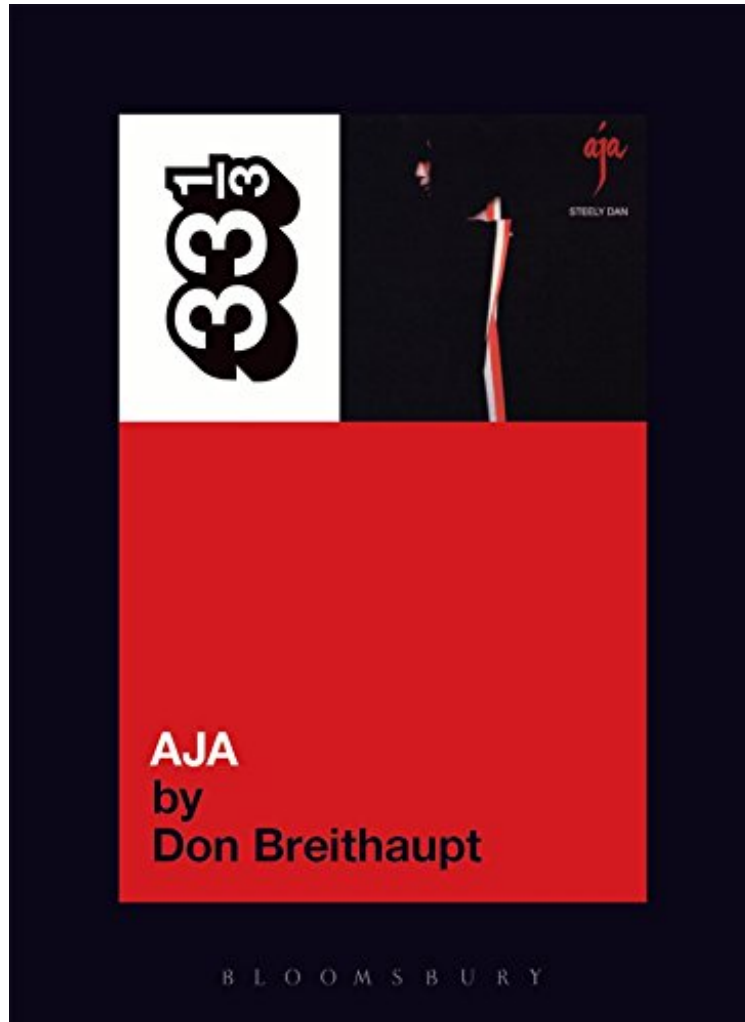


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# AJA

*Don Breithaupt*

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**Don Breithaupt : AJA** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised AJA:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great book, just not much of it By John C Baruth II An enjoyable read but bereft of the detail concerning each track for which I was hoping. Also, if you don't know about thirteenth chords or the names of the modes, much of it will be incomprehensible. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By bob cowles Great info on one of the greatest albums ever. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By B. Lumking great for the die hard fan

Aja was the album that made Steely Dan a commercial force on the order of contemporaries like Fleetwood Mac, the

Eagles and Chicago. A double-platinum, Grammy-winning bestseller, it lingered on the Billboard charts for more than a year and spawned three hit singles. Odd, then, that its creators saw it as an "ambitious, extended" work, the apotheosis of their anti-rock, anti-band, anti-glamour aesthetic. Populated by thirty-five mostly jazz session players, Aja served up prewar song forms, mixed meters and extended solos to a generation whose idea of pop daring was Paul letting Linda sing lead once in a while. And, impossibly, it sold. Including an in-depth interview with Donald Fagen, this book paints a detailed picture of the making of a masterpiece.

"Musician and songwriter Breithaupt's book pores over every last note of Josie, Deacon Blues, Peg and the like with the enthusiasm of a teenybopper and the insight of an academic" (Terry Staunton, Record Collector) "Aja was the album that made Steely Dan a commercial force on the order of contemporaries like Fleetwood Mac, the Eagles, and Chicago. A double-platinum, Grammy-winning bestseller, it lingered on the Billboard charts for more than a year after its 1977 release and spawned three hit singles. Odd, then, that its creators saw it as an `ambitious, extended` work, the apotheosis of their anti-rock, anti-band, anti-glamour aesthetic. Including an in-depth interview with Dan co-founder Donald Fagen, this book- part of Continuum`s ongoing 33 1/3 series - by Canadian musician and music journalist Don Breithaupt paints a detailed picture of the making of a masterpiece." Upper North Side "Don Breithaupt has crafted an informative book about Steely Dan's platinum sixth album, Aja part of Continuum Press' 33 1/3 series on acclaimed albums in rock history. The author analyzes Walter Becker and Donald Fagen's cryptic word play and arty rock and West Coast studio contributions to the 1977 release and tried to build a case in support of his fervid-fan claim that Aja is 'the best record in the solar system.'" Downbeat Magazine "Aja is the first one [in the series] I've read, but I'll be checking out the others. Highly recommended."