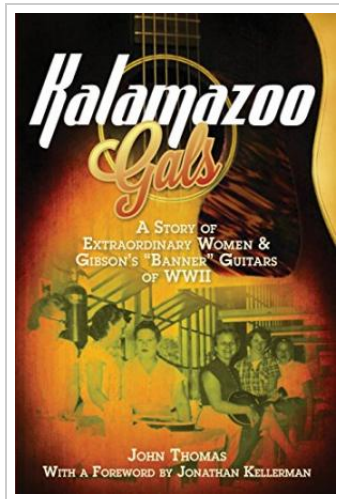




Kalamazoo Gals A Story of Extraordinary Women Gibsons Banner Guitars of WWII

By John Thomas

American History Press. Paperback. Condition: New. 288 pages. Dimensions: 8.9in. x 5.9in. x 0.7in. An excerpt from Jonathan Kellerman's foreword: When it comes to music, the human factor is all. Yet so many books on musical instruments obsess on the fine points of construction while neglecting the talented people who began the process: transforming planks and slabs and slivers into masterpieces of sonic beauty. That's understandable; many players and collectors live and breathe trivia. But it's an approach that misses the point. In *Kalamazoo Gals*, John Thomas has chosen to rise above that, fleshing out the most human of stories without neglecting the techno-stats that guitar geeks crave. The goal John set for himself was monumental: illuminating the elusive history of a legendary group of WW II-era Gibson guitars known in the vintage trade as Banners because of the decal affixed to their headstocks. Now recognized, nearly three quarters of a century after their manufacture, as among the finest acoustic guitars ever produced, over 9000 Banners were built during a period when, according to official accounts, no Gibson instruments were produced because the company had shifted to churning out war goods. Even more remarkable, much of the work that went into...



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