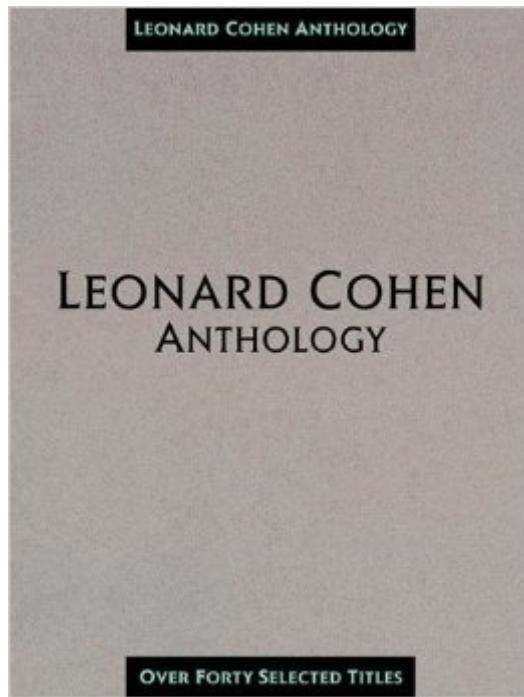


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Leonard Cohen Anthology



Synopsis

(P/V/G Composer Collection). This thick collection includes 43 favorites penned by legendary singer-songwriter, poet, novelist and iconoclast Leonard Cohen. Includes: Ain't No Cure for Love * Avalanche * Bird on a Wire * Chelsea Hotel #2 * (No) Diamonds in the Mine * Famous Blue Raincoat * The Guests * I'm Your Man * Jazz Police * Joan of Arc * Lady Midnight * A Singer Must Die * Sisters of Mercy * So Long, Marianne * Suzanne * Take This Longing * Tower of Song * You Know Who I Am * and more.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (17 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

The 43 songs in this book cover Leonard Cohen's work up through 1988, with his I'm Your Man album being the last one represented. While the 1969 book Songs of Leonard Cohen contained an essay and many photographs with vocal lines and guitar tablature from his first two albums, there are no photographs or extras in this collection. This book presents vocal lines, guitar chords, and a grand staff for piano arrangements. The typography and layout are excellent, though the piano arrangements cause a number of songs to be run out for six, eight or ten pages. The 43 songs included represent a good cross-section of Cohen's most prolific period of songwriting.

As I have always been attracted to Leonard Cohen's mysterious poem and song writing; now I can and you too, experience the thrill of playing guitar or piano to Leonard's classic songs such as, Sister's of Mercy, Suzanne, Hey That's No Way to Say Goodbye, etc. We can do justice to these

compositions since chord charts are provided making each page in this anthology easy to read with melodies - accurately -chord matched. In other words, it's not a fake book. Lyrics, though not text underlaid, can be manipulated under first verses, especially if you are a guitar player and are not in need of the piano treble and bass systems. Regardless, you won't be let down. Make this Anthology of Mr. Cohen's life's work masterpieces part of your creative library. Ok, I've gotta go now, Bird on A Wire is hovering over my guitar.

Nothing, but nothing can compare to a live performance of Leonard Cohen with his great musicians. But giving a try at playing and if no one is home, even singing his songs will lift your spirits and give you joy. His songs are magic. Try them in this big book.

A good representation of Cohen's earlier work; none of his later stuff. Bare-bones treatment of the songs, which are scored for piano (guitar chords are also shown, but not tablature), and the right hand faithfully carries the melody. The flavor of the songs is captured (at least the ones I've played), the chords and chord changes are correct, but you may feel a need to embellish. I consider myself an intermediate player and can sight-read these songs easily, as they're scored. But most of the songs, though the earliest arrangement were simple indeed, are really too simple for piano. An acoustically recorded, guitar-based song does not translate, without some thought and care, into a good piano arrangement, and a lot of the songs could be (and at this price, should be) fleshed out for piano. It appears to me that this songbook was more or less slapped together for commercial purposes, and I think that a lot of Cohen's poetry and music deserve better than this.

But that's OK. You can't have too much or too little Leonard. It is interesting to see his choice of key and the jazz sound he produces. Take a song that is very simple musically and surround it with jazz of some complexity -- really a musical and lyrical paradox. The man is great. If you have a chance to see him and his band (with stellar vocal backup) take it. One of the best concerts I have seen in years. The book is arbitrary in its selection of songs -- mostly early -- but hey, this is Leonard. You will love it.

Forty three great tracks, with full score. Terrific music from one of the masters. My only complaint is that Mr Cohen's talents are so great, that some of his best are not included, among the 43, such as Hallelujah and The Future. But plenty to keep me busy until I buy more.

Great read and music too! I've been a fan since the Isle of Wight festival 1970 I love this guy!

Great book, accurate scores. No one beats Leonard for depth and beauty in lyrics!

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