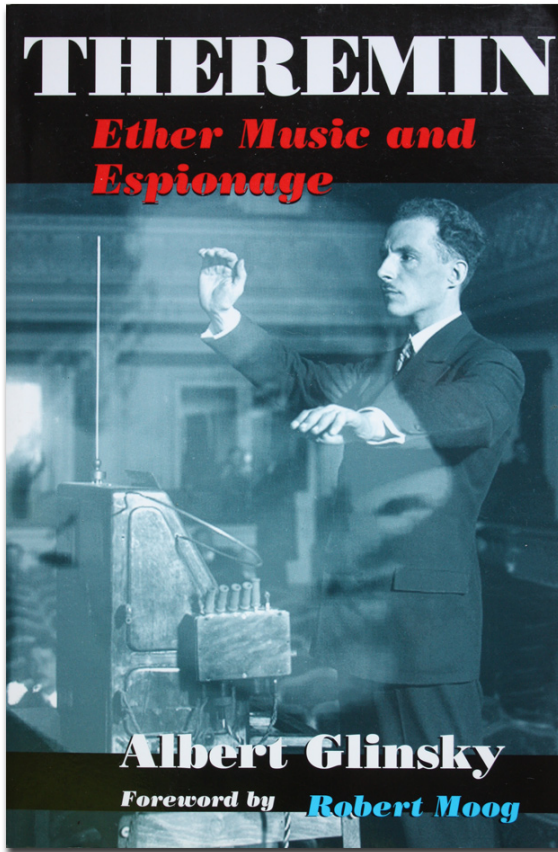


Buchempfehlung: THEREMIN – Ether Music and Espionage (A. Glinsky)

Keine flockige Sommer-Lektüre für den Strand, eher etwas für lange Herbst- oder Winter-Abende: [Die THEREMIN Biografie von Albert Glinsky](#). Mit Vorwort von Robert Moog (wem sonst?) und ausschließlich in englischer Version verfügbar. 400 Seiten stark, randvoll mit brisanter und gerade im Moment wieder hoch aktueller Zeitgeschichte (UDSSR, USA), mit bedeutenden Persönlichkeiten des 20. Jahrhunderts und natürlich – wenn auch nicht in erster Linie – mit elektronischen Instrumenten rund um Lev Sergejevich Termen (aka Leon Theremin).



THEREMIN - Ether Music And Espionage (A. Glinsky) . (c) University of Illinois Press

 GREATSYNTHESIZERS.com

In this first full biography of Leon Theremin, Albert Glinsky depicts the inventor's nearly one-hundred-year life span as a microcosm of the twentieth century. Theremin is seen at the epicenter of most of the major events of the century: the Russian Revolution, two world wars, America's Great Depression, Stalin's purges, the cold war, and perestroika. His life emerges as no less than a metaphor for the divergence of communism and capitalism.

Theremin blends the whimsical and the treacherous into a chronicle that takes in everything from the KGB to Macy's store windows, Alcatraz to the Beach Boys, Hollywood thrillers to the United Nations, Joseph Stalin to Shirley Temple. Theremin's world of espionage and invention is an amazing drama of hidden loyalties, mixed motivations, and an irrepressibly creative spirit.

[From the back cover]

Da der studierte Musiker und Physiker Leon Theremin (1896 – 1993) ca. 90% seines langen Lebens in den UDSSR verbrachte und nur 10% in den USA, ist der historische und weltpolitische Überblick, den das Buch gibt, von großer Bedeutung. Kalter Krieg, KGB, Lenin (und Stalin), die UNO und der JAZZ – die Biografie liest sich wie ein surrealer Kriminalroman.

Buchempfehlung: THEREMIN – Ether Music and Espionage (A. Glinsky)

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Soviet Power Plus Electrification 11

ed Lev Sergeyevich Termen (pronounced "Tair-MEN," the Russian adaptation of the ancestral name, although the spelling remained "Theremin"). He was born into the old tradition: atop the family emblem, lilies and a crown of nobility. A shield with Christ's monogram and two olive branches high spirituality. Across a ribbon at the bottom, the rule of the tsarist empire was cozy. Lev lived with his younger sister, Helena Sergeyevna, in five comfort-oyevska Street, apartment 4. The family was close-knit, but they rarely attended church. Lev shared a small mother. On the surface, his childhood might have seemed countless others playing out across the Russian capital at ry. But there was an odd intensity to Lev, a peculiar sense for a child. When his father encouraged him to explore quickly discovered a spinning bookshelf with the famous encyclopedia. "At three I tried to read this other book I was fascinated by what I found. None of the other books and slides, and studied a pendulum on a rope."³ I to rummage through the used-goods stands at the Nevsky tools and small odds and ends, and by seven, Lev was iring his father's gold watches. Electricity fascinated him ed four-hand arrangements at the piano and Lev could when he was five. At nine he took up the cello. He lo-mpatient with the conditioned muscular training nee-implest tunes from these instruments; it seemed to me. "I realized there was a gap between music itself a on, and I wanted to unite both of them."⁴ Lev stood out in a class of thirty boys. At the first e with the instructor. "The teacher began to speak dulums. I felt he didn't explain things correctly. "Lev was called to repeat the explanation in fro-ctive was so unlike the teacher's that he found mumbling. He received his first failing grade. Two days later he was try again. This time, measuring his words, he made a case for his o- point, disarming the instructor. "He was very interested and asked

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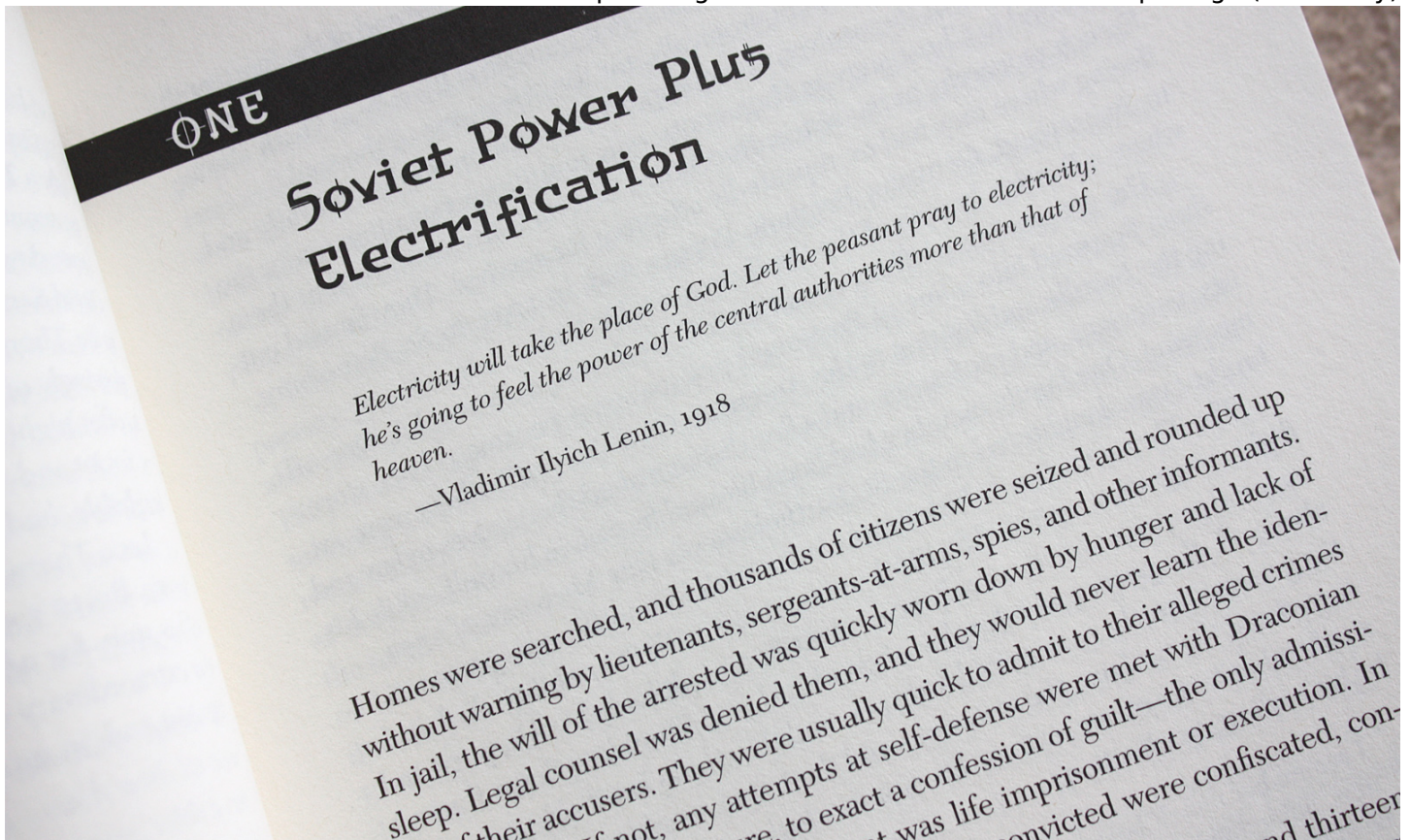
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THEREMIN - Ether Music And Espionage (A. Glinsky) . (c) University of Illinois Press

Ebenso spannend ist das Vorwort von Robert Moog. Schließlich galt Theremin als großes Vorbild von Moog und hat ihn – wenn auch vor allem indirekt durch die in den USA verfügbaren RCA Theremins bzw. durch die Musikerin Clara Rockmore – zum Bau elektronischer Instrumente bewogen. 1989 kam es übrigens zu einem späten Treffen von Moog und Theremin (und anderen Persönlichkeiten) – bei einem Musikfestival in Bourges / Frankreich.



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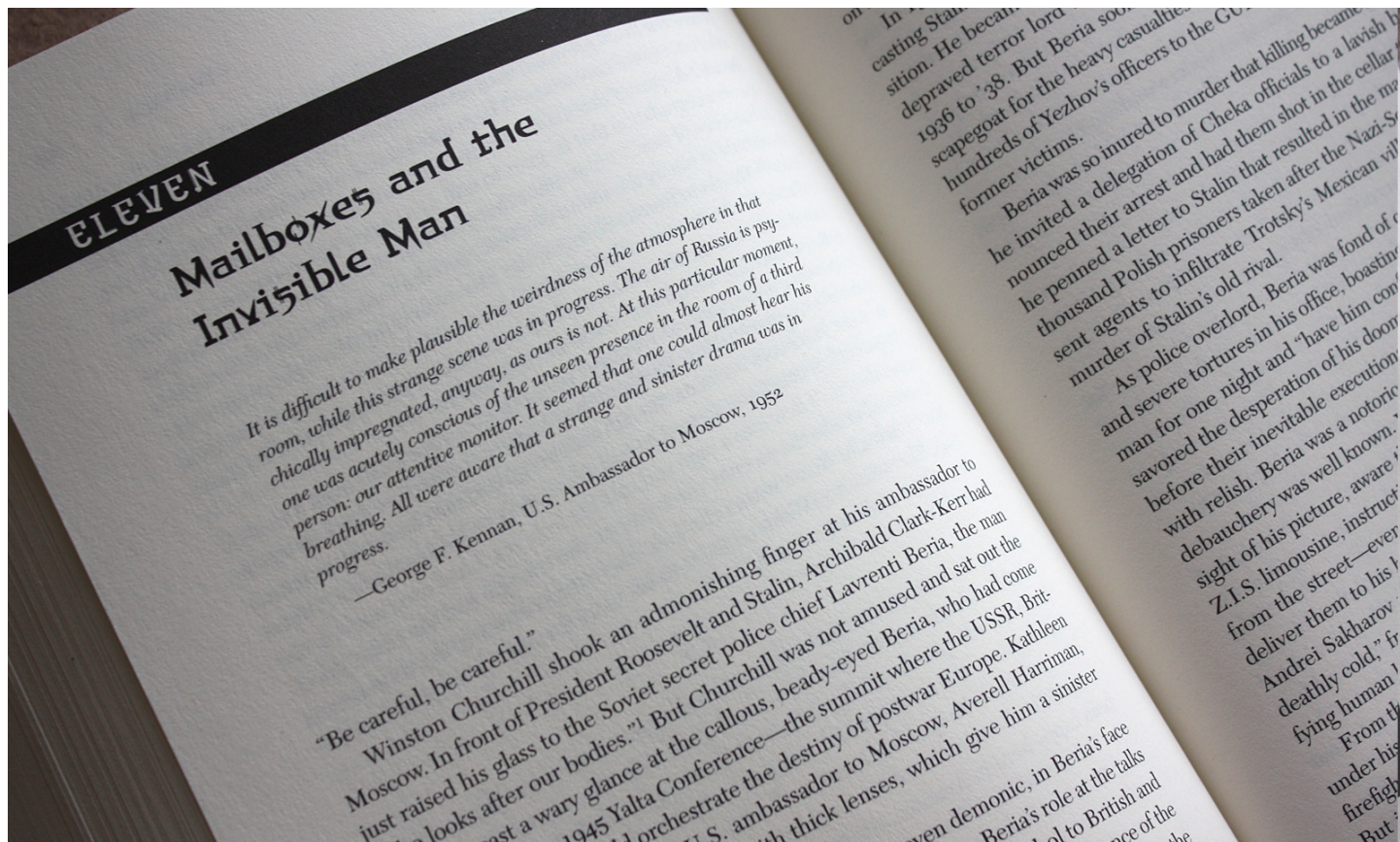


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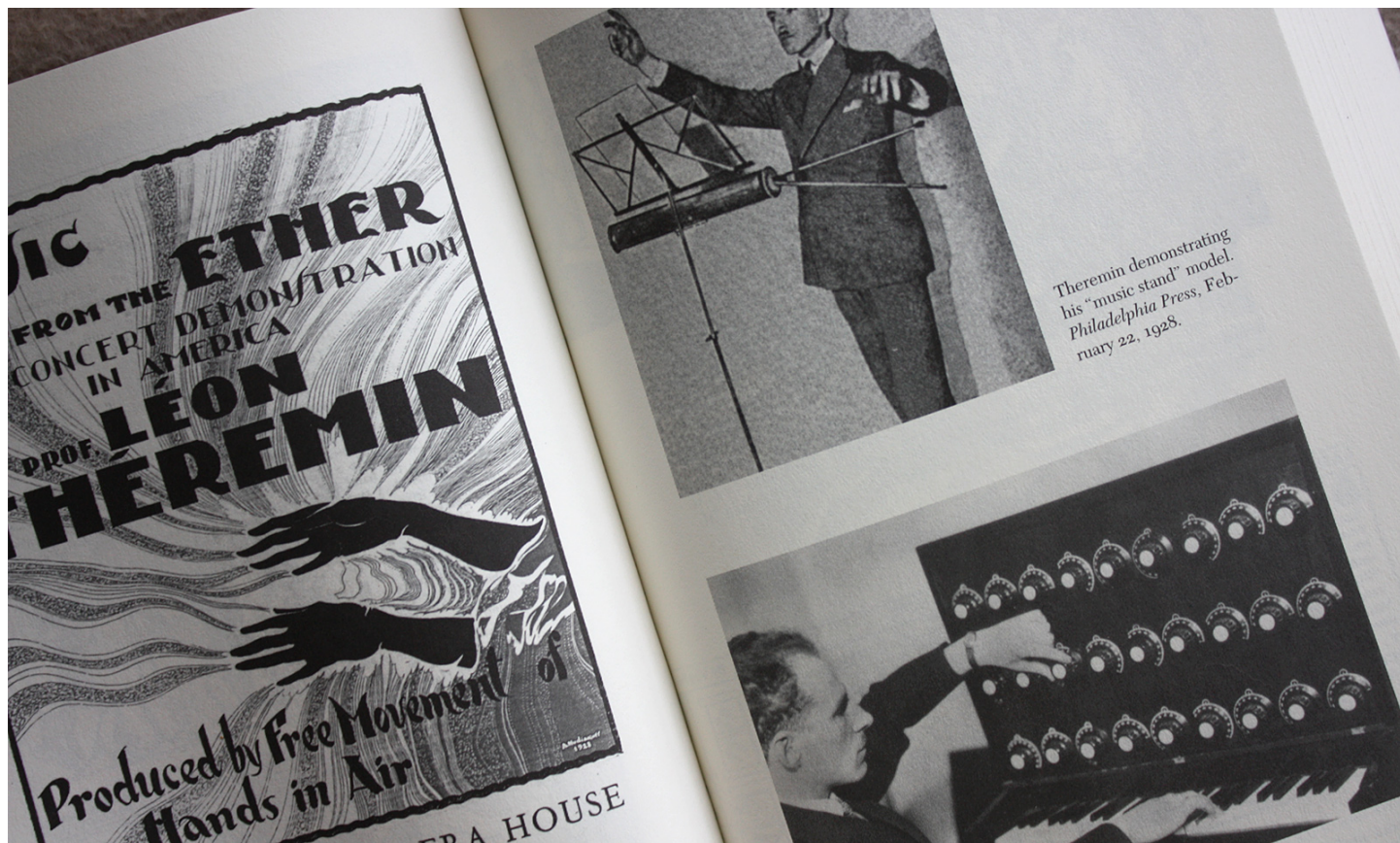
Der im Westen lange Zeit vergessene und zuweilen sogar für tot geglaubte (da in Russland inhaftierte) Theremin hatte eine Fülle an Erfindungen vorzuweisen – im musikalischen Bereich (Termenvox/Theremin, Keyboard Harmonium, Rhythmicon, elektronisches Cello ...), aber auch in militärischen und anderen Bereichen. Sein starker Einfluss auf die Elektronische Musik gilt als unangefochten, ebenso wie Theremin

Buchempfehlung: THEREMIN – Ether Music and Espionage (A. Ginsky) als bedeutender Wegbereiter für die Entwicklung der frühen Synthesizer betrachtet wird.



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Dabei ist die Biografie der „Versuch“ einer Annäherung an den Mythos Theremin. Viele Unterlagen und Dokumente – speziell jene der langen UDSSR-Zeit – sind nicht mehr vorhanden. Und auch Lev Sergejevich

Buchempfehlung: THEREMIN – Ether Music and Espionage (A. Glinsky)

Termen selbst hat manche Episoden seines Lebens wiederholt in völlig anderen Darstellungen erzählt sowie Personen ungenau benannt (Stichwort Albert Einstein versus Alfred Einstein). Hierzu der Autor:

„I have run into dead-ends, tied up loose ends, and in general had no end of frustration in trying to separate the truth from legend in Theremin's life.“ (A. Glinsky)

Erhältlich unter anderem bei [Amazon](#).

Lesenswert!

Theremin: Ether Music And Espionage (A. Glinsky)

Taschenbuch – illustriert, 1. Februar 2005

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Links:

- [Leon Theremin \(Wikipedia\)](#)
- [University of Illinois Press](#)
- [Printemps Bourges \(Musikfestival\)](#)

- [Buch „Theremin: Ether Music and Espionage“ \(Amazon\)](#)

Video zur Geschichte des Theremins mit Albert Glinsky:

(Durchaus interessant, aber kein Ersatz für das Buch (o:))