

The Ebony Swan

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family secrets are locked away at the intimidating virginia estate of a prima ballerina in this suspenseful tale from a new york times bestselling author susan prentice is a young nurse at a crossroads she s broken off an engagement the father who raised her has just died and now she s leaving the western shores behind for a trip to her family s home on virginia s northern neck where she saw her mother fall to her death twenty five years ago there susan s grandmother former ballet diva alexandrina alex vargas montoro proves a formidable sentinel for the family s mysterious history at first welcomed by her long estranged relatives spied on by suspicious neighbors and drawn to peter alex s handsome young doctor susan has nothing but questions and for every answer there s a warning and the fear that she has only peter to trust in but even the doctor s past is shaded with murder soon susan will discover that she alone holds the key to her mother s suspicious death hidden away in her shattered memories and someone intimately close to her is prepared to bury the truth forever the ebony swan is a carefully crafted novel of psychological suspense by a mystery writers of america grand master publishers weekly this ebook features an illustrated biography of phyllis a whitney including rare images from the author s estate

building on the narratives explored in volume one this publication recovers the story of a further seven black visitors to ireland in the decades prior to the american civil war this volume examines each of these seven activists and artists and how their unique and diverse talents contributed to the movement to abolish enslavement and to the demand for black equality in an era that witnessed the rise of minstrelsy they provided a powerful counter argument to the lie of black inferiority moreover their interactions with irish abolitionists helped to build a strong transatlantic movement that had a global reach and impact the lives explored are ira aldridge the african roscius william henry lane master juba william p powell elizabeth greenfield the black swan reuben nixon james watkins and william h day individually and collectively they demonstrated the agency and power of black involvement in the search for social justice this book will be of value to students and scholars alike interested in modern european history and social and cultural history

blues book of the year living blues association of recorded sound collections awards for excellence best historical research in recorded blues gospel soul or r b certificate of merit 2018 2023 blues hall of fame inductee classic of blues literature category with this volume lynn abbott and doug seroff complete their groundbreaking trilogy on the development of african american popular music fortified by decades of research the authors bring to life the performers entrepreneurs critics venues and institutions that were most crucial to the emergence of the blues in black southern vaudeville theaters the shadowy prehistory

and early development of the blues is illuminated detailed and given substance at the end of the nineteenth century vaudeville began to replace minstrelsy as america's favorite form of stage entertainment segregation necessitated the creation of discrete african american vaudeville theaters when these venues first gained popularity ragtime coon songs were the standard fare insular black southern theaters provided a safe haven where coon songs underwent rehabilitation and blues songs suitable for the professional stage were formulated the process was energized by dynamic interaction between the performers and their racially exclusive audience the first blues star of black vaudeville was butler string beans may a blackface comedian from montgomery alabama before his bizarre senseless death in 1917 string beans was recognized as the blues master piano player of the world his musical legacy elusive and previously unacknowledged is preserved in the repertoire of country blues singer guitarists and pianists of the race recording era while male blues singers remained tethered to the role of blackface comedian female coon shouters acquired a more dignified aura in the emergent persona of the blues queen ma rainey bessie smith and most of their contemporaries came through this portal while others such as forgotten blues heroine ora crisswell and her prot^g g^g trixie smith ingeniously reconfigured the blackface mask for their own subversive purposes in 1921 black vaudeville activity was effectively nationalized by the theater owners booking association t o b a in collaboration with the emergent race record industry t o b a theaters featured touring companies headed by blues queens with records to sell by this time the blues had moved beyond the confines of entertainment for an exclusively black audience small time black vaudeville became something it had never been before a gateway to big time white vaudeville circuits burlesque wheels and fancy metropolitan cabarets while the 1920s was the most glamorous and remunerative period of vaudeville blues the prior decade was arguably even more creative having witnessed the emergence popularization and early development of the original blues on the african american vaudeville stage

the first comprehensive guide to pre 1934 female popular vocal recordings sung in english from around the world and including all styles this discographical study includes solos duets trios and quartets composed by the great songwriters of the early 1900s from irving berlin to victor young the majority of the listings includes material that has not been previously published and a large number of entries profile such prolific artists as helen clark and gladys rice who are not in previous discographies a special feature includes data on sound on disc recording made for early talking picture musical shorts especially by vitaphone that is not documented elsewhere a comprehensive title index includes composer credits for the majority of the titles listed the first comprehensive guide to pre 1934 female popular vocal recordings sung in english from around the world and including all styles this discographical study includes solos duets trios and quartets composed by the great songwriters of the early 1900s from irving berlin to victor young the majority of the listings includes material that has not been previously published and a large number of entries profile such prolific artists as helen clark and gladys rice who are not in previous discographies a special feature includes data on sound on disc recording made for early talking picture musical shorts especially by vitaphone that is not documented elsewhere a comprehensive title index includes composer credits for the majority of the titles listed many of the records documented in this volume are by the artists who introduced these songs at this time or who performed them in the original productions of the shows or movies for which they were written the singing styles include those of cabaret performers music hall and vaudeville acts songs for the stage screen and radio are also included

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