

How has rap revolutionized music ?



Rap music was born in the 70s in the poor American ghettos. It differentiated itself from the other music styles to be a music style for the popular social classes. It has origins in funk, the most famous style in clubs. At the beginning, MCs rapped on simple beats, with the aim of making poor people dance. It developed and the first groups emerged. They denounced the hard social conditions and the racism that they endured. Black people were the main audience. Rap seemed revolutionary at the time because it was the first musical movement created by black people and for black people, and denounced the life conditions of the popular social classes.

In the 90s, Tupac Shakur with his classic « Holler if ya hear me » (1993) showed his discontent and his rebellion against police forces.

It's impossible not to mention the legendary « F*ck the police » of the NWA released in 1988. A song that was supposedly censored on tour but which the band played anyway.

KRS ONE, another rap titan, from the East Coast, released the song « Sound of da police ». The song sampled by DJ Cut killer and NTM in « Assassin de la police », a song immortalized in the mythical movie "la Haine".

Political rap or conscient rap is a style of rap, characterised by a political message, but also social, religious, cultural, or simply educational. It traditionally denounced inequality, violence, discrimination and other society woes.

Political rap emerged with the birth of the Hip-Hop movement in the 70s in New York Bronx. Young people in rundown districts, mainly immigrants or descendants of immigrants, created this new cultural form in reaction to poverty, racism, drug, police violence and that of the gangs.

Rap topics are varied, from social critics to religion. Eminem has also made very virulent songs against the policy of George W. Bush, like Mosh or We As Americans.

The popularisation of American rap has quickly spread around the world and inspired people from all over the world. Young people, often from underprivileged areas, quickly discovered a passion for American rap music and adapted it. This spread everywhere and gradually resulted in the democratization of this music style which was hardly accepted in the first place. Nowadays there are many internationally known rappers who make feats in each other's shows, thus allowing to establish links between different countries, all this thanks to rap.



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