



## Public Worship, Private Faith: Sacred Harp and American Folksong

By John Bealle

University of Georgia Press, United States, 1997. Paperback.  
Book Condition: New. New.. 214 x 149 mm. Language: English .  
Brand New Book. The Sacred Harp, a tunebook that first  
appeared in 1844, has stood as a model of early American  
musical culture for most of this century. Tunebooks such as this,  
printed in shape notes for public singing and singing schools,  
followed the New England tradition of singing hymns and  
Psalms from printed music. Nineteenth-century Americans were  
inundated by such books, but only the popularity of The Sacred  
Harp has endured throughout the twentieth century. With this  
tunebook as his focus, John Bealle surveys definitive moments in  
American musical history, from the lively singing schools of the  
New England Puritans to the dramatic theological crises that  
split New England Congregationalism, from the rise of the  
genteel urban mainstream in frontier Cincinnati to the bold New  
South movement that sought to transform the southern  
economy, from the nostalgic culture-writing era of the Great  
Depression to the post-World War II folksong revival. Although  
Bealle finds that much has changed in the last century, the  
custodians of the tradition of Sacred Harp singing have kept it  
alive and accessible in an increasingly diverse cultural  
marketplace....



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