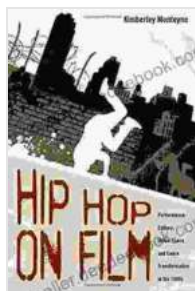


Performance Culture, Urban Space, and Genre Transformation in the 1980s

The 1980s witnessed a resurgence of interest in performance culture, which had a profound impact on urban spaces and led to the emergence of new genres and subcultures. This article explores the relationship between performance culture, urban space, and genre transformation in the 1980s, examining how performance spaces, audiences, and the media shaped the evolution of genres such as punk, hip-hop, and electronic music.



Hip Hop on Film: Performance Culture, Urban Space, and Genre Transformation in the 1980s by Kimberley Monteyne

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language	: English
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Performance Spaces and the Creation of Subcultures

The 1980s saw the rise of a variety of performance spaces that catered to specific subcultures. In New York City, the Mudd Club and CBGB became legendary venues for punk and new wave bands, while the Paradise

Garage and the Loft became havens for disco and electronic music. These spaces provided a physical space for subcultures to congregate, exchange ideas, and develop their own unique identities.

The design and atmosphere of performance spaces also played a role in shaping subcultures. CBGB, for example, was a small, dark, and cramped club that fostered a sense of intimacy and community among its patrons. The Paradise Garage, on the other hand, was a large, open space with a state-of-the-art sound system that appealed to a more sophisticated and hedonistic crowd.

Audiences and the Evolution of Genres

The audiences that attended performances in the 1980s also played a significant role in shaping genre transformation. Punk audiences, for example, were often young, angry, and alienated from mainstream society. Their demand for music that reflected their own experiences led to the emergence of a new, more aggressive and confrontational sound. Hip-hop audiences, on the other hand, were often drawn to the music's positive messages and its celebration of African American culture. Their enthusiasm for hip-hop helped to popularize the genre and make it a mainstream phenomenon.

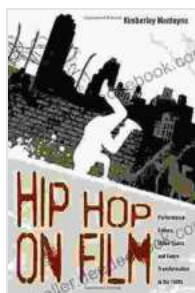
The way that audiences interacted with performers also influenced genre transformation. In the 1980s, it became increasingly common for audiences to participate in performances, either by dancing, singing, or shouting along with the music. This active participation helped to create a sense of community and shared experience, and it also encouraged performers to experiment with new and innovative forms of music.

The Media and the Dissemination of New Genres

The media played a crucial role in disseminating new genres and subcultures to a wider audience. The rise of MTV in the early 1980s, for example, gave punk and new wave bands a new platform to reach a mass audience. The music videos that MTV aired helped to popularize these genres and make them more accessible to a mainstream audience.

The media also helped to create a sense of national and international community among subcultures. Magazines such as *The Face* and *i-D* documented the latest trends in punk, new wave, and hip-hop, and they helped to create a sense of belonging among fans of these genres. The internet also played an increasingly important role in the dissemination of new genres, as it allowed fans to connect with each other and share music files.

The 1980s was a time of great innovation and experimentation in performance culture. The rise of new performance spaces, audiences, and media technologies led to the emergence of new genres and subcultures, and it transformed the way that music was experienced and consumed. The legacy of the 1980s performance culture can still be seen today, in the vibrant and diverse music scene that exists in cities around the world.



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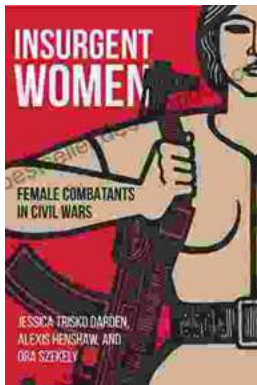
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