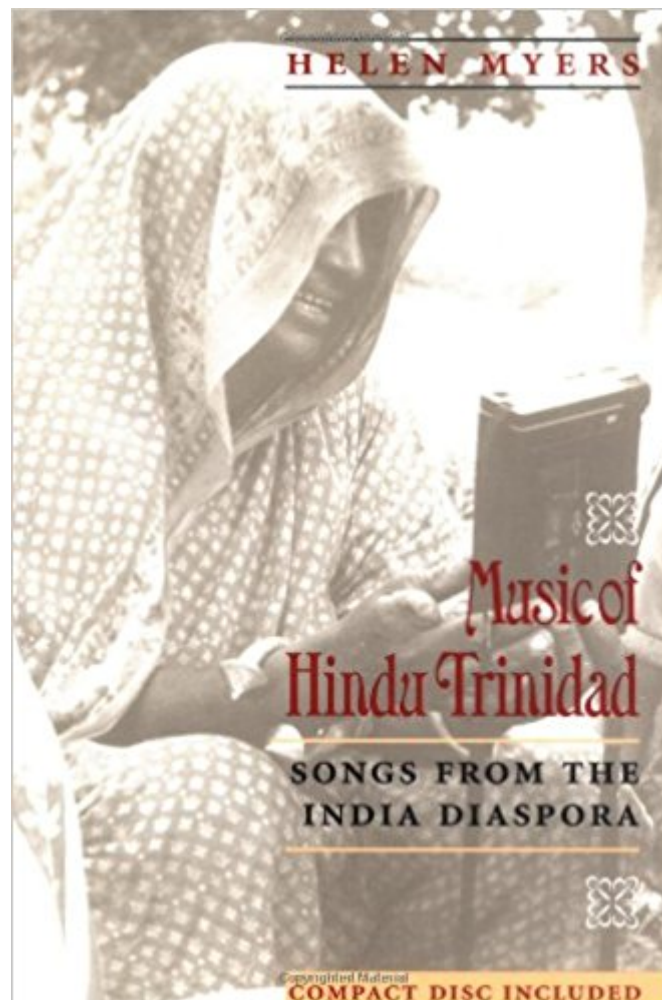




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Music Of Hindu Trinidad: Songs From The India Diaspora (Chicago Studies In Ethnomusicology)



Synopsis

Like many other small towns in Trinidad, Felicity is populated almost entirely by East Indians. In their Caribbean exile, the residents of Felicity have created and recreated the music of their Hindu ancestors. *Music of Hindu Trinidad* is a fascinating account of the history and cultural significance of Hindu music that explores its symbolic, aesthetic, and psychological aspects while asking the larger question of how this music has contributed to the formation of identity in the midst of their great diaspora. Myers details the musical repertory of Felicity, which is based largely on north Indian genres including the traditional Bhojpur folk songs and drumming styles brought by the first indentured laborers in 1845. In her engaging exploration of the fate of Indian classical music and new popular styles such as Hindi calypso, soca, and chutney, she even finds herself at the ancestral home of Trinidadian V. S. Naipaul in India. Copiously illustrated and accompanied by a compact disk, *Music of Hindu Trinidad* is a model ethnographic study.

Book Information

Series: Chicago Studies in Ethnomusicology

Paperback: 542 pages

Publisher: University Of Chicago Press; PAP/COM edition (January 15, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0226554538

ISBN-13: 978-0226554532

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1.4 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (1 customer review)

Best Sellers Rank: #3,022,486 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #58 in Â Books > History > Americas > Caribbean & West Indies > Trinidad and Tobago #494 in Â Books > History > World > Religious > Hinduism #1159 in Â Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Musical Genres > Ethnic & International > Ethnomusicology

Customer Reviews

This meticulously researched volume presents a portrait of Felicity, an East Indian village of Trinidad. Presented in loving and human terms the author captures the viewpoint of the villagers themselves as they explain their music and culture. Free from the troubling jargon that bedevils so many recent studies in ethnomusicology, Myers's work is a model study that deserves serious scholarly attention. Highly recommended for specialists as well as general readers, who will be

interested in the extensive coverage on Nobel-prize-winning author V.S. Naipaul and his highly musical family.

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