



Rocking the Classics: English Progressive Rock and the Counterculture

Edward Macan

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

Rocking the Classics: English Progressive Rock and the Counterculture

Edward Macan

Rocking the Classics: English Progressive Rock and the Counterculture Edward Macan

Few styles of popular music have generated as much controversy as progressive rock, a musical genre best remembered today for its gargantuan stage shows, its fascination with epic subject matter drawn from science fiction, mythology, and fantasy literature, and above all for its attempts to combine classical music's sense of space and monumental scope with rock's raw power and energy. Its dazzling virtuosity and spectacular live concerts made it hugely popular with fans during the 1970s, who saw bands such as King Crimson, Emerson, Lake and Palmer, Yes, Genesis, Pink Floyd, and Jethro Tull bring a new level of depth and sophistication to rock. On the other hand, critics branded the elaborate concerts of these bands as self-indulgent and materialistic. They viewed progressive rock's classical/rock fusion attempts as elitist, a betrayal of rock's populist origins.

In Rocking the Classics, the first comprehensive study of progressive rock history, Edward Macan draws together cultural theory, musicology, and music criticism, illuminating how progressive rock served as a vital expression of the counterculture of the late 1960s and 1970s. Beginning with a description of the cultural conditions which gave birth to the progressive rock style, he examines how the hippies' fondness for hallucinogens, their contempt for Establishment-approved pop music, and their fascination with the music, art, and literature of high culture contributed to this exciting new genre. Covering a decade of music, Macan traces progressive rock's development from the mid- to late-sixties, when psychedelic bands such as the Moody Blues, Procol Harum, the Nice, and Pink Floyd laid the foundation of the progressive rock style, and proceeds to the emergence of the mature progressive rock style marked by the 1969 release of King Crimson's album *In the Court of the Crimson King*. This "golden age" reached its artistic and commercial zenith between 1970 and 1975 in the music of bands such as Jethro Tull, Yes, Genesis, ELP, Gentle Giant, Van der Graaf Generator, and Curved Air.

In turn, Macan explores the conventions that govern progressive rock, including the visual dimensions of album cover art and concerts, lyrics and conceptual themes, and the importance of combining music, visual motif, and verbal expression to convey a coherent artistic vision. He examines the cultural history of progressive rock, considering its roots in a bohemian English subculture and its meteoric rise in popularity among a legion of fans in North America and continental Europe. Finally, he addresses issues of critical reception, arguing that the critics' largely negative reaction to progressive rock says far more about their own ambivalence to the legacy of the counterculture than it does about the music itself.

An exciting tour through an era of extravagant, mind-bending, and culturally explosive music, *Rocking the Classics* sheds new light on the largely misunderstood genre of progressive rock.



[Download Rocking the Classics: English Progressive Rock and ...pdf](#)



[Read Online Rocking the Classics: English Progressive Rock a ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Rocking the Classics: English Progressive Rock and the Counterculture Edward Macan

From reader reviews:

Sarah Ruff:

Have you spare time for just a day? What do you do when you have far more or little spare time? That's why, you can choose the suitable activity for spend your time. Any person spent their spare time to take a move, shopping, or went to the Mall. How about open or read a book titled Rocking the Classics: English Progressive Rock and the Counterculture? Maybe it is to be best activity for you. You know beside you can spend your time together with your favorite's book, you can wiser than before. Do you agree with their opinion or you have other opinion?

John Whetstone:

It is possible to spend your free time to read this book this reserve. This Rocking the Classics: English Progressive Rock and the Counterculture is simple to develop you can read it in the park your car, in the beach, train along with soon. If you did not have got much space to bring typically the printed book, you can buy often the e-book. It is make you quicker to read it. You can save the particular book in your smart phone. Consequently there are a lot of benefits that you will get when you buy this book.

Adeline Norris:

Don't be worry should you be afraid that this book will filled the space in your house, you can have it in e-book method, more simple and reachable. This particular Rocking the Classics: English Progressive Rock and the Counterculture can give you a lot of pals because by you considering this one book you have issue that they don't and make a person more like an interesting person. This kind of book can be one of one step for you to get success. This publication offer you information that probably your friend doesn't learn, by knowing more than various other make you to be great people. So , why hesitate? Let me have Rocking the Classics: English Progressive Rock and the Counterculture.

Arthur Fabry:

Do you like reading a publication? Confuse to looking for your favorite book? Or your book has been rare? Why so many issue for the book? But just about any people feel that they enjoy intended for reading. Some people likes looking at, not only science book and also novel and Rocking the Classics: English Progressive Rock and the Counterculture or maybe others sources were given information for you. After you know how the good a book, you feel want to read more and more. Science guide was created for teacher or even students especially. Those textbooks are helping them to put their knowledge. In some other case, beside science book, any other book likes Rocking the Classics: English Progressive Rock and the Counterculture to make your spare time more colorful. Many types of book like here.

Download and Read Online Rocking the Classics: English Progressive Rock and the Counterculture Edward Macan #DI3W2YOR7U4

Read Rocking the Classics: English Progressive Rock and the Counterculture by Edward Macan for online ebook

Rocking the Classics: English Progressive Rock and the Counterculture by Edward Macan Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Rocking the Classics: English Progressive Rock and the Counterculture by Edward Macan books to read online.

Online Rocking the Classics: English Progressive Rock and the Counterculture by Edward Macan ebook PDF download

Rocking the Classics: English Progressive Rock and the Counterculture by Edward Macan Doc

Rocking the Classics: English Progressive Rock and the Counterculture by Edward Macan MobiPocket

Rocking the Classics: English Progressive Rock and the Counterculture by Edward Macan EPub