

Toy Instruments: Design, Nostalgia, Music

Eric Schneider

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#2807342 in Books Mark Batty Publisher 2010-02-23 2010-02-23 Original language: English PDF # 1 6.50 x 1.04 x 6.53 | 1.10 #File Name: 0982075480192 pages | File size: 36.Mb

Eric Schneider : Toy Instruments: Design, Nostalgia, Music before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Toy Instruments: Design, Nostalgia, Music:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Amazing Collection of Mini Piano Toys By Mate3355 This book is fantastic. If you are interested in small, mini pianos, check out this book. It has a wide variety and collection of books categorized by type of musical instrument. My personal favorites in here are the Sharp mini calculator and the Casio VL-Tone. They allow you to play songs by just pressing a button. How cool is that? The Bugs Bunny Jelly Roll piano was also unique in the sense that it allows you to sort of program a song by putting pegs in a wheel, and then rotating that, and the piano starts to play. I love mini pianos and organs because they allow you to be musically creative virtually anywhere. I highly recommend this book, and I will treasure it for years to come. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Cool pictures, and that's about it By PlanetExpressShip If you treat it like a picture book, this will suit you fine. Unfortunately there is very little actual information about the toys pictured in the book, and every time you naively glance at a given toy's "description" you will be punished by one of the author's corny one-liners instead of anything interesting. Which is sad, because the author has such a cool collection and I'm sure he's very knowledgeable about most of it. To me it seems as though a totally unknowledgeable third party came in and typed in 90% of the captions. All that said, it's still on my coffee table because the pictures are pretty and I enjoy toy books. Just don't expect to learn anything. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Weak Picture-Book By Daniel Kian Mc Kiernan The back-of-the-book blurb claims that the toys were "made between the 1950s and the 1990s", but the

earliest toy actually dated is said to be from 1960. (One could as well claim that the toys were made between the 1840s and the 2150s!) Very few toys (no more than three) are not electronic. (There were a lot of interesting musical toys made in the '60s and earlier that were fundamentally mechanical. And, before that, virtually all musical toys were mechanical.) Setting aside the dedication-and-acknowledgments, a brief forward, and a very short guest-introduction, the only text in this book are captions, which often say nothing about the toy, or nothing that is not obvious. So this is essentially just a picture-book. Photos are often cropped (in keeping with some deplorable notion of artistry) such that the whole toy is not shown, making it a weak picture-book. About 90 toys are shown (or partially shown).

Toy Instruments comprises an eye-popping collection of musical toys made between the 1950s and 1990s. Created to excite children about learning how to play an instrument, the toys turned out to be very fun for adults as well. Just ask David Bowie; he used the Stylophone in his song "Space Oddity." Culled from author Eric Schneider's personal collection, Toy Instruments explores this niche of the toy industry, doing so with an informative and humorous approach that demonstrates how even in today's world of Guitar Hero and Wii, these musical toys are emblematic, and enigmatic, artifacts from bygone eras. As DJ Spooky writes in his introduction, "I think of the material that Eric Schneider has compiled as a kind of 'object' time machine, reaching back to the heart of what electronic music represented when it was new."