

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910970817003321
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Titolo	The rise of a jazz art world / / Paul Lopes
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge : , : Cambridge University Press, , 2002
ISBN	1-107-12289-9 1-280-43314-0 0-511-17649-X 0-511-04771-1 0-511-48949-8 0-511-15736-3 0-521-00039-4 0-511-32963-6
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (vii, 294 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Disciplina	781.65/09
Soggetti	Jazz - History and criticism Music - Social aspects
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015).
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 279-286) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction: the quest for cultural legitimacy -- Before the Jazz Age: professional musicians and good music -- Jazz Age: professional musicians and the cultivated vernacular -- Swing craze: professional musicians, swing music and the art of improvisation -- Rise of a jazz art world: jazz enthusiasts, professional musicians and the modernist revolt -- New jazz age: the jazz art world and the modern jazz renaissance -- Conclusion: the jazz art world and American culture.
Sommario/riassunto	This 2002 book presents a unique sociological vision of the evolution of jazz in the twentieth century. Analysing organizational structures and competing discourses in American music, Paul Lopes shows how musicians and others transformed the meaning and practice of jazz. Set against the distinct worlds of high art and popular art in America, the rise of a jazz art world is shown to be a unique movement - a socially diverse community struggling in various ways against cultural orthodoxy. Cultural politics in America is shown to be a dynamic, open,

and often contradictory process of constant re-interpretation. This work is a compelling social history of American culture that incorporates various voices in jazz, including musicians, critics, collectors, producers and enthusiasts. Accessibly written and interdisciplinary in approach, it will be of great interest to scholars and students of sociology, cultural studies, social history, American studies, African-American studies, and jazz studies.
