



## America s Gift: The Story of the Evolution of the Blues (Paperback)

By Paul Merry

Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, United States, 2015. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*. Why untold? Most blues histories, outstanding as they are, take us back to the late 1890s but rarely further. As South Carolina s Cradle of Jazz Project wrote: From the end of the dances at Congo Square (c. 1820) to the beginning of jazz, there is a black hole . when the old West African music slowly turned into the new music of America. America s Gift was written expressly to illuminate that black hole , to discover exactly what happened to America s slave music in the 19th century, and how it evolved during the centuries before. Why untold? First we examine the origins of Africa s ancient slave trade, the West s involvement with slavery from the 1400s, and how America s first Africans were pirated from Portuguese slavers. We tell how the musical rhythms of old Africa absorbed the melodies of white America, in the 17th and 18th centuries. We explain how various musical strands intertwined over those centuries, to finally create a music only named blues in 1912. Why untold? Such historical information is usually...



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