

COMMUNICATING THROUGH SONGWRITING

Senior Seminar Student
Sadie Roll





SEQUENCE

Significance

Theoretical Frameworks

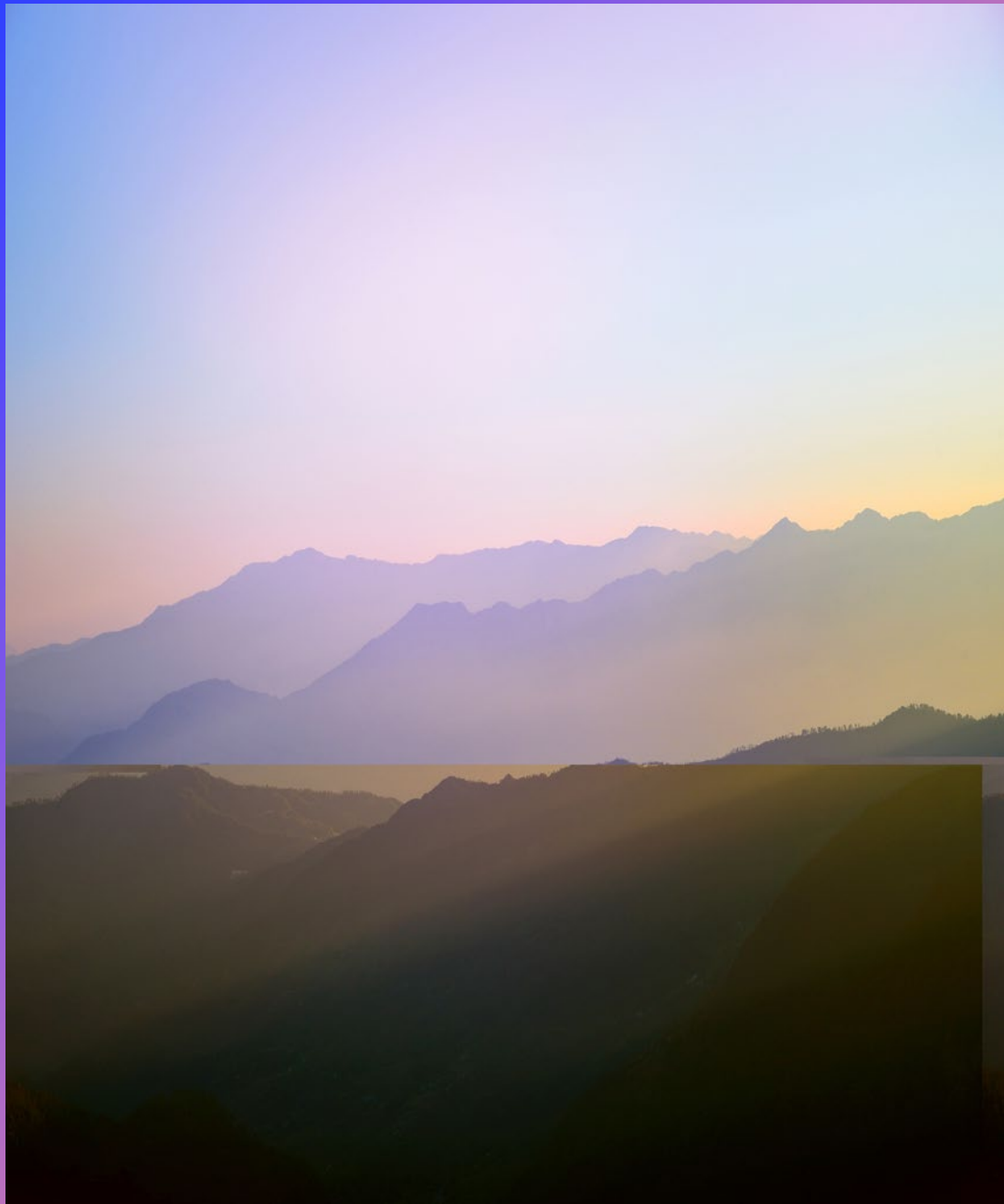
Self-Attempt/Try it Out

Why this Topic?

It is important to recognize how musicians and songwriters collaborate to relay messages to audiences.

Writing is a technology in multiple ways, and that includes the art or discipline of songwriting.

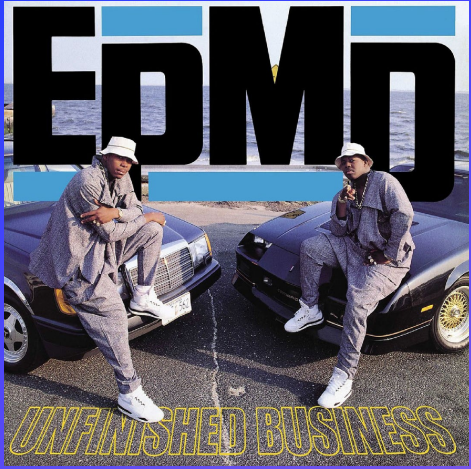




“Intersectionality is a framework for conceptualizing a person, group of people, or social problem as effected by a number of discriminations and disadvantages. It takes into account people’s overlapping identities and experiences in order to understand the complexity of prejudices they face (YW Boston, editor).”

Songwriting and music are interlocked within the theory of intersectionality because social issues can be combined and experienced by one person.

What is Intersectionality?



EVIDENCE FROM THE 1619 PROJECT EPISODE "MUSIC"

Important to the songwriting evolution throughout the years is that of Black and African-American influence in the music industry.

While hip-hop and rap has become an ethnically-unspecific genre, its roots are solely in the culture that belongs to Black and African-American musicians. ("Music")

PRESENTATION TITLE



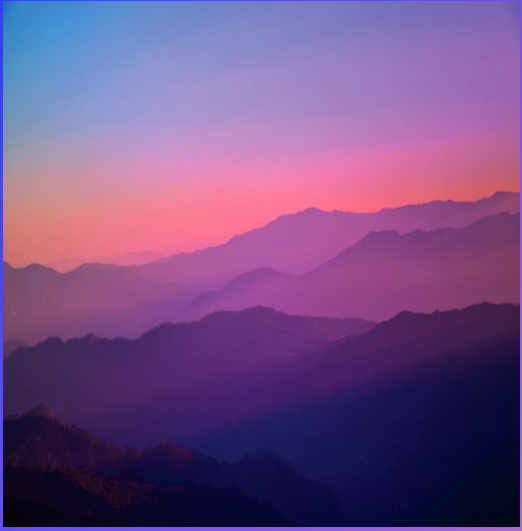
FARM AID AND SONGS

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- A direct example of intersectionality being utilized within songwriting is an event that took place earlier this year.
- John Mellencamp, formerly known as John Cougar, brought his fight for farmers and his musical style together.
- The rally outside the Capitol Building in Washington, D.C. involved Mellencamp performing a farm-based song for the audience (Duffy, Thom).



Tangible Examples

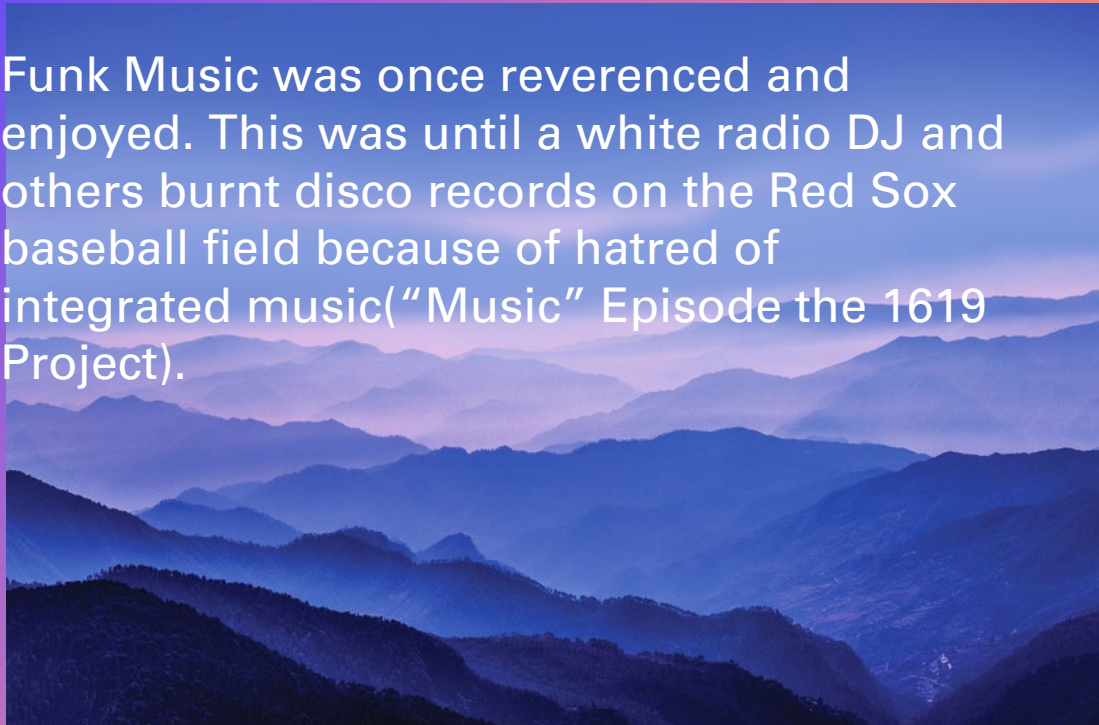
Examples of this concept can be seen in a variety of genres.

John Mellencamp- "Rain on the Scarecrow" and "Paper in Fire"- pro-farmer song, in the music video for "Paper in Fire," Mellencamp has both white and Black singers interacting with one another (which was ahead of its time, released in August of 1987).

CCR- "There's always money for a war. The working class are always the ones fighting the wars that rich people start" (Moon, Angie) This is the hidden meaning deep within the lyrics of Creedence Clearwater Revival's song "Fortunate Son."



Funk Music was once revered and enjoyed. This was until a white radio DJ and others burnt disco records on the Red Sox baseball field because of hatred of integrated music ("Music" Episode the 1619 Project).



Politics and Music

In the article "'Fight the Power': The Politics of Music and the Music of Politics," it is no secret that music has been a source of relaying opposition through the word choices in songs. "Music has long been a site of resistance. From the folk songs of rural England to the work songs of slaves, from anti-war protest to illegal raves, music has given voice to resistance and opposition." (Street, John)

Examples of politics within songwriting are Pink Floyd's "The Wall," "Revolution" by the Beatles, and "I Want to Break Free" by QUEEN.

WRAPPING UP

Music has carried hurt, pain, joy, and community through several generations- none of this would be possible without the art of songwriting.

Political Movements, Understanding through Intersectionality, and Reaching Audiences are three key components to how songwriting is a technology within the discipline of writing.

Songwriting to Communicate can be approached by: writing about a specific event or situation, or just feeling emotions and writing down what comes to mind.

How may songwriting continue to influence how we communicate? Would you consider trying your hand at it?



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Works Cited

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