



Metal Rules the Globe: Heavy Metal Music around the World

From Duke University Press Books



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During the past three decades, heavy metal music has gone global, becoming a potent source of meaning and identity for fans around the world. In *Metal Rules the Globe*, ethnographers and some of the foremost authorities in the burgeoning field of metal studies analyze this dramatic expansion of heavy metal music and culture. They take readers inside metal scenes in Brazil, Canada, China, Easter Island, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Malaysia, Malta, Nepal, Norway, Singapore, Slovenia, and the United States, describing how the sounds of heavy metal and the meanings that metalheads attribute to them vary across cultures. The contributors explore the dynamics of masculinity, class, race, and ethnicity in metal scenes; the place of metal in the music industry; and the ways that disenfranchised youth use metal to negotiate modernity and social change. They reveal heavy metal fans as just as likely to criticize the consumerism, class divisiveness, and uneven development of globalization as they are to reject traditional cultural norms. Crucially, they never lose sight of the sense of community and sonic pleasure to be experienced in the distorted, pounding sounds of local metal scenes.

Contributors. Idelber Avelar, Albert Bell, Dan Bendrups, Harris M. Berger, Paul D. Greene, Ross Hagen, Sharon Hochhauser, Shuhei Hosokawa, Keith Kahn-Harris, Kei Kawano, Rajko Muršič, Steve Waksman, Jeremy Wallach, Robert Walser, Deena Weinstein, Cynthia P. Wong

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Editorial Review

Review

“This is a timely collection, as recent books and films about punk and metal in the Middle East and South Asia shed light on a worldwide audience. Ethnomusicology collections and students of popular culture take note.” - Ed Graves, *Library Journal*

“[I]f you are interested in Metal in Japan, there is something here for you. If you are into Sepultura there is something here for you. If you like Kiss and Zeppelin, we got ya covered. Don't think of this book as homework, think of it as a collection of Metal Essays Greatest Hits, with a bonus track being the Afterword by Robert Wasler, author of 2001's, *Running with the Devil*. . . . I believe the editors and authors can all be proud of this monumental work. . . . Me like!” - Josh Wood, *Metal Rules*

“*Metal Rules the Globe* is incredibly diverse. It is comprehensive and covers the effect metal has had worldwide, the ways in which unique cultures and subgenres have utilized heavy metal to make it achieve their own goals, and how it is reflected in their own struggles and lives. The authors are a range of academics from around the world. A number of them are also heavy metal musicians. It's safe to say that all of them are fans of the music. Even though the text may be academic, beneath a number of the chapters you can tell there are some serious fanboys and girls, which is pretty awesome.” - Kurt Morris, *Razorcake*

“I would recommend this book highly to ethnomusicologists, popular culture scholars, and social scientists interested heavy metal music. . . . [M]ost of the articles are written in such a way that they present and embrace the historical depth of their subjects in such a way that a fairly educated reader would still find the book interesting. Many anthropology professors assign a general reading list for introductory courses. This book is well suited for such practices because it might provide a disinterested student a chance to apply anthropology to something they already enjoy.” - Troy Belford, *Anthropology Review Database*

“*Metal Rules the Globe* is a groundbreaking work for the field of metal studies, demonstrating through a wide selection of case studies how metal fans and musicians make meaning and offer social critique in the loci of global/local tensions resulting from globalization. . . . The editors have synthesized decades' worth of theory with a survey of the global field of metal studies today, thus making this volume a must-read for any scholar of metal.” - Lauren Welker, *Journal of Folklore Research*

“*Metal Rules the Globe* will surely join the ranks of Robert Walser's *Running with the Devil* and Deena Weinstein's *Heavy Metal* as one of the classics of heavy metal scholarship. A fascinating and valuable read!”—**Sam Dunn**, director of *Metal: A Headbanger's Journey* and *Global Metal*

“The authors stoke the flames of heavy metal high and wide as the united forces of fans, bands, and mediators mount local-to-global resistance against the contradictory claims on identity, economy, history,

and society. Valiant against anomie, disempowerment, and meaninglessness, we see an Alloy International Army standing proud and strong. A treasure chest of brutal truth for scholars, planners, metal maniacs, and globalization geeks from sea to toxic sea.”—**Donna Gaines**, author of *Teenage Wasteland* and *A Misfit’s Manifesto*

“The contributors to *Metal Rules the Globe* venture far and wide, providing an engaging overview of heavy metal music across the world. This collection will find an international audience and become the standard reference on the global heavy metal scene.”—**Will Straw**, co-editor of *The Cambridge Companion to Pop and Rock*

“If you’re a fan of musicology, sociology, anthropology or ethnographic discourse, then *Metal Rules the Globe* is well worth exploring. It underscores just why metal is such a crucial medium of support and nourishment for millions of fans. It’s a fascinating insight into how metal constructs different notions of identity around the world, yet reinforces those all-important commonalities we share as fans.”
(Craig Hayes *PopMatters*)

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(Kurt Morris *Razorcake*)

“[I]f you are interested in Metal in Japan, there is something here for you. If you are into Sepultura there is something here for you. If you like Kiss and Zeppelin, we got ya covered. Don’t think of this book as homework, think of it as a collection of Metal Essays Greatest Hits, with a bonus track being the Afterword by Robert Wasler, author of 2001’s, *Running with the Devil*. . . . I believe the editors and authors can all be proud of this monumental work. . . . Me like!”
(Josh Wood *Metal Rules*)

“The book deserves a prominent place among the scholarship of heavy metal and readers interested in this musical genre will certainly have their knowledge enhanced by reading it. Readers may also be inspired (as I was) to seek out the music of some of the bands mentioned in the essays. . . . *Metal Rules the Globe* is an important book that makes valuable scholarly contributions to the literature about heavy metal and globalization.”

(Michael P. Marino *Popular Music and Society*)

“I would recommend this book highly to ethnomusicologists, popular culture scholars, and social scientists

interested heavy metal music. . . . [M]ost of the articles are written in such a way that they present and embrace the historical depth of their subjects in such a way that a fairly educated reader would still find the book interesting. Many anthropology professors assign a general reading list for introductory courses. This book is well suited for such practices because it might provide a disinterested student a chance to apply anthropology to something they already enjoy.”

(Troy Belford *Anthropology Review Database*)

“This is a timely collection, as recent books and films about punk and metal in the Middle East and South Asia shed light on a worldwide audience. Ethnomusicology collections and students of popular culture take note.”

(Ed Graves *Library Journal*)

“Given the range of perspectives, genres, and geographic locales, this book will appeal to a broad audience—academic and popular, graduate and undergraduate, metalhead and uninitiated alike—and provides both a journey and destination.”

(John Fenn *Western Folklore*)

“*Metal Rules the Globe* is set to become required reading for anybody interested in how heavy metal has turned from a minor taste in small post-industrial British and, later, American working class communities into a global phenomenon.”

(Gerd Bayer *Music and Letters*)

About the Author

Jeremy Wallach is Associate Professor in the Department of Popular Culture at Bowling Green State University in Ohio. He is the author of *Modern Noise, Fluid Genres: Popular Music in Indonesia, 1997–2001*.

Harris M. Berger is Professor of Music at Texas A&M University. He is the author of *Stance: Ideas about Emotion, Style, and Meaning for the Study of Expressive Culture* and *Metal, Rock, and Jazz: Perception and the Phenomenology of Musical Experience*.

Paul D. Greene is Associate Professor of Ethnomusicology and Integrative Arts at Pennsylvania State University, Brandywine. He is a co-editor of *Wired for Sound: Engineering and Technologies in Sonic Cultures*.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Brent Abramson:

This Metal Rules the Globe: Heavy Metal Music around the World book is just not ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you get by reading this book is actually information inside this reserve incredible fresh, you will get data which is getting deeper an individual read a lot of information you will get. This Metal Rules the Globe: Heavy Metal Music around the World without we realize teach the one who reading through it become critical in contemplating and analyzing. Don't be worry Metal Rules the Globe: Heavy Metal Music around the World can bring any time you are and not make your carrier space or bookshelves' become full because you can have it inside your lovely laptop even mobile phone. This Metal

Rules the Globe: Heavy Metal Music around the World having great arrangement in word and layout, so you will not truly feel uninterested in reading.

Armando Mosley:

The book untitled Metal Rules the Globe: Heavy Metal Music around the World contain a lot of information on it. The writer explains the girl idea with easy means. The language is very straightforward all the people, so do definitely not worry, you can easy to read that. The book was published by famous author. The author will take you in the new period of literary works. It is easy to read this book because you can read more your smart phone, or product, so you can read the book with anywhere and anytime. If you want to buy the e-book, you can available their official web-site in addition to order it. Have a nice read.

Eula Johnson:

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Franklin Richter:

That reserve can make you to feel relax. This particular book Metal Rules the Globe: Heavy Metal Music around the World was colorful and of course has pictures around. As we know that book Metal Rules the Globe: Heavy Metal Music around the World has many kinds or type. Start from kids until youngsters. For example Naruto or Private eye Conan you can read and feel that you are the character on there. So , not at all of book are usually make you bored, any it can make you feel happy, fun and chill out. Try to choose the best book in your case and try to like reading that.

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