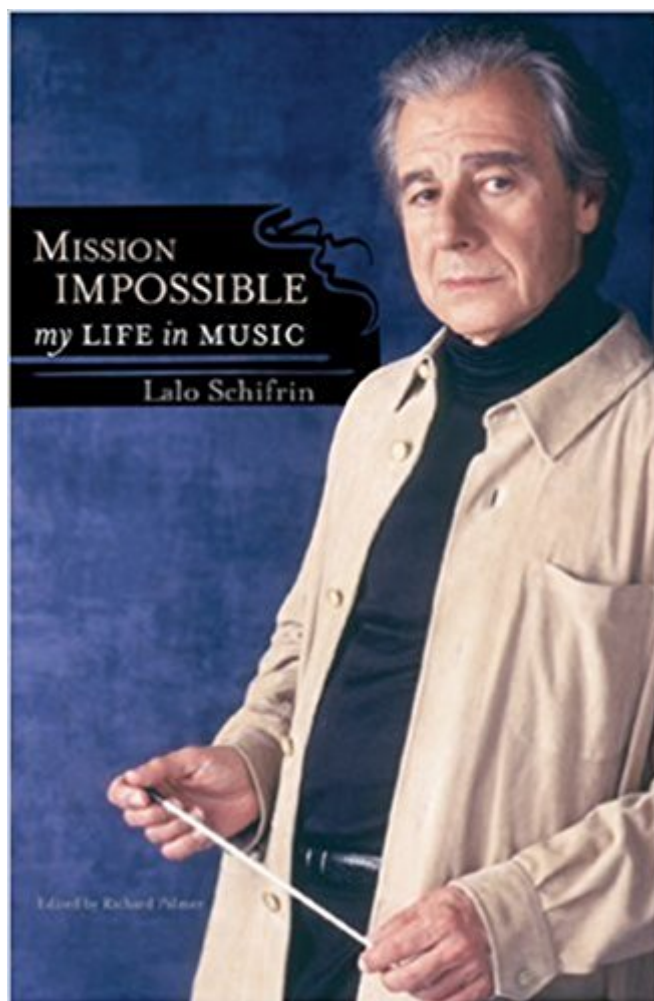


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# Mission Impossible: My Life In Music (Studies In Jazz)



## Synopsis

Mission Impossible: My Life in Music is the engaging autobiography of Lalo Schifrin, the musician, conductor, and composer of more than 60 jazz and classical works and over 100 film and television scores, including Bullitt, the Rush Hour series, Cool Hand Luke, The Dead Pool, Tango, The Fox, Voyage of the Damned, The Amityville Horror, The Sting II, and Mission Impossible. Edited by Richard Palmer, this autobiography is a journey from Schifrin's formative years in Argentina to the classical and jazz atmospheres in Paris in the 1950s; and from his jazz career in the United States with Dizzy Gillespie from 1958-1963 to his development as a film and television composer from 1963 to the present. Organized in eight parts, the book reflects on Schifrin's cosmopolitan experience and provides impressions and vignettes of the extraordinary people with whom he worked. As a composer whose works bridge three main musical styles—jazz, classical, and film and television—this autobiography offers invaluable insights on all three genres, as well as politics, literature, and travel. This significant volume includes over 30 photos, appendixes listing Schifrin's works, and a discography, as well as an audio CD featuring some of Schifrin's greatest compositions.

## Book Information

Series: Studies in Jazz (Book 56)

Hardcover: 264 pages

Publisher: Scarecrow Press; Har/Com edition (June 27, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0810859467

ISBN-13: 978-0810859463

Product Dimensions: 6.3 x 0.9 x 9.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #697,736 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #186 in Books > Arts &

Photography > Music > Biographies > Jazz #850 in Books > Arts & Photography > Music >

Musical Genres > Jazz #1738 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Arts & Literature >

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## Customer Reviews

Lalo Schifrin's autobiography is a wonderful story of a musician with great talent who realized and accomplished his 'mission' on many fronts. This book should be particularly inspiring to young

musicians as it clearly reveals how talent and hard work can lead to real success. Congratulations to Lalo on this book and for the great music that continues at the highest level. (Kenny Burrell, Professor of Music and Ethnomusicology, University of California, Los Angeles) A book on the life of Lalo Schifrin is a book about creativity, music, and passion - in short, a book about a life we would all aspire to live. (James Morrison) This book is a must-read for any fan of Schifrin as well as students of film scoring, jazz musicians, concert composers, filmmakers, instrumentalists, and conductors. (Ain't It Cool News, October 2008) Schifrin's story represents the familiar yet fascinating story of the diversely talented, contemporary musician's quest to create not jazz, or classical music, or commercial music, or popular music, but music. There is a fine line between a "Renaissance man" and a Jack-of-all-trades, and once hopes that this autobiography will spawn further conversation on how effectively Schifrin has approached that line. (Anthony Bushard) Intelligent and captivating, this autobiography by Lalo Schifrin is impossible to resist. Lalo has achieved his mission, and then some, changing the sound of American music and listeners' expectations in a multitude of contexts. Here, Lalo's passion for life and his integrity and wit shine as they do in his music; his insights into not only creating music but also making a living as a musician and composer make for fascinating reading. (Jon Faddis, trumpeter, composer, conductor, & educator)

Lalo Schifrin has received four Grammy Awards and six Academy Award nominations, and recently established a jazz and classical composition scholarship at University of California in Los Angeles. Richard Palmer is director of general education at Bedford School in the UK. He is the author of *Sonny Rollins: The Cutting Edge* (2004), and editor of *Jazz Writings* (2005).

To the average person the name Lalo Schifrin is not exactly a household word. But there's nothing "average" about either him or his achievements when it comes to the world of music. Whether on the concert stage or recording sound stage. He's the man behind the all-time number one favorite TV show theme -MISSION IMPOSSIBLE. The last of the great Movie & TV composers of the 1960's and 1970's. Amongst the likes of Elmer Bernstein, Jerry Goldsmith and Henry Mancini, Lalo Schifrin seemed to find his composing niche with the crime/thriller genre. From COOL HAND LUKE and BULLITT to DIRTY HARRY and ENTER THE DRAGON to name but a few. Equally at home with both jazz and classical music, Schifrin is a Renaissance man who even today continues to compose and conduct with some of the finest symphony orchestra's in the world. Lalo's book which is edited by Richard Palmer, also includes as a bonus a CD music sampler of his work. For anyone even remotely interested in music this is a good, up tempo read. His personal insights into his musical life

are well covered and although he has never won an Oscar, he has won just about every other award. As a life-long fan, I was grateful to just recently correspond with him. Ironically, if there is a fault with his book it's that there is very little on the subject of composing and recording the MISSION IMPOSSIBLE theme itself. I guess if he had known it was going to be the most famous and most remembered TV theme of all time, he probably would have taken a time-out and jotted down a few extra notes for Hollywood history. That said, Mr. Schiffrin I'll be even bolder and THANK YOU for all the millions of people who may never know your name, but will always recall your music. And who can ask more than that!

I read Lalo's book in one day - couldn't put it down! Could have read another 1000 pages; left me wanting mas, mas, mas..! Read this book; enjoy a small insight into a very talented/gifted composer.

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