



Van Halen: Exuberant California, Zen Rock n roll

By John Scanlan

Reaktion Books, United Kingdom, 2012. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 208 x 148 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. I hate the word maturing, singer David Lee Roth once said. I don't like the word evolving - or any of that bullshit. The point is to keep it as simplistic, as unassuming, and as stupid as possible. As Roth would have wanted it, Van Halen follows the band's pursuit of the art of artlessness, and describes how they characterize what historian Kevin Starr terms Zen California - a state of mind and way of being that above all celebrates the now . In rock n roll terms it stands for the unregulated expenditure of energy; for a youthful exuberance that seems destined to extinguish itself. While many have attempted to discover the secrets of Van Halen through an analysis of their musical role models, John Scanlan looks instead at deeper aesthetic and philosophical influences, such as romanticism and the Beat movement. Through illuminating moments and impressions - decaying Hollywood in the 1970s; Ted Templeman and Sunset Sound Studios; Top Jimmy and the Zero Zero club; the building of Eddie Van Halen's Hollywood Hills studio in 1983 -...



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