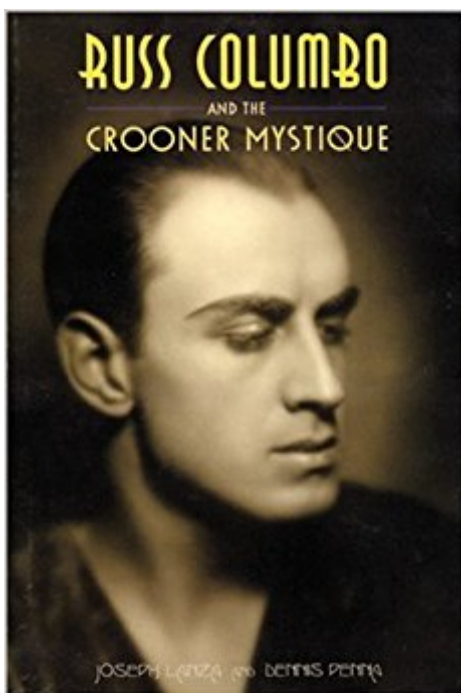


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# Russ Columbo And The Crooner Mystique



## Synopsis

The Hollywood Babylon-like story of the short-lived, Valentino-like crooner.

## Book Information

Paperback: 288 pages

Publisher: Feral House; 1st edition (November 1, 2002)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0922915806

ISBN-13: 978-0922915804

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.7 x 8.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (11 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

After stumbling across a crooner (morals) controversy via a 1934 tract Voodooism in Music and Other Essays that neatly ties into my rock-music-is-the-devil's-music '60s-'80s fascination, I had to listen to Russ Columbo, Rudy Vallee and early Bing Crosby, and look up this book for information about Russ Columbo. I was familiar with Columbo's song, "Prisoner of Love," from 1946 on Perry Como's hits comp 1958 Lp, Golden Records, which Joseph Murrels put at something like 2 million copies sold, as well as Jerry Vale's concept Columbia Lp, I Remember Russ. The most interesting chapter in the book dealt with a crooner war (trumped up publicity, apparently) between rivals Bing Crosby and Russ Columbo, which brought out a period of anti-crooner morals' backlash in the early '30s, somewhat before a "blue" lyrics song/record ban campaign waged by the Committee of Five in the later thirties 1935+, which included top acts Rudy Vallee, Guy Lombardo, and Paul Whiteman Pops: Paul Whiteman, King of Jazz at the time. The aspects of the controversy, circa 1930-1934, parallel similar events and arguments against the 1954-58 Broadway showtunes' ASCAP vs.

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