
Klisala Harrison

How to Cite

Abstract
Pisani’s book traces the origins and development of the musical tropes for Native Americans in several contexts: European court entertainments from 1550 to 1760; anti-colonial British-American theater and songs from 1710 to 1808; parlor songs, musical theater, and concert works from 1795 to 1860 that addressed colonial conquest; ethnomusicographic representations of Native American music in the mid-nineteenth and early twentieth centuries; American instrumental character pieces, string quartets, and symphonic works at the turn of the twentieth century; early twentieth-century parlor songs, concert songs, American operas, and Broadway musicals; and Native American music in film, especially in Hollywood Westerns. As this list of contents demonstrates, Imagining Native America in Music will appeal to scholars from various academic fields working on a variety of topics and areas. The monograph bridges musicology, performance practice studies, ethnomusicology, history, indigenous studies, theater studies, and film studies. Pisani’s research is impressively thorough. His detailed examination of hundreds of scores of art music, antiquated popular music, and musical theater compositions took him to a number of archives including the British Library, the Library of Congress, the American Folklife Center, and the Smithsonian Institution. His book offers evocative sonic descriptions of rarely performed American art music from the turn of the twentieth century, as well as comprehensive repertoire lists and over thirty-two music transcriptions and reprints (though the large number of musical examples and analyses may deter the non-musically trained scholar).

https://doi.org/10.7916/cm.v0i82.5085
Pisani reveals how certain themes and metaphors changed over the centuries and shows how much of this “Indian music,” which was and continues to be largely imagined, alternately idealized and vilified the peoples of native America. Music Nonfiction. Publication Details. Publisher: Yale University Press. Publication Date: 2008. Start your review of Imagining Native America in Music. Michael Pisani was born in Gary, Indiana and attended an excellent drama and music program at his Catholic High School (Andrean). He grew up playing the accordion (classical as well as ethnic musics) and went to Oberlin College, studying music composition and conducting. He earned a PhD in musicology from the Eastman School of Music (University of Rochester, New York). Professor Pisani was also an Michael Pisani was born in Gary, Indiana and attended an excellent drama and music program at his Catholic High School (Andrean). Need another excuse to treat yourself to a new book this week? We've got you covered with the buzziest new releases of the day. To create our Read more Imagining native America in music. Michael V. Pisani. Art. 2005. This book offers a comprehensive look at musical representations of native America from the pre-colonial past through the American West and up to the present. The discussion covers a wide range of... Expand. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1997. 253 pp. Martin Miller Marks. Music and the silent film: contexts and case studies,... Expand. View on Taylor & Francis. MICHAEL V. PISANI. Copyright Date: 2005. Published by: Yale University Press. Pages: 448. Michael Pisani demonstrates how European colonists and their descendants were fascinated by the idea of race and ethnicity in music, and he examines how music contributed to the complex process of cultural mediation. Pisani reveals how certain themes and metaphors changed over the centuries and shows how much of this “Indian music,” which was and continues to be largely imagined, alternately idealized and vilified the peoples of native America. eISBN: 978-0-300-13073-7. Subjects: Music. Part One: New World Americans. 1 Noble Savagery in European Court Entertainments, 1550–1760. (pp. 17-43). Michael V. Pisani is associate professor of music at Vassar College. "Michael Pisani brilliantly combines precise musical analysis with rich cultural and historical contextualization, revealing the development of the Sound of Indian and its critical place in American life. Undoubtedly the definitive work in the field—and destined to remain so for a very long time."—Phil Deloria, author of Indians in Unexpected Places. “This book . . . [is] about how Native American culture and its meaning were imagined musically. Pisani offers a skillful survey of how, through music, Europeans a