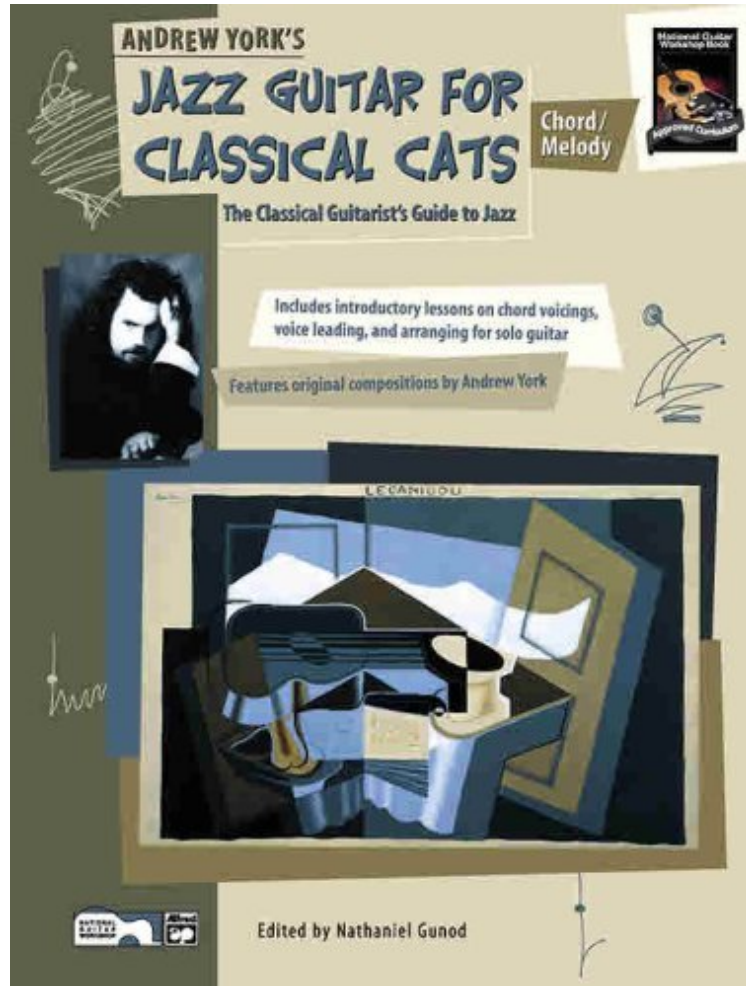


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Andrew York

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Andrew York : Jazz Guitar for Classical Cats: 0 before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Jazz Guitar for Classical Cats: 0:

17 of 17 people found the following review helpful. Also a Great Book for a Jazz Cats Interested in Andrew York as a Composer and Arranger By Kenneth of Westfield I came at this book totally backwards. I'm a Jazz guy who just happens to be a huge fan of Andrew York's compositions/solo work. I can play fingersyle, know a few Bach pieces, but spend most of my time with a flatpick in hand. After looking at the descriptions of all his books, I chose this one. I'm happy I did and grateful that he wrote this book. It exceeded my expectations. I was curious about his approach to voicing chords and his view on Jazz in general. I also purchased the optional accompanying CD after the fact. In hindsight, I could make due without the CD as I read well enough to play what is written here. If you are a competent reader and on a budget, consider skipping the CD. This book is well worth the price for a glimpse at his chord voicings which are in chord grid form with standard notation below. If you are not already knowledgeable of jazz, this book is

not going to transform you from an interpreter of Classical music into a great Jazz improviser. It will however, give you a good start along that path. I don't agree with the description on claiming that this book is "the classical guitarist's ultimate guide to jazz". The book's cover got it right, "introductory lessons on chord voicings, voice leading, and arranging for solo guitar". York's compositions and arranging concepts are great, but he is not a Jazzer, his playing and tunes are not exactly Jazz or Classical for that matter ... perhaps New Age? Definitely modern and highly melodic. This book gives you a glimpse into his head. His concepts for harmonizing scales here are very enjoyable and personally reflective of his actual playing and composing. He uses All the Things You are and Autumn Leaves as the basis for studying chord melody. I have played both these songs many times, know the changes and melodies (which he doesn't use) and still found his chord concepts quite challenging. This book does a great job of representing his very personal aesthetic concepts with beautiful, lush chord selections, lots of suspensions, sixes and nines. I'm always appreciative when great artists are willing to share their knowledge honestly and deeply; York does that here. If you are a classical guy looking to take a fakebook and flesh out unaccompanied chord melodies from jazz standards, I also recommend Joe Pass's DVD Solo Jazz Guitar in addition to this book. Pass mostly uses common "grip" chords. York is more of a modern arranger who happens to play guitar. I'm from the CAGED school of playing and know most of the common jazz grips with extensions and altered notes and still learned boatloads from York's chording. As I said before, this book met a very personal desire to understand York's aesthetic concepts/harmonic ear better. If you are a guitar player and a fan of Andrew York who wants to a glimpse of what makes him tick compositionally, regardless of your genre, I highly recommend this book. One final note, this book is actually 63 pages long, not 4 as stated here on in the product details section, that is a typo. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By goofusreviewed 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By htw930329good~

World-famous guitarist and composer Andrew York has created the ""Classical Cats"" series to be the classical guitarist's ultimate guide to jazz. This book includes introductory lessons on chord voicings, voice leading, and arranging for solo guitar. Original compositions by Andrew York are featured. The CD includes exercises and examples performed by the author.