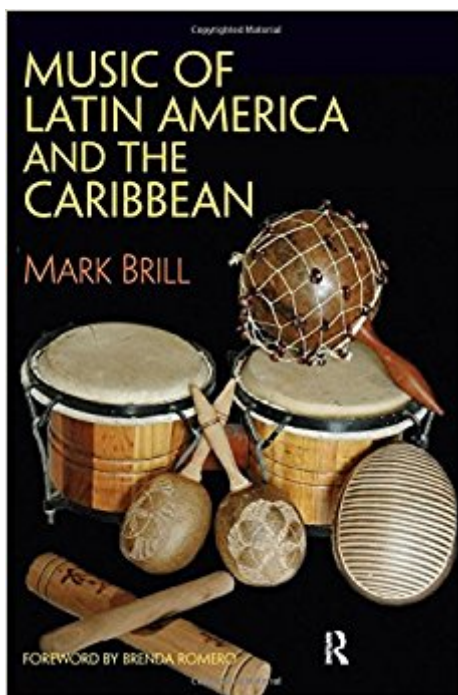


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# Music Of Latin America And The Caribbean



## Synopsis

The Music of Latin America and the Caribbean is the first text written on the rich musical heritage of this region specifically for the non-music major. The text is arranged by region, focusing on the major countries/regions (Mexico, Brazil, Peru, etc. in Latin America and Jamaica, the Virgin Islands, Haiti, etc. in the Caribbean). In each chapter, the author gives a complete history of the region's music, ranging from classical and classical-influenced styles to folk and traditional music to today's popular music.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The book provides a lot of information, but tries to cover far too much in a limited space. The information is not well organized; for instance, the author talks about two meanings of the term "montuno" without providing any context, and then talks about the genre "son montuno" (where the meanings finally get contextualized) several pages later. The entire book is full of such poorly organized bits of information. The author tries to both provide musical analyses of prevalent genres, and present their history. But since the history often depends on information that has not yet been provided, the book is full of statements like "this is discussed further in Chapter 6". If you tell me that Mexican "son" derives from Cuban "son", but what Cuban son itself is like isn't discussed until another chapter, then that is a mere factoid to be remembered, not a meaningful piece of information. This makes the book information-dense while not being illuminating. Considering the price of the book, it's shocking that CDs aren't included with it; they have to be purchased

separately, and are about as expensive as the book. Also, the illustrations are all greyscale--no color pictures at all. The paper quality is poor. The book is ridiculously overpriced for the production values. The illustrations are also insufficient. To be told what a cuatro looks like is not nearly as helpful as being shown a good, color picture of one. Considering that the author names dozens of instruments on practically every page, this again makes the book information heavy while not being actually useful for understanding the subject. It is clear that the author is an expert on the subject, and he is good at providing social context.

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