BOOK REVIEW

Black Music, White Business

Illuminating the History and Political Economy of Jazz
BY FRANK KOFSKY

This is not a technical study of avant-garde trends (not one musical example appears within the book), but a social and socialistic consideration of contemporary jazz and influences from the culture which is producing it. Often provocative and sometimes quite aggressive, Kofsky devotes substantial attention to jazz criticism and critics (including those with whom he has done battle), LeRoi Jones, Albert Ayler, Malcolm X, Elvin Jones, McCoy Tyner, and John Coltrane. The book will not often conflict with the views of the militant Black and, despite a general lack of focus, is destined to be well read and discussed. Twenty photographs, almost all by Kofsky, enhance the volume. Some readers will regret the lack of an index or bibliography. An important acquisition, particularly for urban public libraries.