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[Review of] Pop Music: Technology and Creativity: Trevor Horn and the Digital Revolution

Robert A. Aken
University of Kentucky, robaken@uky.edu

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Warner, Timothy. **Pop music: technology and creativity: Trevor Horn and the digital revolution.** Ashgate, 2003. 172p bibl discography index ISBN [0754631311](#), \$84.95

In this volume in the "Ashgate Popular and Folk Music Series," Warner (Univ. of Salford, UK) makes the case for the influence of technological advances on the creative process in popular music, focusing on the seminal work of producer Trevor Horn in the early 1980s. The author spends the first half of the book defining pop music as separate from rock, focusing on the recording as artifact (as opposed to composition), and exploring how changes such as digital equipment and production techniques influence the creative process. In the second half, he looks at technological creativity in seven Horn productions (including Yes's "Owner of a Lonely Heart" and Frankie Goes to Hollywood's "Relax"). A discography, interview of Horn, excellent bibliography, and index conclude the work. This book will be a useful companion to such works as *Music, Electronic Media, and Culture*, ed. by Simon Emmerson (2000), an essay collection that includes some discussion of technology and creativity in a variety of musical genres, and Steve Jones's *Rock Formation* (CH, Dec'92), an excellent exploration of technology and creativity across the broader rock world. **Summing Up:** Highly recommended. Popular music and philosophy collections serving upper division-undergraduates and above.

--R. A. Aken, *University of Kentucky*

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