

New Percussion Literature and Recordings

Publishers and composers are invited to submit materials to *Percussive Notes* to be considered for review. Selection of reviewers is the sole responsibility of the Review Editor of *Percussive Notes*. Comments about the works do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Percussive Arts Society.

Send two copies of each submission to:

James Lambert
Percussive Arts Society
32 E. Washington, Suite 1400
Indianapolis, IN 46204 USA.

Note: Please provide current address or e-mail, contact information and price with each item to be reviewed. Whenever possible, please include a performance or rehearsal tape of ensemble music. Also, if possible, include a translation if text and CD liner notes are not in English.

Difficulty Rating Scale

I-II	Elementary
III-IV	Intermediate
V-VI	Advanced
VI+	Difficult

REFERENCE TEXTS

Billy Gladstone

Chet Falzerano

\$19.95

Centerstream (Hal Leonard)

This 79-page soft-cover reference manual is an excellent tribute to the life of Billy Gladstone. Born in 1892 in Rumania as William David Goldstein, his name was changed, as author Chet Falzerano explains, because he "fell victim to an Ellis Island clerical error when he came to the United States in 1904. An officer referred to him as David Gladstone and the name stuck."

Gladstone is documented in this outstanding publication as not only an exceptional percussionist at New York City's Radio City Music Hall but also as a gifted, creative inventor of numerous percussion



instruments and accessories. These include the Gladstone snare drum, snare drum stand, practice pad, hand sock-cymbal floor stand, and "hollow-handle percussion mallets," to name a few. This book documents Gladstone's achievements until his death in 1961 in New York.

There is ample documentation provided in this book of Gladstone's snare drums, which were owned and played by such drumming greats as Buddy Rich, Gene Krupa, Buster Bailey, Louie Bellson, Arnie Lang and Harold Farberman. There are also beautiful black-and-white photos included in context to the book's discussion. This is a significant reference book for percussionists who desire to know more about the life of influential percussionist Billy Gladstone.

—Jim Lambert

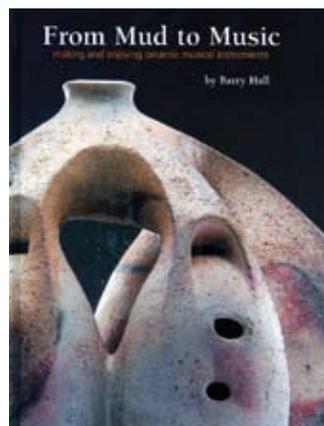
From Mud to Music

Barry Hall

\$59.95

American Ceramic Society

This glossy coffee-table book is subtitled "Making and Enjoying Ceramic Instruments," and that's precisely its focus. It provides numerous photos and information on ceramic instruments from around the world, including *idiophones* (instruments whose bodies vibrate to produce a sound), *membranophones* (instruments with a skin head), *aerophones* (wind instruments) and *chordophones* (string instruments). Percussion instruments highlighted include shakers, bowls



that can be struck, tongue drums, gongs, clay marimbas and various hand drums (doubekes, darbukkas, udu drums, etc.). Precise instructions for constructing an udu drum and ceramic doumbek are included in the final chapter. The detailed text, with its rich historical perspective and excellent photos, would interest just about any percussionist or musicologist.

—Terry O'Mahoney

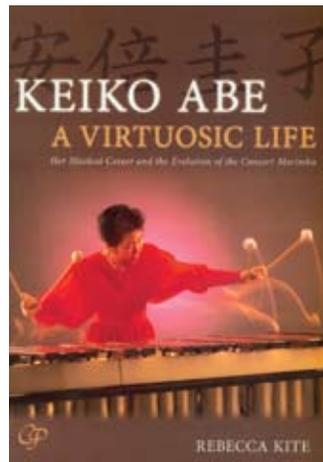
Keiko Abe—A Virtuoso Life

Rebecca Kite

\$74.95

GP Percussion

This landmark 302-page biography of Keiko Abe will surely become a printed reference/memorial to one of the world's premier marimba pioneers and performers. Abe's gifted



musical influence is documented very well by author Rebecca Kite (herself an accomplished percussionist and marimbist).

Kite's biography of Abe is divided into two parts: Part I consists of six chapters that discuss Abe's early educational and musical development and her sparkling career as a professional marimba performer. Part II is entitled "The Evolution of the Concert Marimba" and serves as an excellent historical reference document of the marimba as a legitimate concert instrument as well as Abe's extraordinary influence upon this development. Also important are the five appendices: 1. Evolution of the Xylophone and Marimba—A Time Line; 2. Abe's Compositions; 3. Abe's World Premieres; 4. Abe's Recordings—A Selected Discography; and 5. Designing Keiko Abe's Marimbas.

Additionally, a CD enclosed in the book's cover contains several of Abe's performances (of particular interest are Abe's early performances as a professional marimbist in Japan before she performed internationally). The other excellent resource in this biography is the selection of superb photographs that document Abe's life.

Kite's writing style is very accessible and very thorough and logical in its approach. This biography of Keiko Abe is a compellingly delightful read; one almost cannot put the book down after starting the opening chapters. Kite writes in her preface: "I had learned how central music was, and is to Keiko Abe's daily life...I have never known an artist with the depth and passion, the single-mindedness, and the sheer talent of Keiko Abe."

—Jim Lambert

The Steel Band Game Plan

Chris Tanner

\$34.95

Rowman & Littlefield

This informative, 113-page hardback book is very practical for the music educator who is starting a steel-drum ensemble at the high school or college level. Chris Tanner provides "strategies for starting, building and