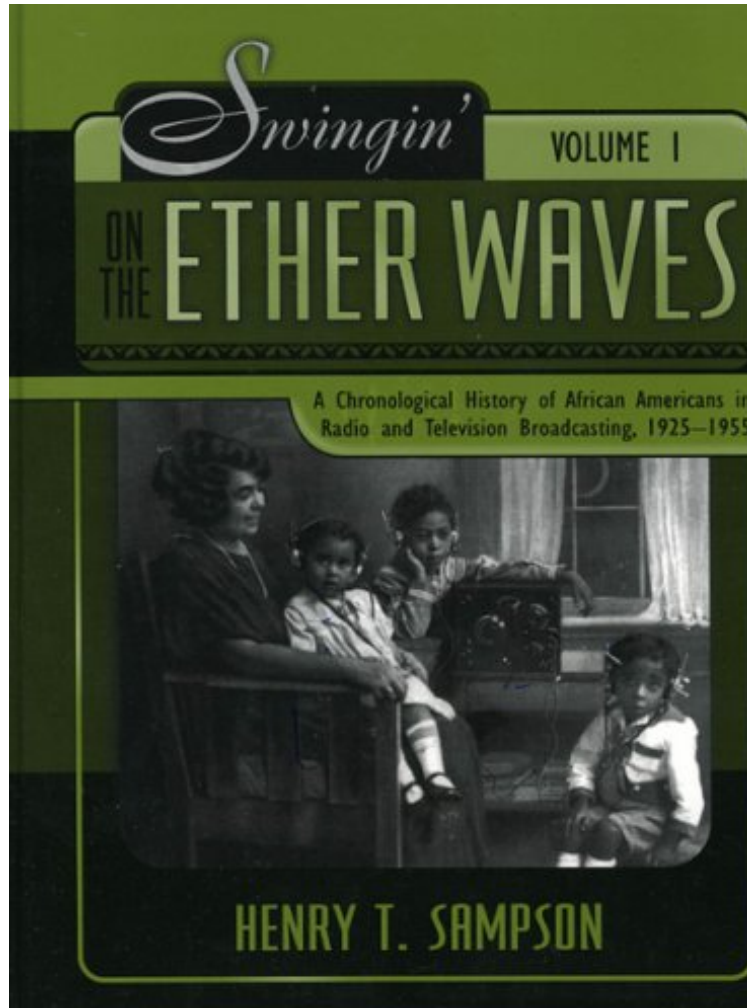


## Swingin on the Ether Waves

Henry T. Sampson

audiobook / \*ebooks / Download PDF / ePub / DOC



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#871421 in Books 2005-07 Original language: English PDF # 2 11.24 x 3.00 x 8.54l, 8.06 #File Name: 08108408712528 pages | File size: 54.Mb

**Henry T. Sampson : Swingin on the Ether Waves** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Swingin on the Ether Waves:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Radio's Bright Black WaveBy Gunther PurdueIt is a major contribution to the literature of radio and America to have this wonderful new resource on the role of African Americans in the nation's airwaves and culture. Another great addition to the canon of radio studies.

This is the first book to fully document the historical contributions of African Americans to broadcasting in the United States from the beginning of commercial broadcasting in 1925 to the age of television in 1955. This work fills a void that has only been marginally covered by previous books on the history of American broadcasting. This two-volume work: covers the radio and television appearances of African Americans documents the impact of their unique and

popular entertainment styles on network radio programming describes how racial discrimination and prejudice limited the opportunities of African American performers to receive full financial compensation, unlike many others who gained radio and television fame and fortune by emulating them includes graphs and statistical data of African American radio programming contains nearly 250 rare black and white photographs includes an alphabetical listing of relevant radio programs including date, cast, and broadcasting station call letters presents scripts of several network shows, such as Amos and Andy Chapters are arranged chronologically and each is introduced by a brief essay that summarizes the key events of the period, followed by articles from the African American press and other entertainment publications.

From Booklist African American achievements in radio and early television have been ignored or marginalized, a situation music scholar Sampson seeks to redress in this work, "the first to fully document the historical contributions of African Americans to broadcasting in the United States." Following a brief overview, arrangement is chronological, from the advent of commercial broadcasting in 1924 to the age of television in 1955. Except for the first chapter, which treats the period 1924-1934, each lengthy chapter covers four or five years. A chapter introduction precedes a chronology listing significant events. Some of these listings are brief lines ("George Dewey Washington, who is appearing in Strike Me Pink with Jimmy Durante, sings the master song 'Home to Harlem' on Rudy Vallee's radio program"), but most include reviews and other material drawn from African American newspapers and other publications. More than 450 black-and-white photographs, most acquired from "swap meets, garage sales, and Internet auctions," illustrate the text. Appendixes contain an alphabetical listing of "All-Negro Radio and Television Programs" from 1920 to 1955 and scripts from several radio programs, including a 1935 episode of Amos 'n' Andy. A great deal of research went into this work, and it contains much valuable and interesting information. However, several problems limit its use as a reference tool. There are many entries along the line of "The Four Harmoniums are heard Thursdays at 10:30 p.m. over station WEVD, New York City," but it's not clear if the dates under which these entries are found are the dates of first appearances. It is also not always clear whether dates refer to events or to published references to events, especially since "Report, Chicago Defender" or "Variety" is the extent of the information provided for the many newspaper articles. The index is helpful for tracing a performer, but readers looking for information on Marian Anderson, to take one example, might be frustrated by the long list of undifferentiated page numbers. Programs and stations are not indexed at all. Despite these faults, comprehensive collections in broadcasting and in African American studies will want to consider this set for its wealth of information. Mary Ellen Quinn Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved [Starred]...truly extraordinary....the definitive reference work on the topic...An essential purchase for all public and academic libraries. (Library Journal)The author is to be congratulated for making the fruits of his painstaking labour available to the public and the publishers for offering us a work that is both highly entertaining and easy to read. The result is a mine of information which readers will find hard to put down. (Reference s)A great deal of research went into this work, and it contains much valuable and interesting information....comprehensive collections in broadcasting and in African American studies will want to consider this set for its wealth of information. (Booklist/Rbb)...a huge labor of love...one learns a great deal about an almost forgotten topic...often fascinating... (Communication Booknotes Quarterly)The great value of Swingin' on the Etherwaves is that it provides original reviews, articles, and other materials from the sources consulted, providing a wealth of research materials for students and scholars. The work is highly recommended for all public and academic libraries, and is a must for all dedicated African American collections. (Arba)[Starred]...truly extraordinary....the definitive reference work on the topic...An essential purchase for all public and academic libraries..... (Library Journal)This ambitious two-volume reference is a chronological account of African-American contributions to broadcasting in the US from 1924-1955. The material is presented in an inclusive, non-interpretive format, with a descriptive narrative of each era under consideration at the beginning of each chapter followed by a chronology of the broadcasts from the period. The listings comprise an exhaustive compilation of original material, quoted in full, for each date listed. Bw photos are interspersed throughout. Author Sampson, a retired engineer who writes and consults on the historical contributions of African Americans to the entertainment industry, explains in his introduction that the material did not fit into a thematic or topical format, hence the chronological arrangement. (Reference Research Book News)About the Author Henry T. Sampson is a researcher and author of five books on the historical contributions of African Americans to the culture of the United States, including That's Enough Folks: Black Images in Animated Cartoons, 1900-1960 (SCP, 1998) and Blacks in Black and White: A Source Book on Black Films, 2nd Ed. (SCP, 1995). He is a contributing author to the New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians, as well as author of "African-Americans in Animated Cartoons," a CD-ROM Project at the University of Indiana.