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Stan Levey: Jazz Heavyweight

By Frank R. Hayde

Santa Monica Press. Hardcover. Condition: New. 288 pages. Stan Levey is widely considered to be one of the most influential drummers in the history of modern jazz. During his extraordinary career, the self-taught Levey played alongside a who's who of twentieth century jazz artists: Dizzy Gillespie, Charlie Parker, Miles Davis, Stan Getz, Coleman Hawkins, Art Tatum, Ben Webster, Dexter Gordon, Lester Young, Thelonius Monk, Benny Goodman, Woody Herman, Ella Fitzgerald. The remarkable list goes on and on, and includes dozens of the most distinguished names in the annals of jazz and popular music. *Jazz Heavyweight* follows the prolific and colorful life of Levey, from his childhood days in rough-and-tumble North Philadelphia as the son of a boxing promoter and manager with ties to the mob, to his first gig as a drummer for Dizzy Gillespie at the tender age of 16, through his meteoric rise as one of the most sought after sidemen in the world of bebop, to his membership in the Lighthouse All-Stars and his prominent role in the creation of West Coast Jazz. In between, author Frank R. Hayde, using Levey's own words in what is part-oral history, part-biography, offers the reader a multitude of colorful stories, including...

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