



Hip hop

Idaka Kumiko

Hip hop is a culture that was created in the early 1970s by the African Americans and Hispanic communities in South Bronx, New York, and is comprised of elements such as rap, break dance, graffiti and DJ. Over time, rap became an outlet for the African Americans living in America to deal with various social problems such as discrimination and violence. From the mid 1980s, radical crime-related lyrics started to appear, and became acknowledged as gangsta rap. Meanwhile, lyric content began to focus on themes such as faith in God and salvation in Heaven as a reflection of the religious history of the African Americans (namely, their disconnection from the Churches of Christ). Towards the 2000s, hip hop became established as a form of popular music and hip hop songs frequently entered the charts. At the same time, hip hop spread to various regions where it became closely connected to the religions, ethnic groups and communities unique to those areas. In Southeast Asia also, a distinct hip hop culture developed. In the Philippines, hip hop was directly influenced by the propagation of Christianity under Spanish colonial rule and American culture. In the slum district of Tondo in Manila, hip hop by the gang community flourished. In Thailand, expressing political messages through antiwar folk music, as represented by the band Caravan, had already existed as a musical foundation. This, along with hip hop's association with ethnic music, became the basis for the current hip hop music scene in Thailand. In Cambodia, the revival of popular music that was lost under the Pol Pot regime gave birth to a distinct hip hop scene.

Through this website, I will be introducing rap music mainly of the Philippines, Thailand and Cambodia through my collaboration with Young-G, who is

conducting his own research on the hip hop scenes in countries of Southeast Asia.

Reference

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Related Keywords

Lyricism, Community, Slum, Protest, Regeneration