



## Drumming at the Edge of Magic: A Journey into the Spirit of Percussion

*By Mickey Hart, Jay Stevens, Fredric Lieberman*

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Mickey Hart, percussionist for the Grateful Dead, tells the compelling tale of his quest to unlock the power, myths, and legends of percussion. Complemented by more than 90 photographs and illustrations. It is a compelling, panoramic adventure into a vibrant living tradition of myth, power, and magic. Black-and-white photographs and illustrations.

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### Editorial Review

From Library Journal

The percussionist for the Grateful Dead is so New Age in his persuasions that his book comes with a "tree clause": two trees will be planted for every one used in its manufacture. His spell-binding drumming stories come from his studies and travels and his consultation with anthropologists, ethnomusicologists, and students of mythology, Joseph Campbell among them. His personal commentary on how percussion is "used" both in music and in the wider culture in a variety of world settings seems only to miss female drumming traditions (in Korea, for example). Visually, the book is a knockout, with a vibrant cover, 90 well-chosen illustrations (some in color), and excellent layout. Even the paperback is a permanent book, with good paper and a stiffer-than-usual cover. The annotated bibliography is a plus. Recommended. See below for the collected lyrics of Dead lyricist Robert Hunter.--Ed.

- *Bonnie Jo Dopp, Dist. of Columbia P.L.*

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About the Author

**Mickey Hart's** efforts to document ancient and increasingly rare rhythmic traditions include his production for Rykodisc of *The World*, a series of unique recordings of music from around the world. He also serves on the board of the Smithsonian Institution's Folkway Records.

**Jay Stevens** is the author of *Storming Heaven: LSD and the American Dream*.

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**From reader reviews:**

**William McNally:**

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Percussion can be very good book to read. May be it is usually best activity to you.

**Lloyd Schuler:**

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