



# Begin Again: A Biography of John Cage

*By Kenneth Silverman*

Download now

Read Online ➔

## **Begin Again: A Biography of John Cage** By Kenneth Silverman

A man of extraordinary and seemingly limitless talents—musician, inventor, composer, poet, and even amateur mycologist—John Cage became a central figure of the avant-garde early in his life and remained at that pinnacle until his death in 1992 at the age of eighty. Award-winning biographer Kenneth Silverman gives us the first comprehensive life of this remarkable artist. Silverman begins with Cage's childhood in interwar Los Angeles and his stay in Paris from 1930 to 1931, where immersion in the burgeoning new musical and artistic movements triggered an explosion of his creativity. Cage continued his studies in the United States with the seminal modern composer Arnold Schoenberg, and he soon began the experiments with sound and percussion instruments that would develop into his signature work with prepared piano, radio static, random noise, and silence. Cage's unorthodox methods still influence artists in a wide range of genres and media. Silverman concurrently follows Cage's rich personal life, from his early marriage to his lifelong personal and professional partnership with choreographer Merce Cunningham, as well as his friendships over the years with other composers, artists, philosophers, and writers.

Drawing on interviews with Cage's contemporaries and friends and on the enormous archive of his letters and writings, and including photographs, facsimiles of musical scores, and Web links to illustrative sections of his compositions, Silverman gives us a biography of major significance: a revelatory portrait of one of the most important cultural figures of the twentieth century.

↓ [Download Begin Again: A Biography of John Cage ...pdf](#)

📖 [Read Online Begin Again: A Biography of John Cage ...pdf](#)



# Begin Again: A Biography of John Cage

*By Kenneth Silverman*

## **Begin Again: A Biography of John Cage By Kenneth Silverman**

A man of extraordinary and seemingly limitless talents—musician, inventor, composer, poet, and even amateur mycologist—John Cage became a central figure of the avant-garde early in his life and remained at that pinnacle until his death in 1992 at the age of eighty. Award-winning biographer Kenneth Silverman gives us the first comprehensive life of this remarkable artist. Silverman begins with Cage's childhood in interwar Los Angeles and his stay in Paris from 1930 to 1931, where immersion in the burgeoning new musical and artistic movements triggered an explosion of his creativity. Cage continued his studies in the United States with the seminal modern composer Arnold Schoenberg, and he soon began the experiments with sound and percussion instruments that would develop into his signature work with prepared piano, radio static, random noise, and silence. Cage's unorthodox methods still influence artists in a wide range of genres and media. Silverman concurrently follows Cage's rich personal life, from his early marriage to his lifelong personal and professional partnership with choreographer Merce Cunningham, as well as his friendships over the years with other composers, artists, philosophers, and writers.

Drawing on interviews with Cage's contemporaries and friends and on the enormous archive of his letters and writings, and including photographs, facsimiles of musical scores, and Web links to illustrative sections of his compositions, Silverman gives us a biography of major significance: a revelatory portrait of one of the most important cultural figures of the twentieth century.

## **Begin Again: A Biography of John Cage By Kenneth Silverman Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #186664 in Books
- Published on: 2012-07-11
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.00" h x 1.40" w x 6.00" l, 1.55 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 496 pages

 [Download Begin Again: A Biography of John Cage ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Begin Again: A Biography of John Cage ...pdf](#)

## **Editorial Review**

From [Booklist](#)

John Cage, whose pieces dazzled and confounded audiences for six decades, hardly seems the easiest of subjects for the biographer, but this is a well-researched, coherent, quite readable account of the composer and his work. What comes across is a man who was ferociously driven to create music and to promote it to those who could most effectively advance it. Cage was an iconoclast, yet he developed relationships—often symbiotic—with some of the iconic artists of the past century, including Arnold Schoenberg, Jasper Johns, Marcel Duchamp, Buckminster Fuller, Pierre Boulez, Robert Rauschenberg, and longtime companion Merce Cunningham. What also comes across is a humanity and openness that served Cage well in his personal life and his work, personified in his advice to young percussion student Cunningham: “You were playing everything absolutely perfectly. Now go a little further and make a few mistakes.” --Alan Moores

### **Review**

“Begin Again is a much more nuanced picture of Cage’s personal life than has currently been available . . . What emerges most powerfully is Cage’s enormous capacity for work, together with his exceptional self-discipline as an artist and his willingness to approach every new challenge with a ‘beginner’s mind.’ For this alone it is a book worthy of being read by anyone, young or old, who is faced with the daunting task of a new creative beginning.” —John Adams, New York Times Book Review

“The life of Cage is meticulously told.” —New Yorker

“Not just an exemplary biography, but a significant contribution to the cultural history of American music.”—Kirkus, starred review

### **About the Author**

Kenneth Silverman is professor of emeritus of English at NYU. He is the author of biographies of Edgar Allen Poe, Houdini, and Samuel F. Morse, and he has received the Pulitzer Prize for Biography and the Bancroft Prize in American History, among other prizes. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Ivory Hughes:**

The actual book Begin Again: A Biography of John Cage has a lot details on it. So when you check out this book you can get a lot of profit. The book was authored by the very famous author. Mcdougal makes some research just before write this book. This book very easy to read you may get the point easily after reading

this article book.

**William Glover:**

Is it you actually who having spare time and then spend it whole day by means of watching television programs or just resting on the bed? Do you need something new? This Begin Again: A Biography of John Cage can be the respond to, oh how comes? The new book you know. You are therefore out of date, spending your free time by reading in this new era is common not a geek activity. So what these guides have than the others?

**Leonard Vega:**

Do you like reading a guide? Confuse to looking for your best book? Or your book had been rare? Why so many question for the book? But almost any people feel that they enjoy intended for reading. Some people likes reading, not only science book and also novel and Begin Again: A Biography of John Cage or others sources were given know-how for you. After you know how the truly great a book, you feel would like to read more and more. Science guide was created for teacher or students especially. Those ebooks are helping them to include their knowledge. In different case, beside science reserve, any other book likes Begin Again: A Biography of John Cage to make your spare time far more colorful. Many types of book like this.

**Gloria Engstrom:**

What is your hobby? Have you heard that will question when you got scholars? We believe that that question was given by teacher to the students. Many kinds of hobby, Every person has different hobby. Therefore you know that little person such as reading or as looking at become their hobby. You should know that reading is very important as well as book as to be the point. Book is important thing to provide you knowledge, except your current teacher or lecturer. You discover good news or update with regards to something by book. Numerous books that can you decide to try be your object. One of them is niagra Begin Again: A Biography of John Cage.

**Download and Read Online Begin Again: A Biography of John Cage By Kenneth Silverman #RE0BI7DO6HT**

## **Read Begin Again: A Biography of John Cage By Kenneth Silverman for online ebook**

Begin Again: A Biography of John Cage By Kenneth Silverman Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Begin Again: A Biography of John Cage By Kenneth Silverman books to read online.

### **Online Begin Again: A Biography of John Cage By Kenneth Silverman ebook PDF download**

**Begin Again: A Biography of John Cage By Kenneth Silverman Doc**

**Begin Again: A Biography of John Cage By Kenneth Silverman Mobipocket**

**Begin Again: A Biography of John Cage By Kenneth Silverman EPub**

**RE0BI7DO6HT: Begin Again: A Biography of John Cage By Kenneth Silverman**