



# Lillian Roxon's Rock Encyclopedia

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**Lillian Roxon's Rock Encyclopedia** Lillian Roxon  
Pre-ISBN edition

## Lillian Roxon's Rock Encyclopedia Details

Date : Published 1969 by Workman Publishing Company

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Author : Lillian Roxon

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# From Reader Review Lillian Roxon's Rock Encyclopedia for online ebook

## Jason Koivu says

For a mere quarter at a used book sale, I picked up *Lillian Roxon's Rock Encyclopedia*, one of the first serious compilations on rock music. What a great thrift-score!

As a music journalist focused on San Francisco and New York in the late 1960s, Roxon was uniquely positioned to absorb a wealth of knowledge on the breaking music of the day.

Now, 40+ years after its publication, the book is a fun read for a couple reasons. The first being that there are many minor, no longer active acts mentioned within for a music-phile like me to unearth. Second, Roxon steered clear of remaining unbiased. Yes, you read that right. The woman had opinions and she voiced them. Let's look at a few entries...

**The Mothers of Invention**...built around ugliness - ugly players, bearded and menacing like something out of an old pirate movie; ugly music; ugly lyrics; ugly gestures; ugly noises. The motive: satire.

**The Doors**/More gloppy, pretentious, pseudosurrealistic, hyperliterary, quasi-mystical prose has been written about the Doors than about any rock group ever.

**Chris Crosby**, son of Bob Cosby and nephew of Bing, is beautiful and sings. (Note: And other than listing his one popular single, that is the whole review on Crosby.)

**Johnny Horton**/A country singer who decided to break into the pop-rock charts and occasionally managed it. It can happen.

**Tim Buckley**...may look like Huckleberry Finn lost in a blackberry patch, but in fact he's as tortuous and complicated as those ten thousand matted curls that cluster protectively around his head.

Note: Most of the reviews are much longer than the snippets I've provided here - including a bit of history, popular success, occasional behind-the-scenes insights - but the above gives you the gist of Roxon's often strident opinions.

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## Mike says

An amazing resource. A great way to find out about old bands I've never heard of.

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## Craig says

I purchased Lillian Roxon's Rock Encyclopedia when it was released in the early 70's and I'm now on my second copy, having worn out the first one. This was the first serious rock encyclopedia and should now be

considered as one of the landmark books in rock literature and journalism. For several years, there were no other rock reference books like it. Roxon's Encyclopedia is now dated by 40 years and she wore her own musical prejudices on her sleeve. But it is still great reading for anyone with a passion for 60's music and musical trends.

An essential book for any fan and collector of rock music!

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### **Allan says**

If you're a serious interest in some of the origins of R'n'R, this is for you. There have been times I've consulted this on a daily basis. I must have bought my copy at a HS library bookfair. My copy is not losing pages yet.

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### **Ray says**

Invaluable reference work. Always within reach.

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