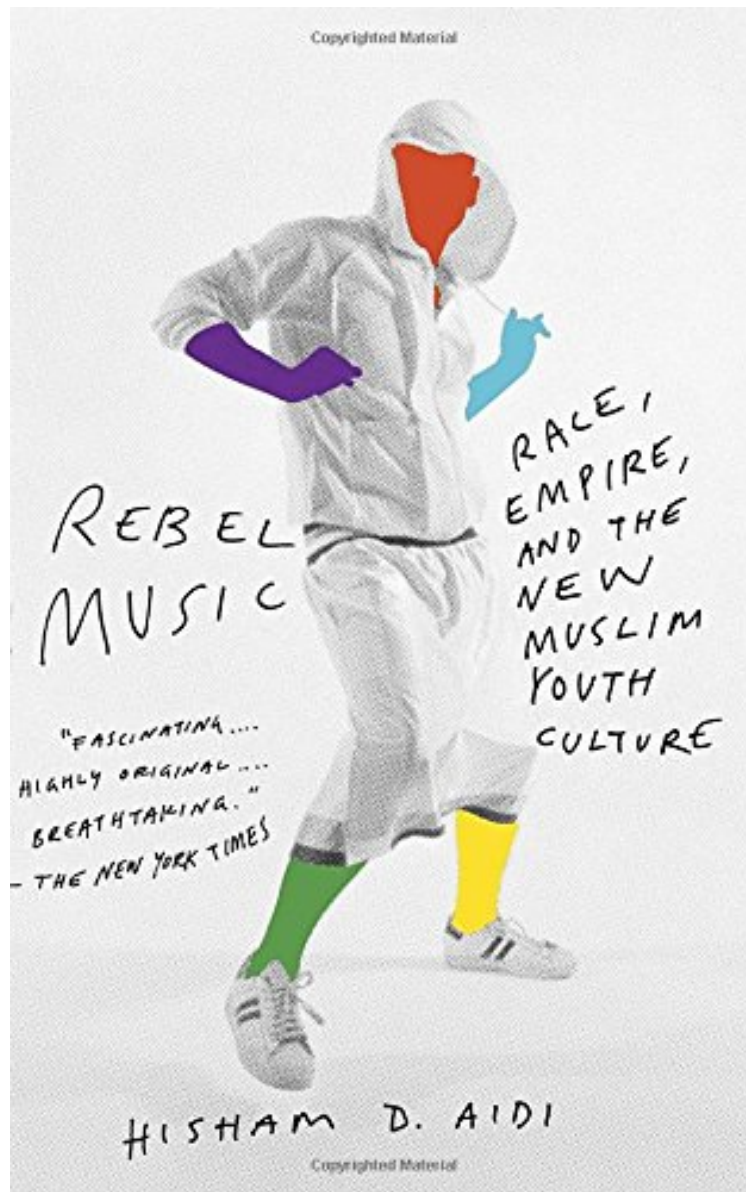


Rebel Music: Race, Empire, and the New Muslim Youth Culture

Hisham Aidi

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1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. and has a great knowledge and appreciation of music and those who create ...By Peggy FrankstonAn absolutely extraordinary book - the author has traveled the world, interviewed hundreds (if not thousands) of people, used an astounding number of primary and secondary sources, and has a great knowledge and appreciation of music and those who create it. He presents this information and his analysis in a way that permits those who are not familiar with the subject to understand it all quite easily. A book of great erudition which reads like a detective novel!2 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Epic survey of philosophies of music and race from pre- colonial to cold war to our contemporary interlocking connections.By Ahumdule lah!A historic survey to contemporary commentary that shows how we arrived at this complex and interwoven status of American, European and North African mix of race being exposed and determined by our philosophies in our music . These threads of our historic tapestry are joined with the present to form a panoramic view2 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Precious info for English speakersBy Cameron PowersEnglish language media generally totally ignores this and many other subjects... thanks Hisham for doing this research and bringing it out for us!

In this pioneering study, Hisham Aidian expert on globalization and social movementstakes us into the musical subcultures that have emerged among Muslim youth worldwide over the last decade. He shows how musicprimarily hip-hop, but also rock, reggae, Gnawa and Andalusianhas come to express a shared Muslim consciousness in face of War on Terror policies. This remarkable phenomenon extends from the banlieues of Paris to the favelas of Rio de Janeiro, from the park jams of the South Bronx to the Sufi rock bands of Pakistan. The United States and other Western governments have even tapped into these trends, using hip hop and Sufi music to de-radicalize Muslim youth abroad. Aidi situates these developments in a broader historical context, tracing longstanding connections between Islam and African-American music. Thoroughly researched, beautifully written, Rebel Music takes the pulse of a revolutionary soundtrack that spans the globe.

From Booklist*Starred * Hip-hop is the lingua franca of worldwide youth culture. It all started in the Bronx, and for thousands of young Muslims around the world today, the New York borough remains sacred ground. In this bracing, fascinating, and utterly timely exploration of music, race, and cultural identity, Aidi examines young European and American Muslims and their search for what he calls a nonracist utopia. Specifically, Aidi is concerned with how the so-called American dream exists in Europes Muslim ghettos, how young European and American Muslims are drawing on African American history (especially the U.S. civil rights movement) for inspiration, and how American diplomacy is using race and diversity to court Muslims around the world. Aidi touches on many issues in this ambitious and far-reaching book, including the rise of the Far Right; the spread of the war on terror; the mind-boggling cultural fusion going on today (Arabic country music in Alabama, punk rockers in Pakistan); and the power of music to effect social change. Sufi rock, Islam and jazz, Gnawa music, Andalusi musicits all covered here. This book will be especially appealing to young people who want to better understand the Muslim perspective on war, prejudice, and national identity. --June Sawyers Fascinating. . . Highly original. . . Breathtaking. The New York TimesA marvel. . . . Hisham Aidi is a brilliant expositor of this powerful planetary cultural phenomenon. David Levering Lewis, author of Gods Crucible: Islam and the Making of Europe, 570-1215Impressive. . . . With the confidence of a charismatic professor, Aidis discussion wanders through Detroit, Brazil, and Jim Crow Arabia. The New York Times Book Mohammed meets Malcolm; Gnawa meets Guantanamo; Bandung meets B-boys; banlieues meet Bahia: this is the vibrant, noisy, embattled world Hisham Aidi brings to light. . . . In what can genuinely be described as a tour de force for its global scope, historical sweep, cultural virtuosity, and political sophistication, Rebel Music examines this soundtrack in a global context, from slavery to the latest war on terror. Robin D. G. Kelley, author of Thelonious Monk: The Life and Times of an American Original Rebel Music may be the most bafflingly significant book Ive read in years. It is a marvel. . . . Hisham Aidi is a brilliant expositor of this powerful planetary cultural phenomenon. David Levering Lewis, author of Gods Crucible: Islam and the Making of Europe, 570-1215 A brilliant, utterly unique, effortlessly transnational and wonderfully written account of hip hop and new Muslim youth culture. WashingtonPost.com"Rebel Musicoffers an extraordinarily rich and variegated [musical] map . . . From Paris to Rio, from Philadelphia and Brooklyn to Morocco and southern Spain, Aidi is the peripatetic chronicler of the intricate intersecting musical and political worlds whose shared issues have never before been so cogently crystallized."American Literary History "Excellent."Counterpunch"Rebel Musichas no antecedent or peer in musical historiography . . . [Aidi] acts as historian, musicologist, journalist and theologian, no easy juggling act . . . It is a virtuoso performance of historical knowledge and cultural observations, as Aidi jams on personalities and communities."Journal of theAmerican Academy of Religion"Phenomenal."PopMatters In this bracing, fascinating, and utterly timely exploration of music, race, and cultural identity, Aidi examines young European and American Muslims and their search for what he calls a nonracist utopia. . . . This book will be especially appealing to young people who want to better understand the Muslim perspective on war, prejudice, and national identity. Booklist (starred) A multilayered and intriguing story of the mobilization of Muslim youth through music rather than militancy. . . . Moving from jazz to the late Algerian pop star Salim Halali, Aidis wide-ranging, dense work persuades by its

passionate accretion of detail. Kirkus sAbout the AuthorHisham D. Aidi is a lecturer at the School of International and Public Affairs and the Institute of African Affairs at Columbia University. He was a Carnegie Scholar and Global Fellow at The Open Society Foundation and is coeditor, with Manning Marable, of *Black Routes to Islam*.