



The Oxford Companion to Musical Instruments

By ANTHONY BAINES

Oxford University Press. Hardcover. Condition: New. 416 pages. Dimensions: 9.2in. x 6.2in. x 1.2in. From panpipes, to the agogo bell, to the tuba, musical instruments have formed an integral part of the cultures of the world. Their range and diversity--including the simplest of spoons as well as the complex pressure systems of a pipe organ--have inspired the skill and genius of maker, composer, and player. Now, in *The Oxford Companion to Musical Instruments*, Anthony C. Baines provides a comprehensive guide to the astonishing variety of Western and non-Western musical instruments. Each entry in this lavishly illustrated book offers a concise description of the instrument, as well as a wealth of information on such subjects as playing techniques, harmonics and circular breathing, the sound of an instrument, acoustics, pitch, an instruments use within the orchestral repertoire or, for ethnomusicological instruments, within ritual, and significant developments in its history. Baines covers a vast array of instruments, from the common cowbell, to the Red-hot fountain pen (a novelty instrument of the 1930s), to the Celtic harp. For instance, he discusses how the bladder pipe (a relative of the bagpipe) uses a pigs bladder, and tells how it is deodorized (with ammonia) and kept pliable...



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