosophical dimensions of music's ineffability. *The Musician as Philosopher* explores the philosophical thought of avant-garde musicians in postwar New York: David Tudor, Ornette Coleman, the Velvet Underground, Alice Coltrane, Patti Smith, and Richard Hell. It contends that these musicians—all of whom are understudied and none of whom are traditionally taken to be composers—not only challenged the rules by which music is written and practiced but also confounded and reconfigured gendered and racialized expectations for what critics took to be legitimate forms of musical sound. From a broad historical perspective, their arresting music electrified a widely recognized social tendency of the 1960s: a simultaneous affirmation and crisis of the modern self.

**ornette coleman science fiction: *Free Jazz*** Jeff Schwartz, 2018-05-23 *Free Jazz: A Research and Information Guide* offers carefully selected and annotated sources on free jazz, with comprehensive coverage of English-language academic books, journal articles, and dissertations, and selective coverage of trade books, popular periodicals, documentary films, scores, Masters' theses, online texts, and materials in other languages. *Free Jazz* will be a major reference tool for students, faculty, librarians, artists, scholars, critics, and serious fans navigating this literature.

**ornette coleman science fiction: *Off the Planet*** Rebecca Leydon, Shuhei Hosokawa, Nabeel Zuberi, Neil Lerner, Rebecca Coyle, Paul Théberge, Michael Hannan, Melissa Carey, Karen Collins, Mark Evans, 2004-05-18 Essays on the use of music and sound in films from *Godzilla* to *Star Wars* and beyond. In recent years, music and sound have been increasingly recognized as an important, if often neglected, aspect of film production and film studies. *Off the Planet* comprises a lively, stimulating, and diverse collection of essays on aspects of music, sound, and science fiction cinema. Following a detailed historical introduction to the development of sound and music in the genre,

individual chapters analyze key films, film series, composers, and directors in the postwar era. The first part of the anthology profiles seminal 1950s productions such as *The Day the Earth Stood Still*, the first *Godzilla* film, and *Forbidden Planet*. Later chapters analyze the work of composer John Williams, the career of director David Cronenberg, the *Mad Max* series, James Cameron's *Terminators*, and other notable SF films such as *Space Is the Place*, *Blade Runner*, *Mars Attacks!*, and *The Matrix*. *Off the Planet* is an important contribution to the emerging body of work in music and film, with contributors including leading film experts from Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

**ornette coleman science fiction: Billboard** , 2000-06-10 In its 114th year, Billboard remains the world's premier weekly music publication and a diverse digital, events, brand, content and data licensing platform. Billboard publishes the most trusted charts and offers unrivaled reporting about the latest music, video, gaming, media, digital and mobile entertainment issues and trends.

**ornette coleman science fiction: Weather Bird** Gary Giddins, 2004-11-15 Gary Giddins's *Weather Bird* is a brilliant companion volume to his landmark in music criticism, *Visions of Jazz*, winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award in Criticism. More than 140 pieces, written over a 14-year period, are brought together for the first time in this superb collection of essays, reviews, and articles. *Weather Bird* is a celebration of jazz, with illuminating commentary on contemporary jazz events, today's top musicians, the best records of the year, and on leading figures from jazz's past. Readers will find extended pieces on Louis Armstrong, Erroll Garner, Benny Carter, Sonny Rollins, Dave Brubeck, Ornette Coleman, Billie Holiday, Cassandra Wilson, Tony Bennett, and many others. Giddins includes a series of articles on the annual JVC Jazz Festival, which offers a splendid overview of jazz in the 1990s. Other highlights include an astute look at avant-garde music (Parajazz) and his challenging essay, *How Come Jazz Isn't Dead?* which advances a theory about the way art is born, exploited, celebrated, and sidelined to the museum. A radiant compendium by America's leading music critic, *Weather Bird* offers an unforgettable look at the modern jazz scene.

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