

SUMMARY

“Vibraphones in jazz: the jazz vibraphone in Spain” is a thesis addressing three clearly differentiated and yet related parts - for each one of them is indispensable for the full comprehension of the next.

The three topics herein addressed are:

1.- The vibraphone. In this part a description of the instrument is made, as well as references to the different types of vibraphones, performing techniques and the use of vibraphones in the 20th century.

2.- Vibraphones in international jazz. In this part an analysis of the origin of the vibraphone, its evolution and performers is carried out by connecting this topic to the different styles in jazz history.

3.- Jazz vibraphones in Spain. This is by far the most important part of this thesis. Here, starting from the Spanish Jazz history, we speak about the arrival of the vibraphone in our country, its introduction and classical conservatory teaching methodology, the main Spanish vibraphones and mallet manufacturers, predecessors of jazz vibraphones (jazz players, first jazz xylophone and vibraphone players from the 30s and 40s), Spanish Jazz vibraphone players born since the 30s, international Jazz vibraphone players with residence in Spain and main concerts performed in Spain by international vibraphone players.

This thesis presents various annexes in connection to vibraphones, such as the evolution of the different models of “Deagan” vibraphones, the presence of vibraphones in chamber music, examples of vibraphone mallet models depending on manufacturers, jazz vibraphone players throughout history, jazz players, first jazz xylophone and vibraphone players in Spain, websites consulted, and finally “technical exercises for jazz vibraphone”.

This thesis gathers numerous figures and testimonials of the main leading figures involved with Jazz vibraphones in Spain. Apart from that, it includes several indexes, such as illustrations, tables of contents or lists of vibraphone players.

This thesis ends with a specific bibliography on vibraphones, the bibliography herein used and conclusions on each of the three parts previously explained.

As a main byproduct of this thesis it is noteworthy the creation of an Internet Forum -<http://vibrafonojazzistico.blogspot.com>- which lists and allows Spanish Jazz vibraphone players to get in touch.

In short, this thesis puts names and surnames to the protagonists of a never before told story, the story of the Jazz vibraphone players in Spain.