

Quit Your Band! Musical Notes from the Japanese Underground

By Ian F. Martin

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From the sugar rush of Tokyo's idol subculture to the discordant polyrhythms of its experimental punk and indie scenes, this book by *Japan Times* music columnist Ian F. Martin offers a witty and tender look at the wide spectrum of issues that shape Japanese music today. With unique theories about the evolution of J-pop as well as its history, infrastructure and (sub)cultures, Martin deconstructs an industry that operates very differently from counterparts overseas. Based partly on interviews with influential artists, label owners and event organisers, Martin's book combines personal anecdotes with cultural criticism and music history. An accessible and humorous account emerges of why some creative acts manage to overcome institutional pressures, without quitting their bands.

Ian Martin's writing about Japanese music has appeared in *The Japan Times*, *CNN Travel* and *The Guardian* among other places. Martin is based in Tokyo, where he also runs Call And Response Records.

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Editorial Review

Review

"Even for non-music buffs, Quit Your Band is rich with insight into Japanese media and the entertainment industry”
?Metropolis Magazine

"Readers with no or just a passing knowledge of Japanese music will see inner workings from someone who has experienced it from many different angles, while those more familiar with it can wrangle with Martin’s criticism. Peppered throughout are entertaining anecdotes, many of them breaking up the analysis with humour.... Quit Your Band is a great intro to the nation’s under and overground, but what ties it all together is the same sense of attachment music fans anywhere can relate to”
?Time Out Tokyo Magazine

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