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Phyllis Rose

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Phyllis Rose : Jazz Cleopatra: Josephine Baker in Her Time before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Jazz Cleopatra: Josephine Baker in Her Time:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The play will be a hit on Broadway by 2017 and this book is the perfect complement to the intimacies of her lifeBy Kathleen D StoverHaving just seen the world premier of this play in Sarasota ,FlI did not expect a book that could capture this phenomenal woman..The play will be a hit on Broadway by 2017 and this book is the perfect complement to the intimacies of her life.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful Book!By Kimberly ValentinoThis books takes you down the journey of the life of Madame Baker...So beautifully written you feel like you are taken back in time!Must Have For Every Baker Fan!3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. JosephineBy Sharon StreeterI always enjoy reading stories or literature about Josephine Baker. I have read many books and autobiographies about her and I learn from each one of them. This book only skims the personal life of Josephine and it over analyzes her successes and failures. The best book I read about Josephine was written by one of her adopted sons. She was a remarkable woman.

A biography of one of the most famous and outrageous black entertainers of the interwar years. Born in St Louis, Baker went to Paris in 1925 and became a star of the Folies Bergeres. Her appeal lay in her sexuality and in her colour: blackness was equated with a freedom and vitality lost to the white races. During the war she was involved in the French Resistance and later with Civil Rights groups in America. She achieved fame with her cosmopolitan "rainbow

tribe" of adopted children. Phyllis Rose is also the author of "Parallel lives".

From Publishers Weekly With the searching intellectuality that has distinguished her literary biographies, Rose (*Parallel Lives*) takes on what is for her a surprising subject: the life and work of American expatriate dancer, singer and entertainer Josephine Baker. Born in 1906 in St. Louis, Mo., Baker--whose roots were black and Native American--had endured the early departure of her father, abuse as a domestic servant in the homes of white people and the brutal East St. Louis race riots of 1917 before her childhood was over. The ethos of jazz--freedom--offered her a way out. Employed at 13 as a dresser for a touring black vaudeville show, Baker graduated into the chorus lines of other such troupes until recruited in 1925 to dance in a black revue to be launched in Paris. There her brilliantly uninhibited performances won her immediate and lasting fame ("Hips, stomach, and rump had never moved so violently"). Not simply the story of a complex and influential woman, this indispensable biography treats in full the two cultures--American and Continental--that formed Baker, and sets a new standard for critical studies of performing artists. Photos. First serial to *Mirabella*. Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc.