## The Cambridge Companion to the Electric Guitar

The electric guitar is one of the most important musical instruments and cultural artifacts of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, and enjoys popularity worldwide. Designed for students, this Cambridge Companion explores electric guitar technology and performance, as well as the instrument's history and cultural impact. Chapters focused on the social significance of the electric guitar draw attention to the ways in which gender and race have shaped and been shaped by it, the ecology of electric guitar manufacturing, and the participation of electric guitarists in online communities. Contributions on electric guitar history stretch the chronology backward in time and broaden our ideas of what belongs in that history, and those addressing musical style investigate the cultural value of virtuosity while providing material analysis of electric guitar technique. The Companion's final section considers the electric guitar's global circulation, particularly in Africa, the Afro-Caribbean, and Southeast Asia.

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STEVE WAKSMAN is Elsie Irwin Sweeney Professor at Smith College. He is the author of *Instruments of Desire: The Electric Guitar and the Shaping of Musical Experience* (1999), This Ain't the Summer of Love: Conflict and Crossover in Heavy Metal and Punk (2009), and Live Music in America: A History from Jenny Lind to Beyoncé (2022).

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# The Cambridge Companion to

# THE ELECTRIC GUITAR

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Cambridge University Press is part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment, a department of the University of Cambridge.

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#### www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781009224406

DOI: 10.1017/9781009224420

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When citing this work, please include a reference to the DOI 10.1017/9781009224420

First published 2024

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

A Cataloging-in-Publication data record for this book is available from the Library of Congress.

ISBN 978-1-009-22440-6 Hardback ISBN 978-1-009-22445-1 Paperback

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