



# World and Time

A Short Trip Around The Musical Globe

# Jamaica



- Reggae is a musical genre originating from Jamaica, through the expansion of two existing styles, Ska and Rocksteady.
- It has associations with the Rastafarian religious movement
- Lyrics are often delivered in differing forms of Jamaican English (local dialect known as 'patois'), with subjects based around the Rastafarian movement, social injustice, racism, peace and love.
- It is characterised by melodies played on the bass guitar, rhythmic stabs (known as 'skank') played on guitar/keyboards, and three drum grooves that feature syncopation, which means accenting weak beats of the bar – the one drop, rockers and steppers.



# The 'One Drop' groove

- Listen to the song 'Get Up Stand Up' by Bob Marley, the most famous exponent of the Reggae genre:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tg97JiBn1kE>

- Here is a sample of the drum groove in notation

The image shows a musical notation for a drum groove. It consists of two staves. The top staff is for the hi-hat, with notes marked with 'x' and labeled 'HI-HAT CYMBAL (CLOSED)' and 'HI-HAT CYMBAL (OPEN)'. The bottom staff is for the snare and bass drums, with notes marked with '7' and labeled 'SNARE DRUM' and 'BASS DRUM'. Arrows point from the labels to the corresponding notes in the notation.

- Below is the groove isolated for you to play – Look at the notation and listen to the groove – notice how the bass drum is missing from the start of beats 1 and 3, which is uncommon in most other pop music genres. Try to count along – it's difficult without the bass drum on 1 and 3!



# Cuba



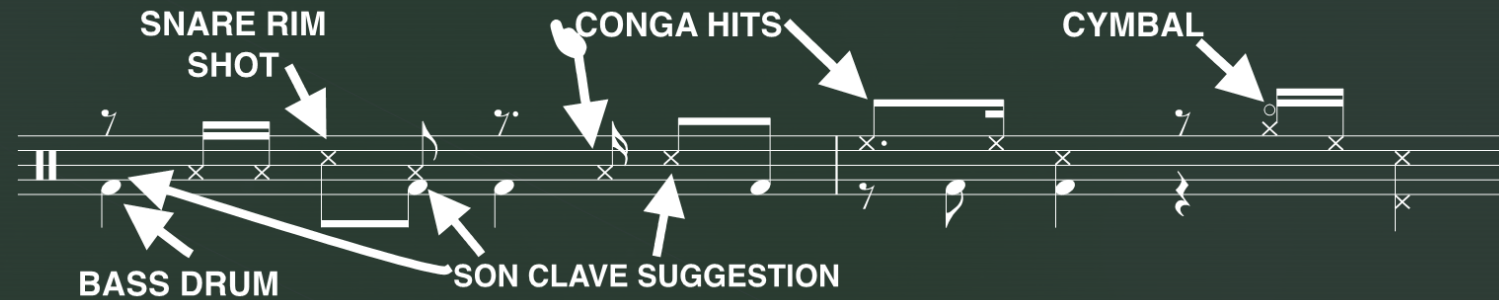
- Afro-Cuban music is comprised of a number of styles, including montuno, cha cha cha and mambo. These styles gave birth to a huge sub-genre of Latin music known as Salsa. This was pioneered by Cuban musicians who had migrated to New York City in USA.
- Salsa lyrics can range from romantic affairs of the heart, to political subject matter (based around communism).
- Salsa bands typically feature piano, double bass, a small horn section, vocals and an array of percussion instruments.
- These percussion instruments have come to define the genre, as well as the rhythms they play - *Son Clave* (annotated with score and audio below) or *Son Rumba*, and other similarly constructed grooves.

A musical staff in 4/4 time showing the Son Clave rhythm. The notes are: quarter, eighth, quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter. Below the staff are the numbers 1, 2+, 4, 2, 3, indicating the beat structure.



# Afro-Cuban – *Son Clave* features

- Listen to the song '*Havana*' by Camila Cabello:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HCjNJDNzw8Y>
- Here is a sample of the drum/percussion groove notated



- Below is the groove isolated for you to play. The *Son Clave* rhythm is suggested, especially with the accents in bar 1 (as marked), but the groove incorporates a constant snare rim shot on beats 2 and 4 in both bars, which is common in many pop music styles, showing how the song mixes traditional Cuban features and modern music styles.



# India



- Traditional Indian music is based around a framework for musical improvisation, known as *ragas* – which are melodic ideas that are composed to create structures in pieces of music.
- Rhythms are divided into frameworks too, with one common example being known as the *Tintal* – which is grouped in 4 lots of 4 beats. The first beat of each 4 is accented, except the 3<sup>rd</sup> group, which is left empty. Therefore participants clap to accent the 1<sup>st</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> beats, but leave the 9<sup>th</sup> silent.
- Indian music is most commonly associated with the sitar; a stringed instrument, like a type of guitar, which holds a constant drone along with melodic ideas), and the tabla; a percussion instrument which can be played to create many different timbres and rhythms.
- Within popular music, the style of *Raga Rock* was born and popularised through the influence of Sitar player Ravi Shankar, whose music inspired many Western popular music bands of the 1960s (such as The Beatles, The Rolling Stones and The Byrds) to incorporate elements of traditional Indian music into their songs.

# The '*Tintal*' rhythm

- Listen to the song '*Within You Without You*' by The Beatles (from *Sergeant Peppers Lonely Hearts Club Band* (biggest selling album ever at the time):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HsffxGyY4ck>

- Here is a sample of the percussion pattern notated:

Brighter tablas ('dayan')  
played with fingertips

Deeper tablas ('bayan')  
played with heel of  
hand

Beat 9 with - 'bayan'  
missing

- Below is the percussion pattern isolated for you to play. Try to clap along with the *Tintal* rhythm clapping beats 1, 5 and 13, but leave beat 9 empty. Notice how the deep sounding tabla, known as bayan, is missing from beat 9.



# United States Of America



- Hip Hop is a genre of music created by African Americans, Latin Americans and Caribbean Americans in the 1970s/1980s.
- Hip Hop typically comments on the social and political struggles of a particular time, particularly the suppression of black people in society, or can be an artist bragging about their wealth, status and sexual experience/notoriety.
- The main features of Hip Hop are i) DJ-ing (playing/sampling old records on turntables) - which pays homage to the genres of the past with black origin that it draws influence from, such as Blues, Jazz, Ragtime, Soul, Disco, Funk and Salsa, ii) rapping/MC-ing – this helps to update the sampled grooves by providing new lyrical content for modern audiences to identify with, iii) Breakdancing – as a physical way of expression for the movement, and iv) graffiti – often to provide a visual narrative to the music it accompanies. Beatboxing is an important rhythmical component that compliments the role of the DJ within the Hip Hop genre, which involves manipulating voice sounds to mimick instruments from a drum kit.



## ▶ The 'Amen Break' – sampling a groove

- Listen to the soul song 'Amen Brother' by The Winans, recorded in 1969, particularly the drum break at 1:26 in the recording:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GxZuq57\\_bYM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GxZuq57_bYM)

- Here is that drum pattern, known as the 'Amen Break', notated:

The image shows a musical staff with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The notation represents the Amen Break drum pattern. Above the staff, a series of 'x' marks connected by a line indicates the Ride Cymbal pattern. Below the staff, notes and rests represent the Bass Drum and Snare Drum patterns. Arrows point from labels to the corresponding parts of the notation. A text annotation at the bottom right explains the syncopation.

Ride Cymbal

Bass Drum

Snare Drum

Lots of syncopation (not playing the beat), but still beats 1, 2 and 4 accented

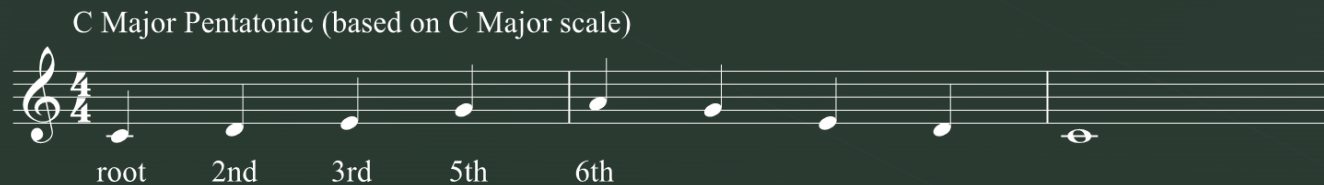
- This is the most famous drum groove in Hip Hop. Listen to it isolated below. It has been sampled thousands of times. Notice the complicated  $\frac{1}{4}$  beat syncopation throughout, but also how beats 1, 2 and 4 remain accented, providing a strong beat so the music retains its heavy dance feel.



# Uganda/Traditional African Music



- Traditional Ugandan music, like most traditional music of African origin, features styles that are native to particular ethnic groups of people, culminating in particular ways of arranging and playing notes, and rhythmical ways of grouping and counting beats.
- The *Baganda* music style is native to Uganda, and features a melodic scale which is similar to that known as the 'pentatonic scale' in Western popular music (C Major Pentatonic is C, D, E G and A). Notes are arranged in this way (5 notes to an octave) on pitched instruments.



- The rhythm is provided by percussion drums known as the *engalabi* and *engoma*. Rhythms are cross-rhythmic and are often grouped in beats of 12.

# The *Engalabi* and *Engoma* Cross Rhythms

- Listen to the song 'You Ain't The Problem' by Michael Kiwanuka (Mercury Award winner 2020), particularly focusing on the intro up to 0:32:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ivvs\\_qL6t\\_c](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ivvs_qL6t_c)

- Here is a sample percussion groove from the intro section notated:

Notice the accent of the 2nd 1/4 of beats 1 and 3, as well each beat of the bar

The image shows two staves of musical notation. The top staff is labeled 'Engoma' and the bottom staff is labeled 'Engalabi'. Both staves show a 4/4 time signature. The top staff has a treble clef and the bottom staff has a bass clef. The notation includes quarter notes, eighth notes, and rests. There are three arrows pointing to the second quarter of the first and third beats in the top staff, with the text 'Notice the accent of the 2nd 1/4 of beats 1 and 3, as well each beat of the bar'. A '3' is written above the final three notes of both staves, indicating a triplet.

- Listen to the isolated percussion part below. The strong sense of where the beat is helps make this song develop a more westernised pop feel, but the use of syncopation, specifically on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 1/4 of each beat (as marked), along with the traditional Ugandan percussion, are a clear nod from the composer to his Ugandan heritage and give the intro a tribal-esque quality.





# MUSICAL GLOBE QUIZ



- [CLICK HERE TO BEGIN QUIZ](#)

Q1. Follow the links to the songs below – which country and style of music are they influenced by?

- The Police: Walking On The Moon:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zPwMdZOIPo8>
  
- Amy Winehouse: Cupid  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_i5UL7LqkuA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_i5UL7LqkuA)
  
- Rude: Magic!  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=231M3y9c2ms>
  
- [USA – Hip Hop](#)
- [India - Raga Rock](#)
- [Uganda – Baganda](#)
- [Jamaica – Reggae](#)
- [Cuba - Salsa](#)

▸ **CORRECT!!**

- Correct! It is Jamaica – Reggae. *Walking On The Moon* and *Cupid* even feature the *One Drop* groove!

[NEXT QUESTION](#)

INCORRECT!



Wrong! Sorry the correct answer was  
Jamaica - Reggae!

NEXT QUESTION

Q2. Follow the links to the two songs below – which country and style of music are they influenced by?

- *Smooth* – Santana feat. Rob Thomas  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Whgn\\_iE5uc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Whgn_iE5uc)
  
- *Faith* – George Michael  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Cs3Pvmmv0E>
  
- [USA – Hip Hop](#)
- [India - Raga Rock](#)
- [Uganda – Baganda](#)
- [Jamaica – Reggae](#)
- [Cuba - Salsa](#)



✓ **CORRECT!!**

- Correct! It is Cuba – Salsa. Faith features the distinctive *son clave* rhythm!



[NEXT QUESTION](#)

INCORRECT!



Wrong! Sorry the correct answer was  
Cuba - Salsa!

[NEXT QUESTION](#)

Q3. Follow the link to the song below – which country and style of music is it influenced by?

- Busaabala – Maurice Kirya

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UGjcofA1Q8Y>

- [USA – Hip Hop](#)
- [India - Raga Rock](#)
- [Uganda – Baganda](#)
- [Jamaica – Reggae](#)
- [Cuba - Salsa](#)

▶ **CORRECT!!**

- uGCorrect! It's Uganda - Baganda! Maurice Kirya combines modern production with the traditional sound of the Ugandan percussion we discussed earlier.

[NEXT QUESTION](#)

INCORRECT!



Wrong! Sorry the correct answer was  
Uganda- Baganda!

NEXT QUESTION

Q4. Follow the links to the songs below – which country and style of music are they influenced by?

- *I Desire* – Salt 'n' Pepa

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wusSmIV-FE8>

- *Straight Outta Compton* – NWA

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=itrgki5xxu0>

- USA – Hip Hop
- India - Raga Rock
- Uganda – Baganda
- Jamaica – Reggae
- Cuba - Salsa

▸ **CORRECT!!**

- usCorrect! It's USA – Hip Hop! Both songs sample the *Amen Break* groove.

[NEXT QUESTION](#)

INCORRECT!



Wrong! Sorry the correct answer was  
USA – Hip Hop!

NEXT QUESTION



Q5. Follow the links to the songs below – which country and style of music are they influenced by?

- *Govinda* – Kula Shaker

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9QZOHZWLF9w>

- *Brimful Of Asha* – Cornershop

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5LBnMRWeV-E>

- USA – Hip Hop
- India - Raga Rock
- Uganda – Baganda
- Jamaica – Reggae
- Cuba - Salsa

# CORRECT!!

- INCORRECT! It's India – Raga Rock! *Govinda* in particular draws influence in the lyrical content, as well as the tabla rhythm and use of a *raga* on the sitar!

END OF QUIZ! How did you do?

INCORRECT!



Wrong! Sorry the correct answer was  
India– Raga Rock!

END OF QUIZ! How did you do?