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[Review of] POMPI: Popular Music Reriodicals Index

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POMPI: popular music periodicals index, Comp. by Chris Clark and Andy Linehan. The British Library Publications Sales Unit, Boston Spa, Wetherby, West Yorks, LS23 7BQ, UK. \$40.00 Updates:a.

Clark and Linehan (curators of jazz and popular music at the British Library's National Sound Archive) attempt to provide subject access to the feature articles and interviews in 68 (primarily British) popular music and jazz periodicals, half of which are likely to be in most US popular music collections. About one third of the sources are published in the US. Included are Annual Review of Jazz Studies, Black Perspectives in Music, Down Beat, Ethnomusicology, and Rolling Stone, but several other US publications are not indexed in this first issue: Audio, Billboard, High Fidelity, Musician, Spin, and Variety. The inaugural double issue, covering Oct. 1984-Sept. 1986, will be followed soon by a second, no. 3-4, Oct. 1986-Sept. 1988. Subsequent annuals will follow six months after the last dated entry in the index. The initial number contains more than 6,500 entries with basic bibliographic citations arranged alphabetically under topical, personal, and corporate subject entries. An index of this type is certainly welcome (especially since the demise of Jazz Index, 1977-1987), but the present selective coverage and infrequent publication plan of POMPI disappoint. Record and performance reviews are not included, regular columns and editorials are rarely indexed, and articles one would expect to find are absent (e.g., the 1985 Rolling Stone feature articles on Graham Parker, Richard Thompson, and the Memphis Blues). Many of these periodicals are not indexed elsewhere, however, and both public and academic libraries with strong popular music periodical holdings and/or interested users will find POMPI's limited access useful.

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

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