



Encyclopedia of Latin American Popular Music

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This comprehensive survey examines Latin American music, focusing on popular—as opposed to folk or art—music and containing more than 200 entries on the concepts and terminology, ensembles, and instruments that the genre comprises.

- Roughly 200 entries on concepts and terminology, ensembles, genres, and instruments
- 37 biographical sidebars of significant musicians and performers
- A chronology for Latin American popular music

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Editorial Review

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Editor Torres has created a good preliminary reference for a very broad range of topics in Latin American popular music. A list of 57 contributors ensures that this volume presents authoritative (although brief) coverage of a number of topics, including musical instruments, regions, genres, and concepts. The U.S.-centric perspective of the book defines Latin American music primarily as that from the Spanish-, Portuguese-, and French-speaking countries in the Western Hemisphere south of the U.S., but it also incorporates the contributions of the Latin American diaspora. The work defines popular music as distinct from folk or art (classical) music, primarily due to distribution by mass media and financing by indirect patronage. Individual entries include historical and sociological perspectives as well as providing general definitions and examples. There are no biographical entries, although there are sidebars with some information about performers when this provides further illumination on a topic. The book also includes a chronology that stretches from 1492 to 2004. The *Encyclopedia of Latin American Popular Music* is an excellent jumping-off point, and both students and enthusiasts of Latin music will find that this volume provides broad coverage, plenty of suggestions for further reading, and excellent cross-references. A 21-page index, along with alphabetical and topical lists of entries, ensures that information will be easy to find. Recommended for large public libraries, academic libraries, and areas with high interest in Latin American popular music. --Emily Weak

Review

"The reader will find almost every aspect of Latin American popular music covered in some 200 informative entries included in the encyclopedia. . . . [O]ffers a useful one-stop source of information on this subject of current interest." - **Reference Reviews**

"The *Encyclopedia of Latin American Popular Music* is an excellent jumping-off point, and both students and enthusiasts of Latin music will find that this volume provides broad coverage, plenty of suggestions for further reading, and excellent cross-references." - **Booklist**

"Young adults and adults interested in world music or Latin American music and culture will find this book useful. It does a great job of covering the history and components of a wide array of musical genres, from indigenous to more modern." - **Library Journal**

About the Author

George Torres, PhD, is associate professor of music at Lafayette College, Easton, PA, where he teaches courses in music history and literature.

Users Review

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