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Available to the trade

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TERMS

Hardcover	979-8-9956562-3-4	\$39.99
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Wholesale discount: 55%

Returnable: Yes

Distributor: Ingram

LCCN: 2026913893

SPECIFICATIONS

6 x 9 inches / 298 pages

Trade paperback and jacketed case laminate hardcover

Also available: Kindle, EPUB, Apple Books

WHY STOCK IT

A reviewed debut, locally written

Kirkus Reviews gave RESONANCE its Get It verdict, and the Kirkus Indie editors selected the review for the September 1, 2026 issue of Kirkus Reviews magazine. Only a limited number of indie titles are chosen for the print magazine.

"This moving, incisive book is a great reminder of music's power as a universal connector."

Kirkus Reviews / Verdict: Get It

HAND-SELL ANGLES

- Music as physical stimulus, argued from inside the experience by a working musician.
- The author is a chromesthetic synesthete and writes about perception from lived experience.
- Arkansas author, available for events, signings, and book club visits.

PUBLISHER CONTACT

Open Channel Press

1706 S. Walton Blvd., Unit 808
Bentonville, AR 72712
media@openchannelpress.com
resonance-book.com

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ron K. Miller is a composer, synesthete, and lifelong musician. RESONANCE is his first book. He lives in Arkansas with his wife and their three children.

EVENTS AND SIGNINGS

Available for readings, signings, in-store events, and book club visits in Northwest Arkansas and beyond.

REVIEW COPIES

Print and digital review copies are available to booksellers, librarians, and media on request.



ABOUT THE BOOK

RESONANCE argues that music is a biological stimulus with direct physical access to the body, sitting in the same category as pain. Not because they are identical or share one pathway, but because both arrive as physical input before interpretation, and both can change a body before the mind has explained it. Ron K. Miller writes as a lifelong musician and a chromesthetic synesthete, drawing on neuroscience, acoustic physics, memory, animal cognition, and philosophy of perception.

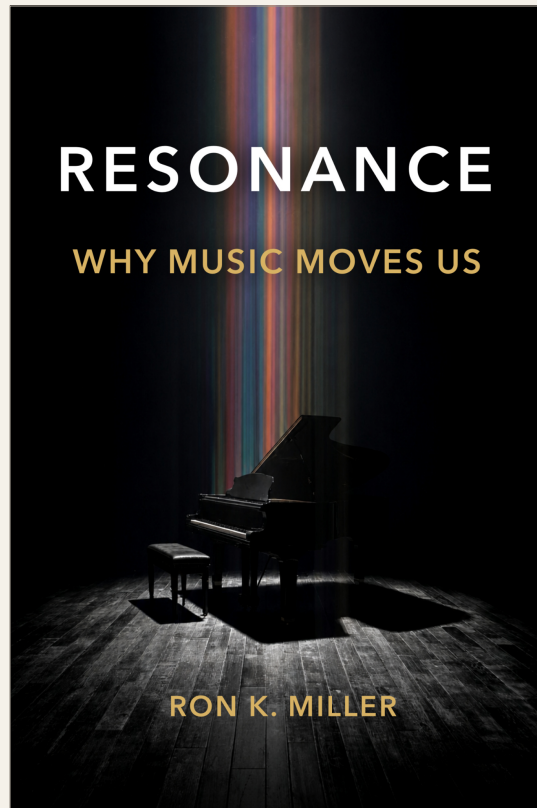
SHELVING AND COMPARABLE TITLES

Psychology / General Nonfiction / Music. Shelves with Oliver Sacks, Musicophilia; Daniel Levitin, This Is Your Brain on Music; and Susan Rogers, This Is What It Sounds Like.

RESONANCE

WHY MUSIC MOVES US / RON K. MILLER

NARRATIVE NONFICTION
MUSIC / NEUROSCIENCE / PERCEPTION
OPEN CHANNEL PRESS



AT A GLANCE

Format: Paperback, hardcover, Kindle, EPUB, Apple Books
Length: Approx. 61,000 words main text / 69,271 total
Structure: Three movements / 29 chapters
Price: Hardcover \$39.99 / Paperback \$19.99
Publisher: Open Channel Press
Distribution: KDP + IngramSpark

THE ARGUMENT

A PHYSICAL INPUT BEFORE EXPLANATION

Music is not entertainment. **RESONANCE** makes the case that music is a biological stimulus with direct physical access to the body, sitting in the same category as pain. Not because they are identical or share one pathway, but because both arrive as physical input before interpretation, and both can change a body before the mind has explained it.

POSITIONING

WHAT MAKES THE BOOK DISTINCT

A composer and chromesthetic synesthete writes from inside the phenomenon. The book distinguishes mechanism from analogy and resemblance from speculation while carrying one question through memoir, scientific research, musical analysis, and philosophy.

AUDIENCE

SERIOUS GENERAL NONFICTION

For readers of music, neuroscience, consciousness, memory, caregiving, perception, and the places where personal experience meets documented science.

MEDIA ANGLES

- Why a song can reach the body before conscious explanation.
- What synesthesia reveals about the variety of musical perception.
- How music reaches memory, movement, pain, and nonverbal communication.
- Where established mechanism ends and interpretation begins.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ron K. Miller is a composer, synesthete, and lifelong musician. His chromesthesia and family experience give the book a personal lens; its scientific claims are presented with explicit boundaries between mechanism, inference, and speculation.

ARCHITECTURE

THREE MOVEMENTS / 29 CHAPTERS

Recognition begins with lived experience: frisson, infant response, memory, synesthesia, and the involuntary gasp.

Reverence turns toward awe, sacred space, creation, silence, voice, and inherited musical forms.

Resolution tests the argument against neuroscience, animal cognition, altered states, medicine, grief, hit architecture, fractal structure, and music sent into space.

KEY TALKING POINTS

- Music recruits reward circuitry during anticipation and peak emotion.
- Musical memory can remain available when other memory systems fail.
- Rhythm can support movement and reduce perceived pain.
- Patterned sound becomes biologically meaningful across species through more than one route.
- Frequency relationships and resonance predate listeners.

SELECTED EVIDENCE

- Dopamine release during anticipation and peak musical pleasure.
- Music-evoked autobiographical memory and personalized dementia care.
- Rhythmic support for gait, surgical pain reduction, and infant regulation.

CRITICAL RECEPTION

"An emotional and informative ode to the sonic connections we form throughout our lives."

- *Kirkus Reviews*

VERDICT: GET IT

PUBLICATION

July 28, 2026
Open Channel Press
69,271 words total

IDENTIFIERS

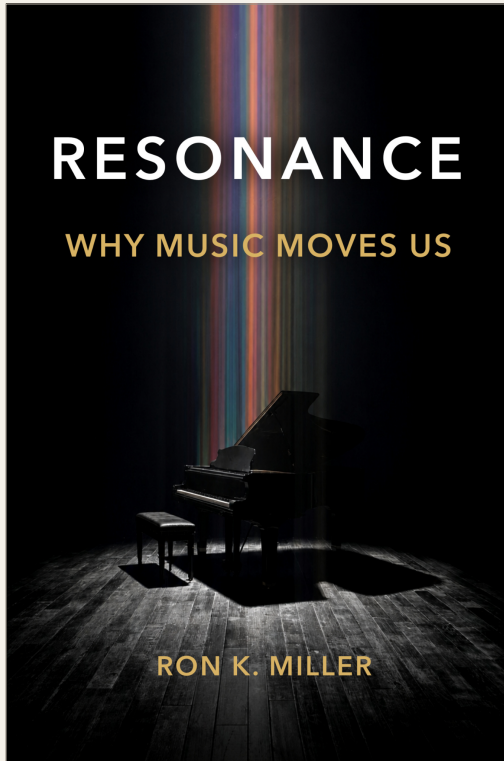
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FORMATS

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CONTACT

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Review and interview inquiries



REVIEW DETAILS

Book: RESONANCE: Why Music Moves Us

Author: Ron K. Miller

Publication: July 28, 2026

Review posted: July 8, 2026

Program: Kirkus Indie

Verdict: Get It

Publisher: Open Channel Press

The full review is linked from every attribution and from the address on this page.

FROM THE REVIEW

Selected excerpts from Kirkus Reviews

“An emotional and informative ode to the sonic connections we form throughout our lives.”

- Kirkus Reviews

“The result is a fascinating mix of scientific theory, musical analysis, and personal history that never feels dry or didactic.”

- Kirkus Reviews

“This moving, incisive book is a great reminder of music’s power as a universal connector.”

- Kirkus Reviews

“His humility and curiosity make the book feel more like a shared reflection than a lecture, even as the studies he cites indicate a clear understanding of the science behind sound.”

- Kirkus Reviews

REVIEW CONTEXT

Review program: Kirkus Indie

Review date: July 8, 2026

Categories: Psychology / General Nonfiction

Verdict: Get It

Page count reviewed: 298

READ THE COMPLETE REVIEW

kirkusreviews.com/book-reviews/ron-k-miller/resonance-why-music-moves-us/

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY

RON K. MILLER / COMPOSER / SYNESTHETE / AUTHOR

APPROVED BIOGRAPHICAL COPY
RESONANCE: WHY MUSIC MOVES US
OPEN CHANNEL PRESS



SHORT BIO

Ron K. Miller is a composer, synesthete, and lifelong musician. In *RESONANCE: Why Music Moves Us*, he combines personal history with neuroscience, acoustic physics, memory, animal cognition, and philosophy of perception to ask why music can reach the body before explanation. The book is his first. Miller lives in Arkansas with his wife and their three children.

MEDIA + BOOK DETAILS

Publication: July 28, 2026
Publisher: Open Channel Press
Primary instrument: Piano
Perception: Chromesthesia
Press: media@openchannelpress.com
Website: resonance-book.com

LONG BIO

Ron K. Miller is a composer, synesthete, and lifelong musician. When he hears music, color, shape, and spatial dimension arrive with the sound whether he wants them to or not. He spent much of his life assuming everyone experienced music this way. They do not. That realization is one of the reasons this book exists.

RESONANCE: Why Music Moves Us is his first book. It asks why music can regulate emotion, encode memory, synchronize bodies, and reach places ordinary language cannot. The book draws on neuroscience, acoustic physics, memory, pain, ritual, animal cognition, and philosophy of perception while remaining grounded in the experience of listening and making music.

The book uses music and pain as an organizing comparison: both can make claims on attention, reward, memory, prediction, movement, and autonomic state before conscious explanation catches up. They are not identical and do not share one pathway. Miller distinguishes established mechanisms from analogy, inference, and speculation throughout.

The project became more urgent after Miller watched music reach his son Anderson, who has Down syndrome and is mostly nonverbal, in ways ordinary language often could not. Miller lives in Arkansas with his wife and their three children. *RESONANCE* is published by Open Channel Press.

THE BOOK

A question-driven work of narrative nonfiction

RESONANCE moves from bodily response and musical memory into awe, silence, synesthesia, medicine, grief, animal cognition, and the physical patterning of sound.

THE STRUCTURE

Recognition / Reverence / Resolution

Recognition begins with lived experience. Reverence turns toward awe, sacred space, voice, and inherited musical forms. Resolution tests the argument against evidence and its limits.

THE PERSPECTIVE

A musician writing from inside the phenomenon

Miller brings chromesthesia, composition, family experience, and scientific research into one conversation - separating documented mechanisms from interpretation and wonder.

BOOK DETAILS

RESONANCE: Why Music Moves Us
Narrative nonfiction / Music / Neuroscience
July 28, 2026 / 69,271 words total

CONVERSATION AREAS

Memory / Frisson / Synesthesia / Pain
Animal cognition / Grief / Pattern / Awe
Evidence, perception, and lived musical experience

PRESS + MEDIA

media@openchannelpress.com
resonance-book.com
Review copies, interviews, and event inquiries