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Begun as International Who's Who in Music, v.2: Popular Music (1996), this publication provides capsule biographies of 5,000 "pop, rock, folk, jazz, dance, world and country" personalities. Most entries also include discographies and contact information. The strength of this work is its worldwide scope, not found elsewhere in print (but not half so broad as All Music Guide http://www.allmusic.com/, CH, Sup'99, currently offering over 62,000 biographies). Exclusions are evident (e.g., Margot Timmins, Jakob Dylan, Massive Attack members, Johnette Napolitano), but coverage is acceptable for a one-volume work. Cross-references are nonexistent, however; band members can be found only under individual members' names. Comparing entries from the first edition and the current often shows little revision; even the usually updated discographies miss current releases. Industry contacts in the appendixes (primarily addresses and names) are useful for their international scope. Encyclopedia of Popular Music, ed. by Colin Larkin (3rd ed., CH, Sep'99), together with All Music Guide, will provide broader scope and currency. This Europa publication will suit libraries that need a quick one-volume resource or the contact information.


--R. A. Aken, University of Kentucky

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