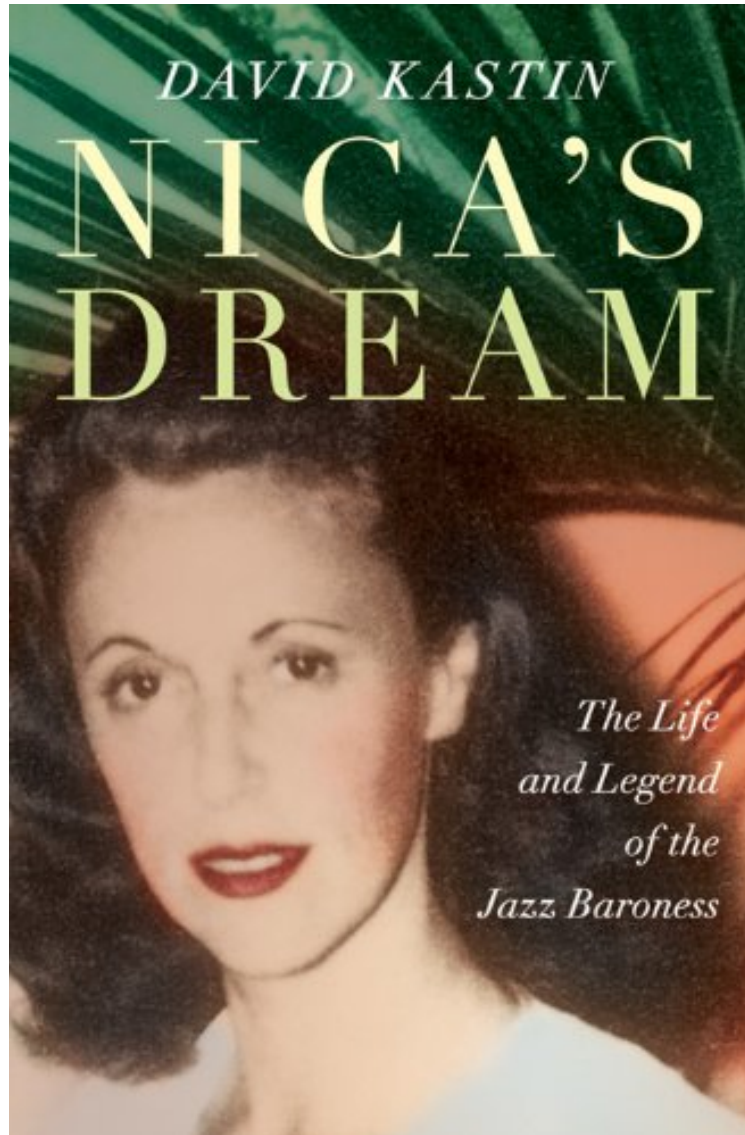


(Download) Nica's Dream: The Life and Legend of the Jazz Baroness

Nica's Dream: The Life and Legend of the Jazz Baroness

Von David Kestin

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Von David Kestin : Nica's Dream: The Life and Legend of the Jazz Baroness before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Nica's Dream: The Life and Legend of the Jazz Baroness:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Viel Kultur, wenig LebenVon HansBlogAufgewachsen als superreiche Rothschild-Tochter in England, dann Pilotin, verheiratet in Frankreich, Kriegsheldin in Afrika, Diplomategattin in Mexiko, Mutter von fnf Kindern, Eheflchtling

und schließlich jahrzehntelang Gönnerin der New Yorker Jazzszene, eine begüterte weiße Edelfrau unter schwarzen, oft armen und drogensüchtigen Jazzentrikern - Pannonica "Nica" de Koenigswarter, ne Rothschild, hatte ein spannendes, ungewöhnliches Leben. David Kastin verspricht eine Biographie; doch drei Viertel seines Buchs handeln allein von der New Yorker Zeit ab de Koenigswarters 40. Lebensjahr. Und hier schildert Kastin vor allem die Jazzaktivitäten der Rothschild-Erbin. Er zitiert sie selbst damit, dass ihr New Yorker Leben bei weitem nicht nur aus Jazz bestand - aber nichts davon verrät Kastin. So sagt er, dass sie in späteren Jahren kaum reiste, einmal aber Familienangelegenheiten in London und Israel regeln musste. Was die Baronin auf die Reise führte und wie es ihr dabei ging, verrät Kastin mit keinem Wort: er erwähnt die Unternehmung nur, weil Nicas heikler Pflegegast Thelonious Monk allein in New York zurückblieb. Was de Koenigswarter außerhalb der USA erlebte, interessiert den Autor generell kaum. Kastin hätte sein Buch, das aus einem Artikel heraus entstand, besser ganz auf Nica und den Jazz in New York beschränkt und nicht den Anspruch einer umfassenden Biographie erhoben. So ist von der jüngeren Nica in England, Frankreich und im Krieg in Afrika nicht viel zu lesen; ebensowenig von der privaten Nica außerhalb der Jazzkreise. Biograf Kastin kommt ihr kaum nah, vielleicht auch aus Rücksicht oder auf Drängen der mächtigen Familie; die fünf Kinder reden zudem kaum über sie, und Nicas offenbar existierende Autobiografie bleibt unter Verschluss. Dafür liefert der in Brooklyn lebende amerikanische Musikkritiker Kastin lange Ausflüge in die amerikanische Kulturgeschichte - Jazzleben, Literatur, Malerei, Film und Beat Generation schildert er weit ausführlicher als nötig, vielleicht um Seiten zu füllen, Nica verschwindet dort weitgehend. Ich fand es dennoch interessant, zumal Kastin meist flüssig und entspannt schreibt, wenn auch einige Künstlernamen falsch erscheinen. Es gibt nur acht Fotoseiten, mit meist zwei Schwarzweiß-Bildern pro Seite; einige Fotoseiten verschenkt Kastin völlig, indem er unwichtige Gebäude zeigt. Die Kinder der Baronin, die teils Jazzkneipen mit ihr besuchten, sieht man gar nicht, ebenso fehlen die meisten Bebop-Hauptfiguren oder LP-Hüllen mit einem Gemälde aus Nicas Hand. Kastin erwähnt auch Nicas Gronichte und BBC-Regisseurin Hannah Rothschild und deren Filmdokumentation über Pannonica de Koenigswarter. Hannah Rothschild legte später eine Nica-Biographie in Buchform nach, die weit ausführlicher als Kastin Nicas Zeit in Europa darstellt - besonders das exzentrische Leben der Rothschilds - und mehr und interessantere Fotos bringt. Jedoch schwächelt Rothschild beim Jazzleben, es ist ganz offenbar nicht ihre Welt; hier wirkt Kastin ausführlicher und reifer, und er zeigt vielleicht auch die private Nica in der New Yorker Phase genauer als Hannah Rothschild. Kastin listet auch die Pannonica de Koenigswarter gewidmeten Jazzstücke weit ausführlicher. Viele interessante Hintergründe und Video-Interviews liefert übrigens auch Hannah Rothschilds Webseite zur Jazzbaronin.

Kurzbeschreibung The first biography of the legendary Rothschild heiress who reigned as New York's Jazz Baroness. It's a misty night in 1950s New York. A silver Rolls-Royce screeches to a stop at the neon-lit doorway of a 52nd Street jazz club. Behind the wheel is a glamorous brunette, a chinchilla stole draped over her shoulder and a long cigarette holder clinched in her teeth. After taking a pull from a small silver flask, she glides past the bouncer into the murky depths of the Three Deuces. The Jazz Baroness has arrived. Raised in fairy-tale splendor, Kathleen Annie Pannonica Rothschild de Koenigswarter (known as Nica) piloted her own plane across the English Channel, married a French baron, fought in the French Resistance, and had five children. Then she heard a recording of Thelonious Monk's Round Midnight. Inspired by the liberating spirit of jazz, Nica left her family, moved to Manhattan, and began haunting the city's nightclubs. The tabloids first splashed her name across the headlines after Charlie Parker died in her hotel suite a scandal that cast a dark shadow over the rest of her life. She retreated from the public eye, but through her ongoing ministrations to Monk and dozens of other musicians she became a legend. Nearly a score of jazz compositions have been written in her honor, including two of the most beloved classics of the genre: Horace Silver's Nica's Dream and Monk's Pannonica. Nica's Dream traces the story of a fascinating woman across her thirty-year reign as the Jazz Baroness, but it also explores a transformative era in twentieth-century American culture. Based on interviews with musicians, family members, historians, and artists, David Kastin's probing biography unwraps the life of this enigmatic figure and evokes the vibrancy of New York during the birth of bebop, the first stirrings of the Beat Generation, and the advent of abstract expressionism. **Pressestimmen** The Baroness Pannonica de Koenigswarter was a cultural bridge, and source of understanding for an enormously important generation of jazz musicians. This book is a must read. --T. S. Monk "Starred". This is an essential read for jazz enthusiasts and strongly suggested for those interested in new perspectives on jazz culture and its historical framework. Kastin is an exceptionally fine writer who compellingly blends rare interviews, in-depth research, and masterful storytelling in this first biography of a legendary individual. "David Kastin has written the definitive biography of one of the most elusive, beguiling and pivotal personalities in 20th Century music. The story of Pannonica is essential reading for all fans of art, culture and jazz. --Robert Kraft, President, Fox Music Inc. "Nica's Dream is a brilliant and incisive addition to the history of jazz. The Baroness Nica is portrayed in such a truthful fashion that those of us blessed to have known her now can introduce her to anyone by giving them a copy of this outstanding biography. Nica's Dream reads like a picaresque novel. But it's all true. --David Amram, American composer, musician, author" A stunning biography of Monk's patron. What a story! --

Phil Schaap, curator and jazz historian, WKCR-FM, New York City "With a journalist's dedication to research and a storyteller's passion for historical context, Kastin relates the most unusual life of Baroness Pannonica de Koenigswarter the woman who left behind a family and a fortune to dedicate herself to the maestri of modern jazz. --Ashley Kahn, author of *The House that Trane Built*" Finally! Nica's story told in Technicolor, with the grandeur to match her own. David Kastin penetrates the myths and legends about the Jazz Baroness. In doing so, he gives us a stunning cultural biography of New York City and a riveting portrait of one of the most fascinating figures of the 20th century. Bravo! -- Robin D. G. Kelley, author of *Thelonious Monk: The Life and Times of an American Original*" Kurzbeschreibung The first biography of the legendary Rothschild heiress who reigned as New York's Jazz Baroness. It's a misty night in 1950s New York. A silver Rolls-Royce screeches to a stop at the neon-lit doorway of a 52nd Street jazz club. Behind the wheel is a glamorous brunette, a chinchilla stole draped over her shoulder and a long cigarette holder clinched in her teeth. After taking a pull from a small silver flask, she glides past the bouncer into the murky depths of the Three Deuces. The Jazz Baroness has arrived. Raised in fairy-tale splendor, Kathleen Annie Pannonica Rothschild de Koenigswarter (known as Nica) piloted her own plane across the English Channel, married a French baron, fought in the French Resistance, and had five children. Then she heard a recording of Thelonious Monk's *Round Midnight*. Inspired by the liberating spirit of jazz, Nica left her family, moved to Manhattan, and began haunting the city's nightclubs. The tabloids first splashed her name across the headlines after Charlie Parker died in her hotel suite a scandal that cast a dark shadow over the rest of her life. She retreated from the public eye, but through her ongoing ministrations to Monk and dozens of other musicians she became a legend. Nearly a score of jazz compositions have been written in her honor, including two of the most beloved classics of the genre: Horace Silver's *Nica's Dream* and Monk's *Pannonica*. *Nica's Dream* traces the story of a fascinating woman across her thirty-year reign as the Jazz Baroness, but it also explores a transformative era in twentieth-century American culture. Based on interviews with musicians, family members, historians, and artists, David Kastin's probing biography unwraps the life of this enigmatic figure and evokes the vibrancy of New York during the birth of bebop, the first stirrings of the Beat Generation, and the advent of abstract expressionism.