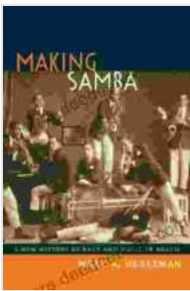


The New History of Race and Music in Brazil: Uncovering the Rhythms of Resistance

Music has always been an integral part of Brazilian culture. From the vibrant rhythms of samba to the soulful melodies of bossa nova, music has played a vital role in shaping Brazilian identity. However, in recent years, there has been a growing interest in the role that music has played in the history of race and resistance in Brazil.



Making Samba: A New History of Race and Music in

Brazil by Marc A Hertzman

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

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For centuries, Brazil has been a country marked by racial inequality. The legacy of slavery continues to shape Brazilian society, and racism is still a pervasive problem. However, music has often provided a voice for the marginalized and oppressed. Through music, Brazilians have been able to express their experiences of racism and discrimination, and they have also used music to challenge racial stereotypes and promote social change.

African and Indigenous Influences

The history of race and music in Brazil is deeply intertwined with the history of African and indigenous peoples in the country. African slaves were first brought to Brazil in the 16th century, and they brought their own musical traditions with them. These traditions had a profound influence on the development of Brazilian music, and they can still be heard in many genres of Brazilian music today.

Indigenous peoples also played a significant role in the development of Brazilian music. Before the arrival of the Europeans, there were over 1,000 indigenous tribes in Brazil, each with its own unique musical traditions. These traditions have also influenced Brazilian music, and they can be heard in genres such as samba, capoeira, and candomblé.

Music as Resistance

Throughout Brazilian history, music has been used as a tool for resistance and cultural expression. African slaves used music to keep their traditions alive and to express their experiences of slavery. Indigenous peoples used music to resist colonization and to maintain their cultural identity. And in the 20th century, music was used to fight against racial discrimination and to promote social change.

One of the most famous examples of music being used as a tool for resistance is the samba. Samba originated in the Afro-Brazilian communities of Rio de Janeiro in the early 20th century. It was a form of music that was both festive and subversive. Samba lyrics often contained messages of protest and resistance, and the samba dance was a way for Afro-Brazilians to celebrate their culture and defy racial stereotypes.

Another example of music being used for resistance is capoeira. Capoeira is a martial art that was developed by African slaves in Brazil. It is a form of fighting that is both physically and artistic. Capoeira was used by slaves to defend themselves against their oppressors, and it also became a way for them to express their culture and identity.

The New History of Race and Music

In recent years, there has been a growing interest in the role that music has played in the history of race and resistance in Brazil. This interest has been fueled by the rise of new social movements and by the increasing awareness of the importance of racial equality. As a result, there is now a growing body of research and scholarship on the history of race and music in Brazil.

This new research is helping to shed light on the ways in which music has been used to challenge racial stereotypes and promote social change. It is also helping to raise awareness of the importance of racial equality and to foster a more just and equitable society.

The history of race and music in Brazil is a complex and fascinating one. Music has played a vital role in the formation of Brazilian identity, and it has also been used as a tool for resistance and cultural expression. The new history of race and music in Brazil is helping to shed light on this important topic, and it is also helping to promote racial equality and social justice.

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