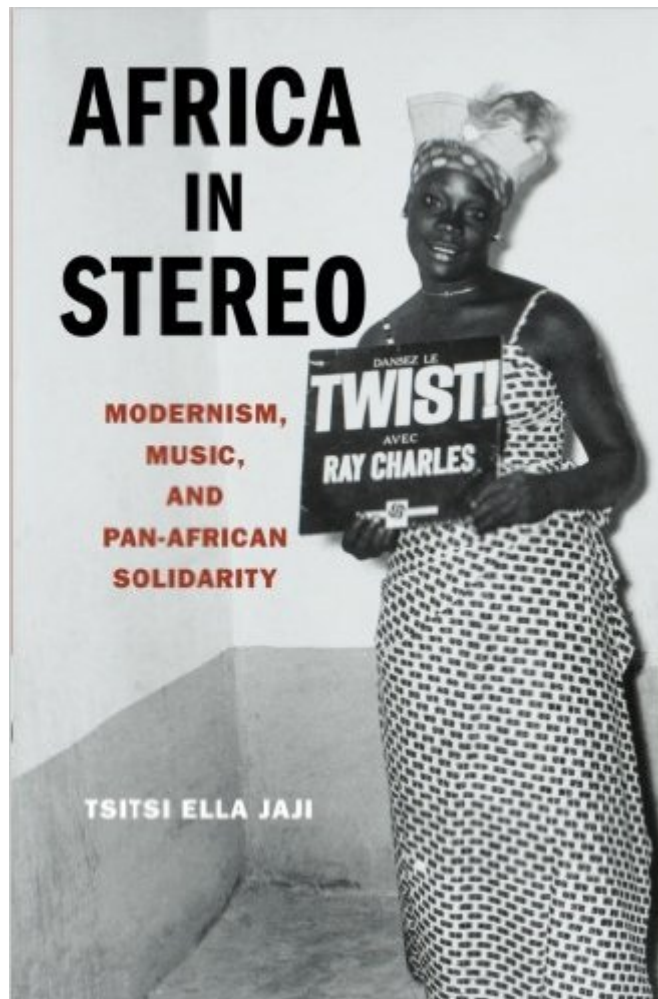


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Africa In Stereo: Modernism, Music, And Pan-African Solidarity



Synopsis

Africa in Stereo analyzes how Africans have engaged with African American music and its representations in the long twentieth century (1890-2011) to offer a new cultural history attesting to pan-Africanism's ongoing and open theoretical potential. Tsitsi Jaji argues that African American popular music appealed to continental Africans as a unit of cultural prestige, a site of pleasure, and most importantly, an expressive form already encoded with strategies of creative resistance to racial hegemony. Ghana, Senegal and South Africa are considered as three distinctive sites where longstanding pan-African political and cultural affiliations gave expression to transnational black solidarity. The book shows how such transnational ties fostered what Jaji terms "stereomodernism." Attending to the specificity of various media through which music was transmitted and interpreted-poetry, novels, films, recordings, festivals, live performances and websites-stereomodernism accounts for the role of cultural practice in the emergence of solidarity, tapping music's capacity to refresh our understanding of twentieth-century black transnational ties.

Book Information

Paperback: 272 pages

Publisher: Oxford University Press; 1 edition (February 7, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0199936390

ISBN-13: 978-0199936397

Product Dimensions: 9.2 x 0.9 x 6.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

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