



Play it Again Cover Songs in Popular Music Ashgate Popular and Folk Music Series

By George Plasketes

Ashgate. Hardcover. Condition: New. 274 pages. Dimensions: 9.2in. x 6.1in. x 1.0in. Covering - the musical practice of one artist recording or performing another composers song - has always been an attribute of popular music. In 2009, the internet database Second Hand Songs estimated that there are 40, 000 songs with at least one cover version. Some of the more common variations of this appropriationist method of musical quotation include traditional forms such as patriotic anthems, religious hymns such as Amazing Grace, Muzaks instrumental interpretations, Christmas classics and childrens songs. Novelty and comedy collections from parodists such as Weird Al Yankovic also align in the cover category, as does the larcenous art of sampling, and technological variations in dance remixes and mash-ups. Film and television soundtracks and advertisers increasingly rely on versions of familiar pop tunes to assist in marketing their narratives and products. The cover phenomenon in popular culture may be viewed as a postmodern manifestation in music as artists revisit, reinterpret and re-examine a significant cross section of musical styles, periods, genres, individual records and other artists and their catalogues of works. Covering also embraces cultural, commercial and creative contexts. The cover complex, with its multiple variations, issues, contexts...



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