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THE IRVING BERLIN READER

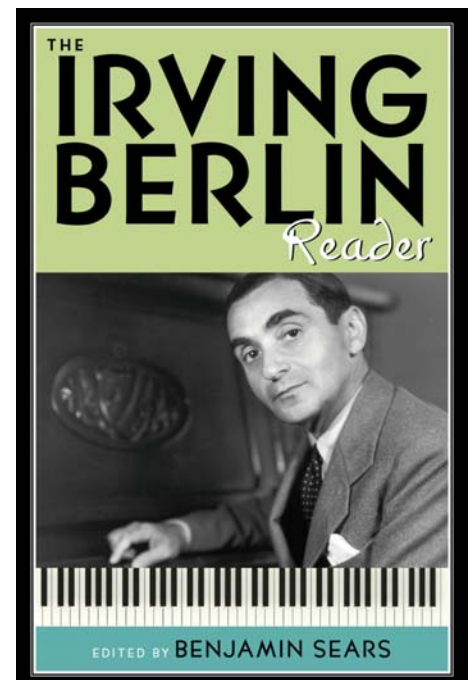
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"What a wonderful glance into the musical past! Benjamin Sears has assembled, organized and notated a fan's paradise of writing on and by Irving Berlin. And what a spectrum: from the master giving hints on how a song should be written, to a famous critic completely mis-judging Berlin's greatest theater score. This takes you back to another time and place, and brings Irving Berlin alive again. **All in all, a great read.**"

—Ted Chapin, President, Rodgers & Hammerstein

Irving Berlin is considered by many one of the most influential figures of twentieth century—both in the world of music and in American culture. As one of the rare songwriters equally successful with popular songs, Broadway shows, and Hollywood scores, Irving Berlin is the subject of an enormous corpus of writing, scattered throughout countless publications and archives. A noted performer and interpreter of Berlin's works, Benjamin Sears has unprecedented familiarity with these sources and brings together a broad range of the most insightful primary and secondary materials in *The Irving Berlin Reader*. Grouped together according to the chronology of Berlin's life and work, each section and article features a critical introduction to familiarize the reader and position the materials within the framework of American musical history. Taken as a whole, the writings—many by Berlin himself—provide a new perspective on Berlin that highlight his musical genius within the context of his artistic development.

For more information on Irving Berlin, be sure to check out *Irving Berlin's American Musical Theater* by Jeffrey Magee (OUP, April 2012)



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EDITED BY BENJAMIN SEARS

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