4-1995

[Review of] The Johnny Cash Record Catalog

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index afp (Music reference collection, 44) ISBN 0313295069, $49.95

Smith, author of The Johnny Cash Discography (CH, Oct'85) and The Johnny Cash Discography, 1984–1993 (CH, Dec'94), has compiled a third volume cataloging Cash's recordings. Although selected recording information appeared in the earlier volumes, this work provides much greater coverage of the releases, including recordings released in 26 foreign countries. Divided into four sections covering 431 singles, 108 EPs, 1,408 LPs, and 254 CDs, the work lists more than 1,000 song titles on 228 recording labels. Each entry includes record numbers, album title, and song titles. The session data (performers, composers, producers, etc.) are not included here since they are in the discographies. An appendix provides a list of works with liner notes and a list of music videos in which Cash appears. The nicely formatted index includes song titles, albums, and record labels. Though the coverage of the recordings is extensive, this material should have been made part of the discographies; most users will find themselves moving among the three volumes to get complete information on each recording. Smith needs to produce a new edition incorporating all the information on each recording in one entry (including the two-page appendix of liner note information). A useful acquisition, nonetheless, for those academic and public libraries that own the discographies.

--R. A. Aken, University of Kentucky

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