



The Rough Guide to Frank Sinatra

By Chris Ingham

Seven years after his death, Rough Guides takes a look at Frank Sinatra's enduring and complex legacy.

A new addition to Rough Guides' critically acclaimed music reference series, the pocket-size Rough Guide to Frank Sinatra covers every aspect of the life, legend and music of the singing waiter from New Jersey who became the most famous entertainer of his time. This essential companion reveals everything you'll ever need to know about the songs, the films and the style of one of the 20th century's greatest performers.

Getting up close and personal with the man variously known as “the Voice”, “Ol’ blue eyes” and “The Chairman of the Board”, the Rough Guide to Frank Sinatra reveals a man of many faces. We might know him as the crooning idol of The Bobbysoxers, the consummate actor of *From Here to Eternity* or the leering lush of the Rat Pack years, but the Rough Guide shows that there was much more to Sinatra. As well as the buddies and the brawls, the lovers and the lyrics, the Rough Guide delves into the Mafia stories - and tells you why JFK thanked Frank in his inauguration speech.

According to the author, music journalist and Mojo scribe Chris Ingham, “the pull of Sinatra has always been about more than just well-crafted songs and a singer-actor with charisma. It’s about Sinatra the phenomenon: the force of nature who loved the world’s most beautiful women and kept questionable, powerful company, in both the underworld and the White House, yet whose street-born egotism and individualistic swagger seemed to mark him as an eternal outsider”.

Making over 1800 recordings in his lifetime, Frank Sinatra was one of the most prolific recording artists of the last century. Ingham notes that his best work included “some of the great compositions of the golden era of American popular song. . .Sinatra’s work is inescapable”. The Rough Guide examines the massive contribution Sinatra has made to musical history, surveys the albums (including his *Capitol* and *Reprise* masterpieces) details 50 essential Sinatra songs and divulges the stories behind the lyrics. There’s also film-by-film coverage of Sinatra in the movies, as well as ‘Frank Facts’ – exploring the best Frank-related books and websites – plus all his finest quotes. The book even includes details of how to rent his house in Palm Springs.

The Rough Guide to Frank Sinatra – the ultimate guide to the music, the movies, the myth and the man.

Author notes

Chris Ingham is a leading music journalist. He is widely published in the national press as well as in specialist magazines. He is also the author of the best-selling *Rough Guide to the Beatles*.

Information for Editors

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