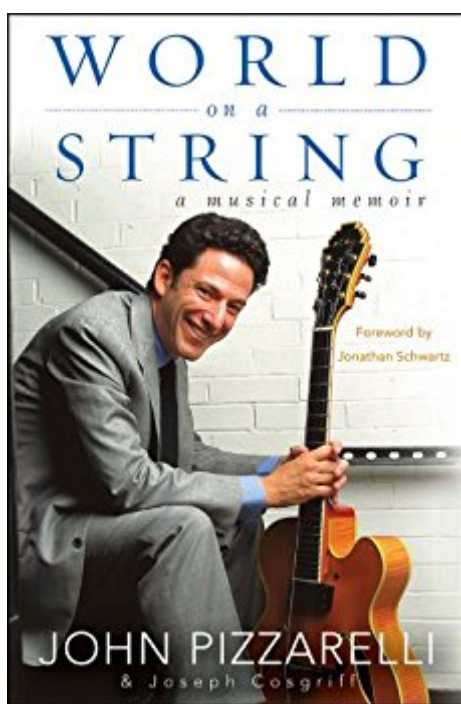


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World On A String: A Musical Memoir



Synopsis

Behind the scenes in the life of a musician—an exuberant, entertaining memoir from jazz guitarist, singer, and raconteur John Pizzarelli. John Pizzarelli, the son of jazz guitar legend Bucky Pizzarelli, is a connoisseur of American song who grew up among the legends of jazz. From teenage explorations of rock music to life on the road with his father, he worked his way from gigs in tiny clubs to opening for Frank Sinatra during his final international tour. Now Pizzarelli performs in festivals and top venues across the United States and the world, and he shares his unique journey in this revealing, charming, and heartwarming memoir. Includes firsthand stories of famous jazz greats and popular music icons including Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett, Rosemary Clooney, Benny Goodman, Joe Pass, James Taylor, and Paul McCartney. Reveals what it was like to grow up among great musicians and storytellers and shares the day-to-day experiences of a touring musician's life. Includes thirty-five terrific photographs that take you inside John Pizzarelli's life and music. Part of the Wiley-Lincoln Center alliance. Absorbing, upbeat, funny, and down to earth, *World on a String* is an irresistible celebration of music and life that will appeal to John Pizzarelli's large and growing following.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

For those of you who have seen John Pizzarelli in concert, attended BLOHARDS lunches over the past 25+ years, or can't decide whether your favorite version of "I Like Jersey Best" is the Paul Simon version or the Beach Boys, it will come as no surprise that this debut offering from John Pizzarelli and Joseph Cosgriff is a highly entertaining read. The book is much more than a memoir. It is really a history of jazz and cabaret music in New York that bridges the eras of Frank Sinatra, Rosemary Clooney, Benny Goodman, and the days of the "Tonight Show" band in New York City, with the modern day jazz scene. The book is also a lovely tribute to Bucky Pizzarelli, whose contributions to jazz and pop music over the decades are unparalleled. The chapter on Frank Sinatra is particularly interesting, as it provides rarely discussed insights into what life on the road during a Sinatra tour was like for the musicians. In particular, the authors go out of their way to praise Frank Sinatra, Jr. for his role as Band Leader. You leave this chapter with a real appreciation for "Junior" and what it is like to go through pre show rehearsals and preparations for an act like Sinatra. Chapters involving Benny Goodman, affectionately referred to as "KOS", and Rosemary Clooney, who John often collaborated with at Rainbow & Stars and on an album of Brazilian music, are also highly entertaining. The book also highlights John Pizzarelli's radio career with some amusing stories and offers some insights for actors involved in under-funded Broadway productions. The "My Favorite Things" and "Frequently Asked Questions" (FAQ) sections in the back are nice touches that share numerous obscure, humorous facts about Pizzarelli.

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