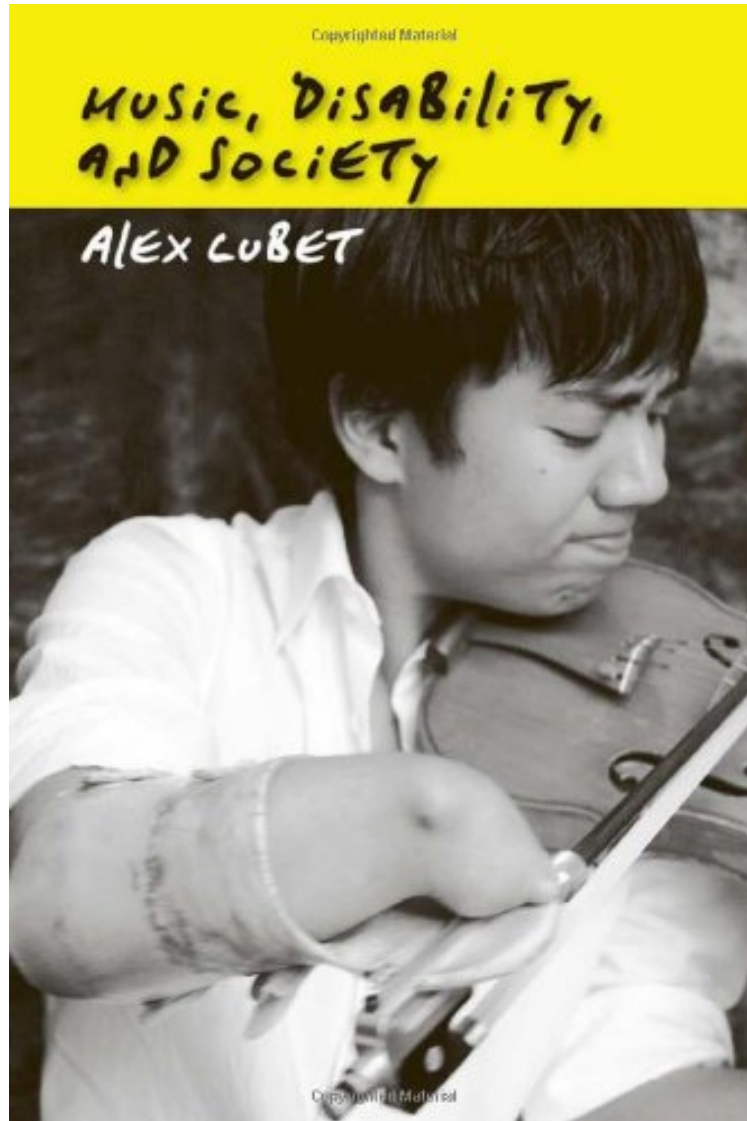


Music, Disability, and Society

Alex Lubet

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Alex Lubet : Music, Disability, and Society before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Music, Disability, and Society:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Definitive TextBy R. HarryThe best text on music and disability to date. If you are looking for a book that explores the interesction of the the field of Disabilities Studies and Music, this is a definitive book and will be required reading in this growing area of scholarship.6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Virtuoso performance by an engaging innovatorBy different drummer 63Though Alex Lubet published

"Music, Disability, and Society" quite recently, it's neither too early nor an exaggeration to say that he has written a text that's in the running to be one of our young decade's most important books. If the title seems general and generic, don't let that fool you. Alex Lubet makes the most of his multifaceted interests, observations, and achievements as a professor and professional musician. Yes, the book is scholarly and will appeal strongly to those who share the author's commitment to disability studies, a relatively new field that approaches disability as a topic for cultural, social, and political investigations. But Lubet also reaches outside academia and, not surprisingly, given his awareness of audiences that he acquired as a performing musician, delivers the goods in a way that draws in and speaks to a wide range of readers. I guarantee you will not only learn from Alex Lubet--about classical and jazz music, about Jewish and Islamic cultures, about the impact of various disabilities on individual and collective identities in myriad contexts, and much more--but that you will also enjoy the time you make for this fine writer, storyteller, and teacher. Both music and disability have great resonance, individually, culturally, socially, transnationally. Alex Lubet understands that it's a rare person who doesn't love or at least like some forms of music, and who doesn't have direct or indirect experience of disability. "Music, Disability, and Society" is a showcase for his vision and voice, an invitation to participate in pioneering thought and action organized around people with disabilities and their futures. It's a relatively brief book (170 pages), but you'll be astonished by the variety of Lubet's topics, impressed by his knowledge, and comfortable with the goodwill he brings to his good work. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Stunning; a landmark achievement. By Ravi Malhotra Alex Lubet's book is a stunning achievement in highlighting the interplay between music and disability studies. As someone who is not an expert in music, I was delighted by its easy to understand approach that makes this book ideal for anyone interested in cultural studies; no specialist knowledge is required. The author weaves in a personal touch throughout the book and it is brimming with passion on every page. The central theme is the author's theory of social confluence which the author nicely links to technological change. One learns about how impairment in jazz musicians such as Django Reinhardt affected their performance and how conventional attitudes about impairment need to be reconstructed. Without a doubt, the highlight of the book is the third chapter, playfully entitled Play Like an Egyptian, riffing off the Bangles. It beautifully covers an orchestra of blind women in Cairo, Egypt and raises challenging questions about the existence of a blind culture. This chapter alone is worth the price of the book. Other chapters address more challenging issues, including the Taliban's repression of music and Orthodox Jewish practices which prohibit a man from hearing a woman's singing voice. While one can agree or disagree on whether musicality constitutes its own identity akin to being gay, one of Lubet's more controversial claims, anyone interested in disability studies needs to take this contribution seriously and engage with the author. This is a must read and will likely set the parameters of future debates in the field for years to come.

"With a clear and personal voice, Alex Lubet illuminates the confluence of music and disability. His insights range from classical to popular music, from the specific demands made on one-handed classical pianists to the startling uniqueness of Bob Dylan's voice, from the magical, impaired jazz guitar of Django Reinhardt to the harmonies of blind musical culture. Here is a book designed for musicians and students of disability alike---a perfect fusion of musical knowledge and disability studies unlikely to be duplicated any time soon."---Tobin Siebers, University of Michigan "Music, Disability, and Society is a provocative, interesting, and significant book. Lubet's work is unique in its scope and trajectory. Moreover, the overtly personal nature of the text ensures a unique take on its subject matter. This is a book that brings new and fresh perspectives to scholarly considerations of music, culture, and disability studies, as well as to the myriad points at which they intersect in contemporary (and occasionally historical) societies. It will make a significant impact on disability studies, ethnomusicology, and related fields."---Michael B. Bakan, Florida State University "In Music, Disability, and Society Alex Lubet identifies the utility of bringing a disability studies perspective to the field of music studies. His book helps to demonstrate not only the significance of disabled people's presence in the history of music, but, even more importantly, the difference that disability makes in the production of the art form itself. The work will help to spur new work in this interdisciplinary arena for years to come."---David Mitchell, Temple University

"This is an excellent resource on the nexus of music, disability, and society, an area scholars of disability studies rarely cover. Lubet examines prevailing sociocultural attitudes to performers with disabilities, comparing traditional genres such as classical music, with its rigid standards of playing canonical repertoire, with jazz, which encourages improvisation and thus adaptation to impairments.... This fascinating overview of the reciprocal influences of a broad variety of elements--leavened by the author's personal experience as a musicologist with a disability--[is] well worth the effort. Summing Up: Highly recommended." -Choice "In Music, Disability, and Society Alex Lubet identifies the utility of bringing a disability studies perspective to the field of music studies. His book helps to demonstrate not only the significance of disabled peoples' presence in the history of music, but, even more importantly, the difference that disability makes in the production of the art form itself. The work will help to spur new work in this interdisciplinary arena for years to come." -David Mitchell, Temple University "Music, Disability, and Society is a provocative, interesting, and significant book. Lubet's work is unique in its scope and trajectory. Moreover, the overtly personal

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About the Author
Alex Lubetis
Morse Alumni/Graduate and Professional Distinguished Teaching Professor of Music, at the University of Minnesota, with additional appointments in Jewish Studies and American Studies. He is co-editor (with Matthew Bribitzer-Stull and Gottfried Wagner) of *Richard Wagner for the New Millennium: Essays in Music and Culture*.