



This Jazz Man

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In this toe-tapping jazz tribute, the traditional "This Old Man" gets a swinging makeover, and some of the era's best musicians take center stage. The tuneful text and vibrant illustrations bop, slide, and shimmy across the page as Satchmo plays one, Bojangles plays two . . . right on down the line to Charles Mingus, who plays nine, plucking strings that sound "divine."

Easy on the ear and the eye, this playful introduction to nine jazz giants will teach children to count--and will give them every reason to get up and dance!

Includes a brief biography of each musician.

This Jazz Man Details

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Author : Karen Ehrhardt , R.G. Roth (Illustrator)

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Download and Read Free Online This Jazz Man Karen Ehrhardt , R.G. Roth (Illustrator)

From Reader Review This Jazz Man for online ebook

Laurie says

Booklist (November 15, 2006 (Vol. 103, No. 6))

Ehrhardt moves the traditional counting chant "This Old Man" to the jazz club in this infectious, rhythmic offering. Each page features a different jazz musician who plays "rhythm with his thumb," "makes music with his shoes," and so on. The rhyming text scans with a smooth, toe-tapping tempo that's nicely extended by the colorful, mixed-media images, arranged in compositions that have their own staccato beat. Bars of striped color slide across page edges, and stylized African American musicians, rendered in geometric shapes and textured prints, send up "notes that rise to heaven." Children will want to shout along with the scat-cat rhythms ("Beedle-di-Bop! Bebop!") that replace the original chant's "paddy-whack" refrain and are printed in colorful letters that punctuate the artwork. This will appeal most to preschoolers and kindergarteners, but older children will appreciate the closing section, which reveals that the featured musicians represent real-life jazz legends, including Charles Mingus and Charlie Parker. A short biography of each is appended. A welcome introduction to the world of jazz.

Horn Book (Spring 2007)

Ehrhardt riffs on "This Old Man," composing a new verse for each of nine jazz musicians including Louis Armstrong and Charles Mingus ("This jazz man, he plays nine, / He plucks strings that sound divine"). Lively verbs and onomatopoeia contribute to the jazz rhythm, and the pastel mixed-media collage illustrations suit the subject. An afterword gives additional information about each player.

Kirkus Reviews (October 15, 2006)

Ehrhardt offers her version of the classic song, "This Old Man," with a few surprises. Ten two-page spreads update the sing-along favorite, each of the first nine devoted to a different jazz legend, from Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong to Charlie "Bird" Parker to John Burks "Dizzy" Gillespie to Charles Mingus and others. (On number ten, naturally, they jam.) In addition to the revision of the verses themselves—"He plays solo with his sticks / With a bomp-bomp! Bubbuda-bomp!" for example—additional scat phrases dance across the pages in a riot of color. Brief, concise biographies of the nine jazz men are a bonus surprise at the end (although they won't be accessible to the very young target audience). Roth's illustrations, in mixed-media collage and printmaking on watercolor paper, fill the pages with interesting shapes and multiple colors. His nifty patterned outfits for the jazz men get prime exposure when they take a bow after their jam session. Slight but snappy. (Picture book. 3-6)

Library Media Connection (March 2007)

Nine famous jazz musicians are celebrated in this lively picture book. The text is an adaptation of the traditional children's song, "This old man, he plays one . . ." Number One, Louis Armstrong, is followed by Number Two, the jazz dancer Bojangles, who "makes music with his shoes," and so on until the last verse: "These Jazz Men, they play ten, We beg them to play again . . ." For each verse, a different player takes the

spotlight. At the back of the book the musicians are identified by name with a brief history of each one. The text is upbeat and so are the pictures. R. G. Roth employs collage and printmaking in pastels that verge on neon. Each jazz great wears a unique suit-plaids and polka dots predominating-and sashays around in pointy shoes. Floating in the air over their heads, like improvised sounds, are nonsense words that suggest the music, for example, "thimp, thump," and "Beee- diddly-doo-ah." The book lends itself to reading aloud and to group participation. The songs could be acted out in the lower grades, the music classroom, or on poetry night. Recommended. Joan Kimball, Librarian, Writer, Storyteller, Concord, Massachusetts

Publishers Weekly (October 23, 2006)

Setting her ode to nine jazz giants to the rhythm of "This Old Man," newcomer Ehrhardt playfully substitutes the onomatopoeic sounds of their instruments (or Bill "Bojangles" Robinson's tapping feet) for the standard "knick knock paddy-whack" refrain. Drummer Art "Bu" Blakey, for example, is the jazz man who plays six: "He plays solos with his sticks,/ With a bomp-bomp! Bubbuda-bomp!/ Give the man a hand,/ This jazz man beats with the band." In each energized mixed-media spread, Roth, also making his children's book debut, features a figure-Dizzy, Bird and Satchmo among them-in dapper mismatched clothing, swinging against white backgrounds bordered in cheerful stripes styled like awnings and bandstands. Roth's painted display type cavorts across the spreads, extending each verse's third line with more syncopated syllables. Performers are not identified until the endnotes, which pair brief bios with spot illustrations. Other jazz-themed children's books go into more detail, but the candy-colored collages burst from the pages, making this addition just right as an uptempo introduction for youngest music lovers. Ages 3-7. (Nov.) Copyright 2006 Reed Business Information.

School Library Journal (December 1, 2006)

Gr 1-5-Using a lively version of the children's song "This Old Man," this book introduces famous African-American jazz musicians as it counts to nine. Louis Armstrong is number 1. "This jazz man, he plays one,/He plays rhythm with his thumb,/With a Snap! Snap! Snazzy-snap!/Give the man a hand,/This jazz man scats with the band." The illustrations give clues to the performers, and the end matter has a biographical sketch for each one. In the final spread, all of the musicians are together, taking bows: "These jazz men make one great band!" The energetic collage illustrations introduce the action by picturing bold striped curtains encompassing an empty stage set up with jazz instruments; each performer's subsequent spread has striped borders. Onomatopoeic words spill across the pages in imitation of the music's sounds. The book is fun for jazz aficionados and neophytes alike. Children will enjoy the sounds and illustrations and sing along without needing to know more.-Judith Constantinides, formerly at East Baton Rouge Parish Main Library, LA Copyright 2006 Reed Business Information.

Luisa Knight says

This isn't just a book - it's a fun experience! Usually the CD can be skipped and the book is still enjoyable, and I'm sure this one could be too. You'd just be missing out on so much wonderfulness. The CD more than just compliments the book, it gives you an entire lesson on the various instruments and jazz sounds. So don't short yourself, put the CD in and enjoy!

Each page goes over a famous jazz musician too so your children will be able to recognize their names if/when they pop up in conversation.

Ages: 4 - 10

**Like my reviews? I also have hundreds of detailed reports that I offer too. These reports give a complete break-down of everything in the book, so you'll know just how clean it is or isn't. I also have Clean Guides (downloadable PDFs) which enable you to clean up your book before reading it! Visit my website: The Book Radar.

Jocelyn Brame says

An excellent counting book featuring some of the greatest jazz musicians. Engaging illustrations and great scating. There's also a mouse children can find on every page. Wonderful historical notes in the back about each musician. Highly recommended for children ages 3-6.

Jo Oehrlein says

A book is sing, the words fit to "This old man", but are instead "This jazz man".

There are onomatopaeic music sounds on each page, too.

The book counts 9 different jazz men and then uses 10 to show them all together. It's not really a counting book because the only page where all are on the same page is on the "10" page and there are only 9 of them.

The end matter gives lots of lovely details of the lives of the jazz men that are represented on each page. We don't even get their names in the actual story text.

June says

Based on "This old man." More about the famous people appearing in the story is presented in the back

Maria says

Oooh, this book made me what to rap and tap and beedle-di-bop! Which is quite somethin', since I don't have a musical bone in my body!

This is a great book-the text jives off the page and the illustrations thimp duple thump right along. What a great way to teach kids about jazz legends!

Hats off to Ehrdhardt and Roth for a beautiful book!

Encore!

Jessie says

The identities of the nine men aren't revealed until the end notes (which are brief biographies of them all). If you know a bit about jazz, you can guess at least a few, though.

The book is to the "tune" of "This Old Man." As in the original song, the numbers are pretty irrelevant, despite being highlighted in the text. There's nothing that ties into the numbers, even in the illustrations. The most confusing case of this is that the 10 page shows the 9 men.

Becky says

Karen Ehrhardt's This Jazz Man is a fun picture book that adapts the classic song "This Old Man." This is the kind of premise that could go either way--be really, really good and clever, or be really, really bad. In my opinion, This Jazz Man is successful in its attempt to make this song swing. Like all jazz books should, it starts with Louis Armstrong.

This jazz man, he plays one,
He plays rhythm with his thumb,
With a snap! snap! snazzy-snap!
Give the man a hand,
This jazz man scats with the band.

Of course it continues counting through the jazz band.

This jazz man, he plays nine,
He plucks strings that sound divine,
With a thimp-thump! Duple-thump!
Give the man a hand,
This jazz man jams with the band.

What the book doesn't make obvious from the get go is the fact that each number pays tribute to a jazz legend--that big reveal comes at the end of the book. 2 is Bill "Bojangles" Robinson. 3 is Luciano "Chano" Pozo y Gonzalez. 4 is Edward Kennedy "Duke" Ellington. 5 is Charlie "Bird" Parker. 6 is Art "Bu" Blakey. 7 is John Birks "Dizzy" Gillespie. 8 is "Thomas Wright" Fats Waller. 9 is Charles "Baron" Mingus. Together these make for one great band...

The illustrations are by R.G. Roth. The book would be great for showing onomatopoeias--snap, bippity-bop, bomp, doodly-doot, etc. And for introducing jazz vocabulary--scats, jams, stomps, pounds, blows, beats, wails, swings, etc. But even if you're not looking to use the book in a classroom (or home school setting), the book is just fun--delightful even. I loved it.

© Becky Laney of Becky's Book Reviews

Krista Clinton says

This Jazz Man is a story is a tribute to jazz players who have played different jazz instruments throughout the

years. This work of nonfiction incorporates counting, has some great sounds, and vibrant illustrations. It would be great for k-1st graders and could be used in a reading classroom to promote fluency.

Jim says

This is the perfect book for any child, jazz lover or not. In fact, it is really two books in one. The first is a jazzy recasting of that familiar childhood tune "This Old Man" with the eponymous geezer replaced by the great men of Jazz: Armstrong scats, Bojangles taps, and Mingus is among us. Kids will love Ehrhardt's textual rendering of musical sounds that stand in for the non-sensical "knick knack paddywhack," and be mesmerized by Roth's perfectly paired illustrations (which feature a fun game of 'find the jazz mouse' to boot.)

The second book here is the biographical sketches presented as the encore to the joyous rhyming beginning. Ehrhardt has a knack for finding interesting biographical facts of these men who changed the way we listen to music.

Bravo!

Kathi says

As the mother of two jazz bassists, this book just made me smile. I gave copies to both of my grown sons, proof that a picture book is not just for kids. The jazzy text is a perfect match with the jazzy art.

Lynn says

My preschool kids love this book. It's catchy, jazzy and fun! A great read-aloud.

Ruth says

Boy, if I were good at writing jazz charts for a band, I'd want to see to it that these "alternate words" to the children's song 'This Old Man' were accompanied by a kicking jazz combo! What fun! It makes you want to run out and teach these new words to everyone you know. And the pictures are darling.

Eric says

a really fun book to read with children. written to the rhythm of 'this old man', it's verses pay tribute to some of the greatest jazz musicians, including louie armstrong, charlie parker, etc. at the end of the story there are short bios on each musician -- great for kids that want to know these guys a little better.

orangerful says

The only thing that would make this better is if it came with an audio bonus that had all the instrument sounds. Or even a mp3 of the melody using jazz instruments. I'm already plotting finding a way to get the high school jazz band to visit and maybe use them in a storytime...

but even without that, this is a really fun book. Sing it to the melody of "This Old Man" and have fun with it. I did it with the toddlers today and we counted every time we turned the page and then acted out the instrument. Another librarian did it with preschool age and it was also a big hit. So this one is staying on the storytime shelf.
