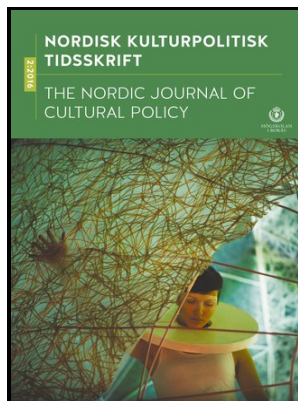


Hallelujah junction - composing an American life

Farrar, Straus and Giroux - Hallelujah Junction: Composing an American Life by John Adams, Paperback



Description: -

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Law

Deportation

Aliens

Composers -- United States -- Biography

Adams, John, -- 1947-Hallelujah junction - composing an American life

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Notes: Includes index.

This edition was published in 2008



Filesize: 53.37 MB

Tags: #Hallelujah #Junction #: #Composing #an #American #Life #(Paperback)

Hallelujah Junction: Composing an American Life

A book for anyone who wants to create something--including a self. Ironically this great American sojourn westward was made via Canada. He even tells us of his adventures in taking acid he seems to remember the details of his trips almost too well.

Hallelujah Junction: Composing an American Life

Adams is a Boomer composer who lived the alternative and experimental musical life. I was anxious to read John Adams' memoir for these reasons.

9780374281151: Hallelujah Junction: Composing an American Life

He neglects to mention, until later in the book, that he was long regarded as a minimalist himself. Reading the autobiographies and biographies of composers have a historical and analytical purpose, but this nontechnical book is contemporary in every way, making it attractive to the general reader, not just the musicologist or classical music fan. Chapters are self-contained and seldom refer to each other.

'Hallelujah Junction: Composing an American Life' by John Adams

A select few describe their failures along with their achievements, and John Adams is one of that small group. Amazingly, you can almost hear it. I never forgot John Adams and soon checked out what I could find in libraries of his music--not much.

9780374281151: Hallelujah Junction: Composing an American Life

Stephen Jay Gould, the challenging thinker about evolutionary science, reminds us that our culture has two canonical modes for trending. This is a wonderful book by one of our most renowned modern composers.

Hallelujah Junction : Composing an American Life

But two things seemed to have worked against this: an adventurous, rebellious spirit, and a love of popular American culture, which as he matured in the 1960s included imported English pop music, dance bands in which his father played and television. An original and inspired book. The biggest detriment to the book is its lack of cohesion.

Hallelujah Junction: Composing an American Life. By John Adams.

For whatever it is worth I believe that compositions such as *Harmonielehre*, *The Death of Klinghoffer*, *El Nino* and *The Dharma at Big Sur* will eventually be accepted as a solid part of the canon of serious Western music. This is a book that any aspiring artist, in any medium, should read as a kind of how-to guide to achieving artistic success without losing integrity. Adams arrived at this particular harmonic language is largely the subject of his absorbing book, which at times reads like a quest narrative that travels through the whole landscape of twentieth-century music.

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