



## Shreveport Sounds in Black and White (American Made Music)

*Kip Lornell, Tracey E. W. Laird*

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To borrow words from Stan "The Record Man" Lewis, Shreveport, Louisiana, is one of this nation's most important "regional-sound cities." Its musical distinctiveness has been shaped by individuals and ensembles, record label and radio station owners, announcers and disc jockeys, club owners and sound engineers, music journalists and musicians. The area's output cannot be described by a single genre or style. Rather, its music is a kaleidoscope of country, blues, R&B, rockabilly, and rock.

Shreveport Sounds in Black and White presents that evolution in a collection of scholarly and popular writing that covers institutions and people who nurtured the musical life of the city and surroundings. The contributions of icons like Leadbelly and Hank Williams, and such lesser-known names as Taylor-Griggs Melody Makers and Eddie Giles come to light. New writing explores the famed Louisiana Hay-ride, musicians Jimmie Davis and Dale Hawkins, local disc jockey "Dandy Don" Logan, and KWKH studio sound engineer Bob Sullivan. With glimpses into the lives of original creators, Shreveport Sounds in Black and White reveals the mix that emerges from the ongoing interaction between the city's black and white musicians.

Kip Lornell teaches in the music department at the George Washington University. His research in American vernacular music has resulted in the publication of numerous articles and nine previous books, including *Introducing American Folk Music* and *The Life and Legend of Leadbelly* (with Charles Wolfe). Tracey E. W. Laird is associate professor of music at Agnes Scott College and the author of *Louisiana Hayride: Radio and Roots Music Along the Red River*.



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