remix + praxis:

A Rapademic Approach to Critical and Culturally Relevant Education

a dissertation submitted to the

Nova Scotia Inter-University Doctoral Administrative Committee and Mount Saint Vincent University in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Studies

Halifax, Nova Scotia

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acknowledgements

I would first and foremost like to thank Dr. Valda Leighteizer, my primary adviser and answerer of questions. This work took shape under your guidance and I owe you a great debt for your time, effort, and support throughout my time as a doctoral student and candidate.

I would like to thank Dr. Jeff MacLeod and Dr. Krista Ritchie for rounding out my committee and bringing your experience and expertise to this process.

I would like to thank the rest of my Ph.D. cohort, and all of the Education faculty at MSVU, Acadia, and St. FX, particularly Dr. Patricia Gouthro, Dr. Susan Brigham, and Dr. Ann Vibert. All of you made this program interesting, challenging, and rewarding.

I would like to give a shout out to all of my people at MSVU – Dr. Randi Warne, the staff of the Teaching and Learning Centre, and David Dahms. All of you make the Mount feel like home.

A special shout out goes to my great friend Eric "EMC" McIntyre, who got me into this whole teaching and hip hop thing. I hope we keep making records til we're old men, E. IMF!

A special shout out goes to Michael Kimber, the Holmes to my Moriarty.

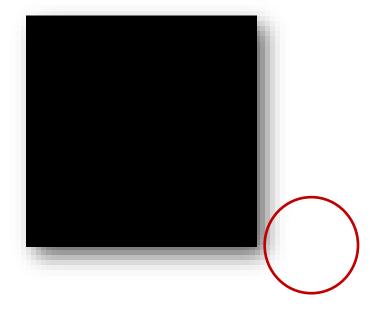
The work that I do would truly not be possible without the incredible Atlantic Canadian hip hop community, past, present, and future – the MCs, DJs, breakers, writers, producers, promoters, graphic designers, fans... anyone who has been a part of the scene over the years, thank you for keeping hip hop alive and thriving on the far East Coast.

I want to give a special acknowledgement to A.D. Carson who is, to my knowledge, the only other artist/academic to attempt an album as a dissertation. Thank you for showing all of us what is possible.

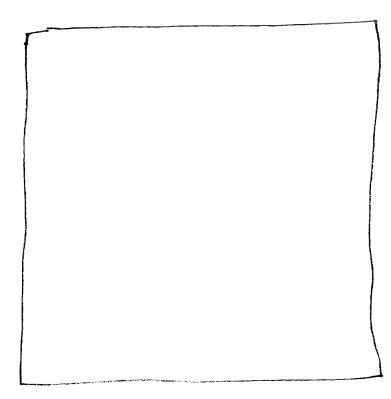
Finally, I want to thank my family, who have supported me, not just through this process, but always. Without them I wouldn't be who I am, or doing what I'm doing, and I have nothing but love and gratitude for them. To my son Jack... I know you've had your share of struggles, kiddo, but look at what's possible if you put in the work. I hope this inspires you to chase after your dreams, especially when people think you're crazy for blazing your own trail.

alostract

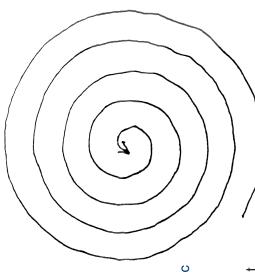
table of contents



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responsibilities placed on the reader except (for example) eye movement and the periodic In ergodic literature, nontrivial effort is required to allow the reader to traverse the text. If ergodic literature is to make sense as a concept, there must also be nonergodic iterature, where the effort to traverse the text is trivial, with no extranoematic or arbitrary turning of pages."



forty years, grown accustomed to the philosophy of the remix and not only accept it as a defining aspect of postmodern have long argued that remixing, a subject which will receive much more attention later in this dissertation, has become cognitive processes have been rewritten to prefer content that comes in a steady stream of short bursts and ideas that and represents a fascinating fusion of literature and design that, in a sense, does with words what DJs do with music. I the model for modern cultural production. Its influence in music is perhaps its most recognizable form, but the idea of remixing informs everything from fusion cuisine to the visual layout of cable news broadcasts. We have, over the last cultural production (see Jameson's conceptualization of pastiche, in particular) but our collective attention spans and can be articulated according to the character limits on Twitter. In turn, ergodic literature reimagines the traditional by fonts or colours, or it can mean having to turn pages sideways or upside-down. It can mean anything, is not necessary in nonergodic texts. This can mean two threads of text on a page, distinguished In ergodic literature, design is used to create texts that require a level of engagement that

concept of text, and the reader's approach to it, in ways that are strongly reminiscent of remixing.

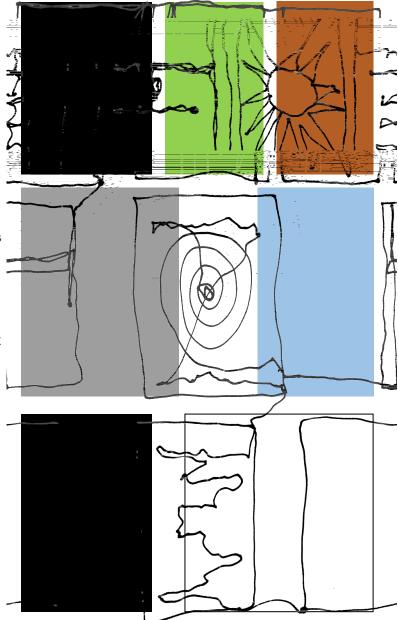
Some excellent examples of ergodic literature, aside from Danielewski's body of work which is perhaps the most representative of the form, include:

S. by Doug Dorst and J.J. Abrams, which is presented as a library copy of *Ship of Theseus* by V.M. Straka containing an evolving correspondence between two Straka scholars handwritten in the margins. The book itself, the dueling voices, and the inclusion of maps, notes, and other ephemera create a multi-layered and immersive reading experience.

The Unfortunates by B.S. Johnson is about a reporter sent to cover a football match in a city that triggers a lot of difficult memories. It comes as a box of unbound chapters that are meant to be read in any order the reader chooses, straight through or randomly.

Night Film by Marisha Pessl is a murder mystery that makes use of screenshots from the internet to create a literary experience rooted in the online world. The book is augmented by an app which, used in tandem with the physical text, provides additional materials and resources that are needed to resolve the plot.

Tree of Codes by Jonathan Safran Foer is more of an artwork than a piece of literature, ergodic or otherwise. Here, Foer takes a copy of *The Street of Crocodiles* by Bruno Shultz and physically cuts out most of the words, leaving behind something that is more poetry than prose. The removal of so much paper leaves layers of words like dewdrops on a spider's web and readers must move delicately though the pages to experience the work.



For my own efforts, the text is intended to be supplemental to the recording of an album, which I discuss throughout.

It is, in a sense, among the most belaboured liner notes in the history of musical recordings. (I have read some liner notes for box sets and reissued albums that could be dissertations in their own right.) It is ergodic in the sense that there are multiple threads at work in the research, all coming together to create a cohesive whole. I used the design and layout of text and images in a way that they can be taken in together or separately, using space, colour, and fonts to distinguish between elements. I planned to use images, as well, but abandoned that idea for copyright reasons, choosing instead to use my own single-line drawings. The result is a document that has multiple threads of text and (often abstract) line drawings that illuminate the recorded work from different perspectives in a way that is designed to be engaging and reflect the philosophy of remixing that underscores my praxis-based methodology.

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What sin a name?

Put Your Fist Up

Put Your Fist Up

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A freestyle on hip hop and social justice.

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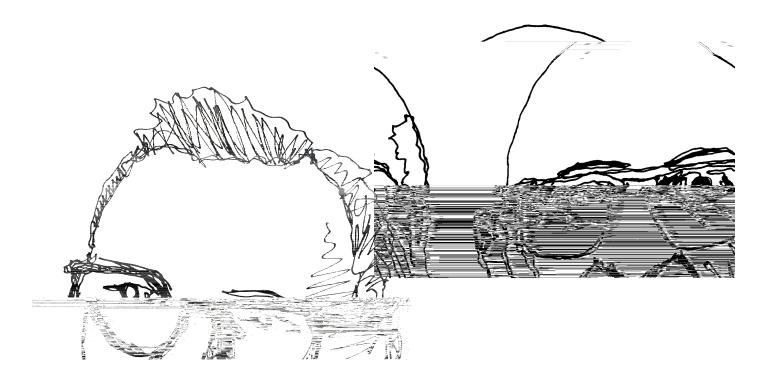
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' Pedagogy of the Oppressed

' The Sociological Imagination



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In this figure, the individual stands at the centre, in their own milieu, surrounded by personal problems which are connected to larger social issues that exist in the social system. Along with these social issues are the milieus of other individuals, which are equally connected to issues, and to each other in complex ways.

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Morpheus, The Matrix, Warner Bros, 1999.

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The Matrix

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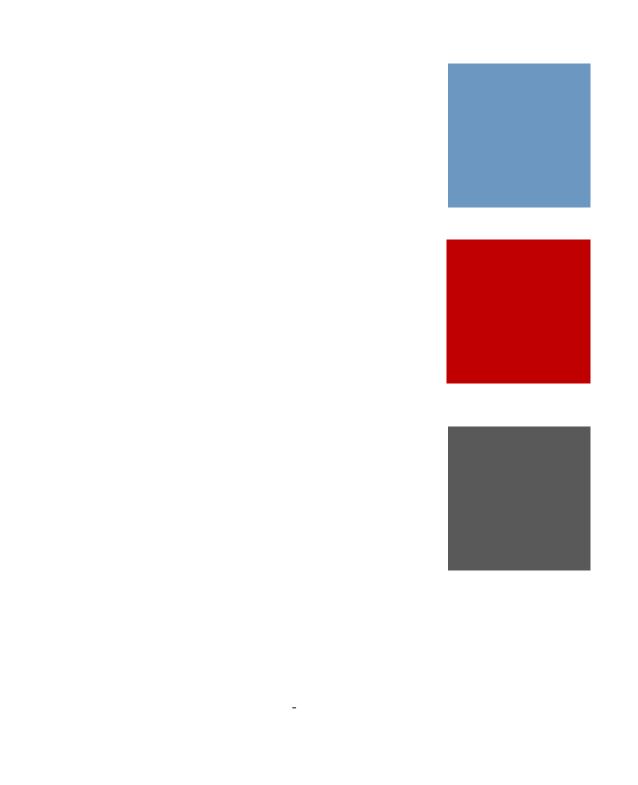
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Situating

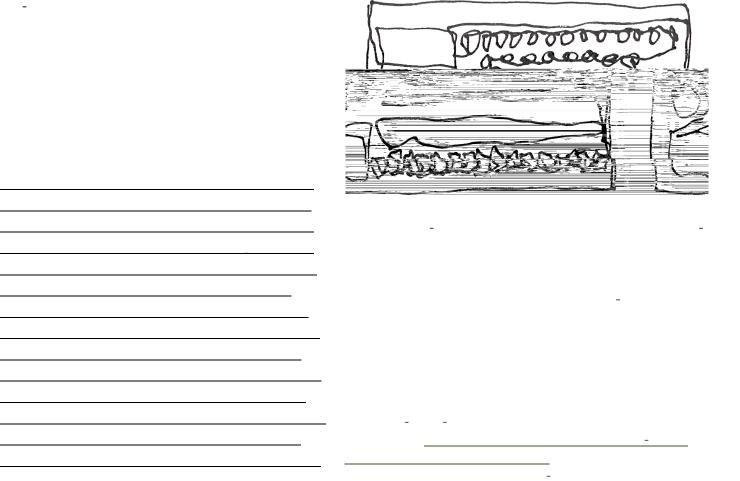


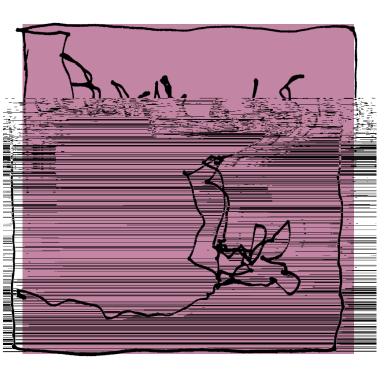
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If you're anything like me You probably don't read The Source anymore And miss crews like the JVC Force Don't stop, show no shame, dance to disco* And you know the baddest DJs come from San Francisco

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From Mike McGuire

To: Jor un

Subject: Seeking Advice from the Witchdoctor

Dat e: Wed, 04 Feb 2004 09:52:130800

It's taken me a while to track you down. I.'ve got a few questions for you... I was hoping you might have a minute...

I've been playing instruments & writing music for almost ten years, and the last several habeen spent mixing beats & writing lyrics. moved out of Halifax a few years back to go to school for audio engineering, spent some time in northern California and came back here... Here's where I run into trouble. I don't know anyone in this city anymore, no musicians, no djs, no mcs... I know you've been one of the lynch pins in the scene since the beginning, what advice might you have for someone who doesn't know how to get a group togeth find a gig, etc.? I was able to record a few demos before my recording gear bit the dust a all I ever got was positive feedback...new stuff is even better, albeit in pieces without adequate studio gear for refinement... I need to get this music out there.

You probably get a lot of people writing you with similar request \$.'.m just hoping that you might be able to help... somehow.I'd appreciate anything.

Thanks.

M McGuire

From Jorun To: Mike McGuire

Subject: Re: Seeking Advice from the Witchdoctor

Dat e: Wed, 04 Feb 2004 14:05:410800

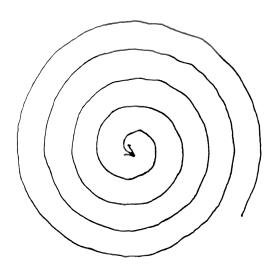
mike...

Have you tried going on www.halifamous.co it's full of musicians. Pretty much everyone who's doing this music biz comes on there. If you aren't a member already, sign up and post. There are a lot of friendly people on there who can point you out in the right direction. The boa is full of halifax mc's/dj's/producers etc and posting there/talking to the right people there can get the ball rollong for you pretty quick.

I hope this helps. Good luck.

Jor un









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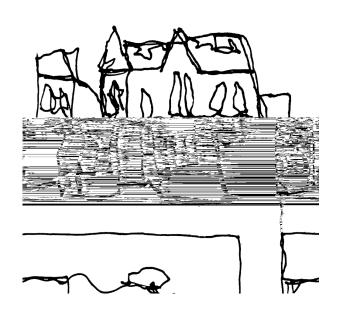
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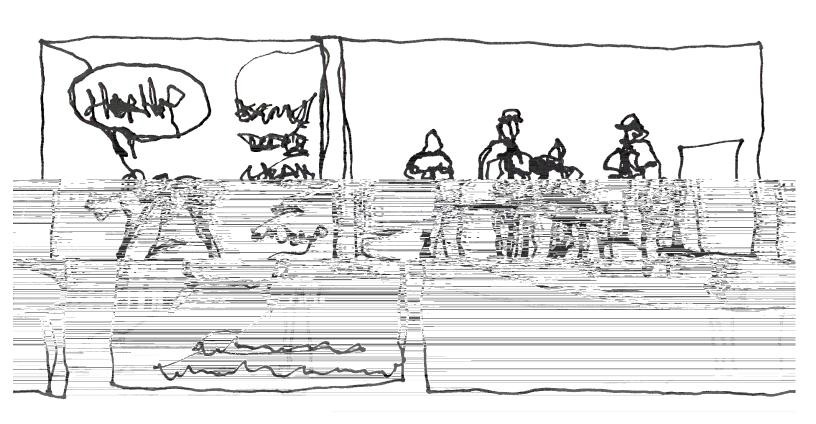
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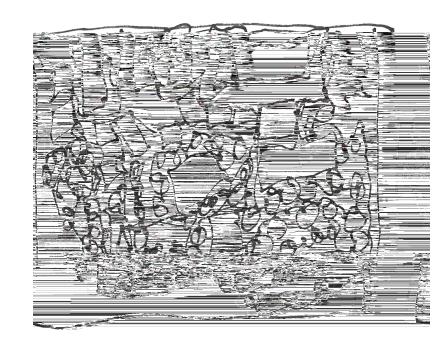
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From Mike McGuire
To: Eric McIntyre

Subject: HFX

Dat e: Tue, 23 Aug 2005 09:44:290700

Eric -

How are things out there in the distance?m hoping you are doing

well. When do you get back to Halifax? I have a couple of tracks I'm sitting on that might peak your interest... nothing topical, just instrumentals Anyway, drop me a line if you get the chance and let me know what you're up to.

See you soon,

Mike the Hermit

From Eric McIntyre To: Mike McGuire Subject: Re: HFX

Dat e: Wed, 24 Aug 2005 11:03:0-20700

Hey whats up mike, I just got back a few days ago, right now Imjust finishing up the albu and looking for a place to live. Im super stoked to work on some stuff with you. We should to meet up sometime in about a week or so when I get my feet on the ground. Good to hear f you Mike, III talk to you soon.

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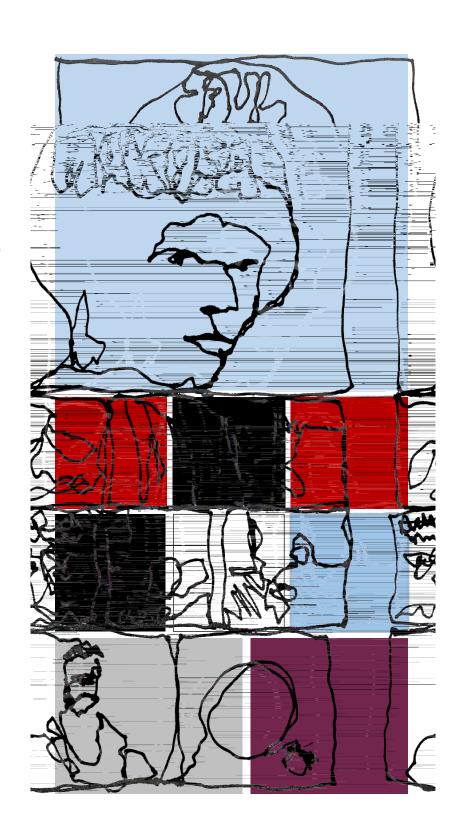
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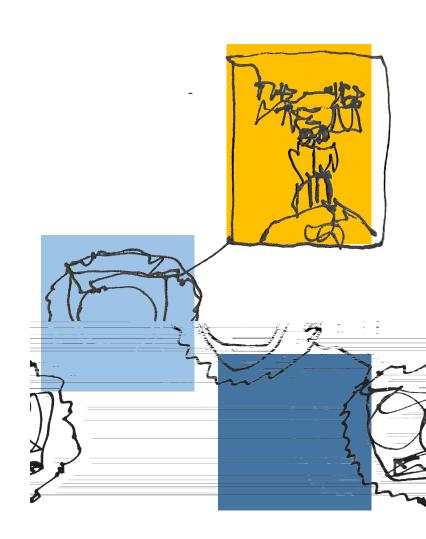
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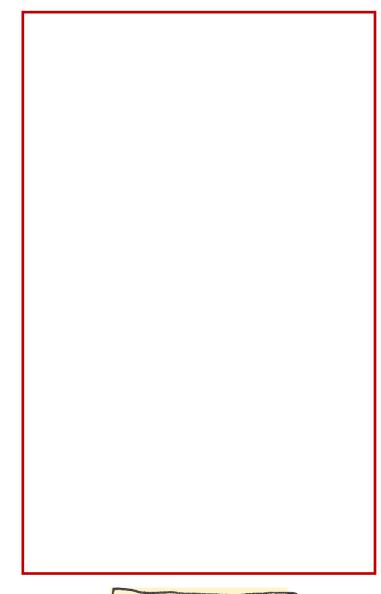
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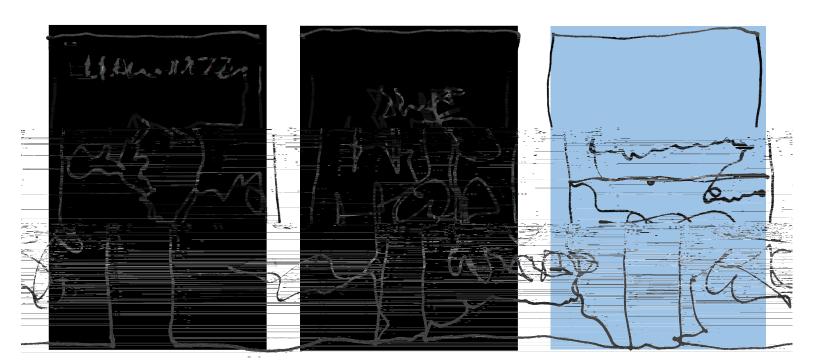


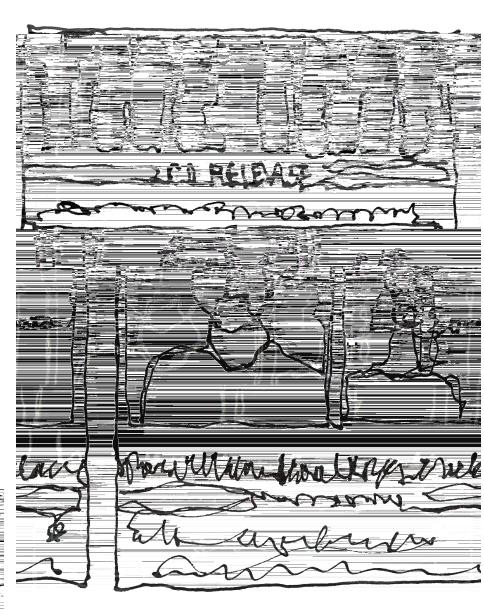






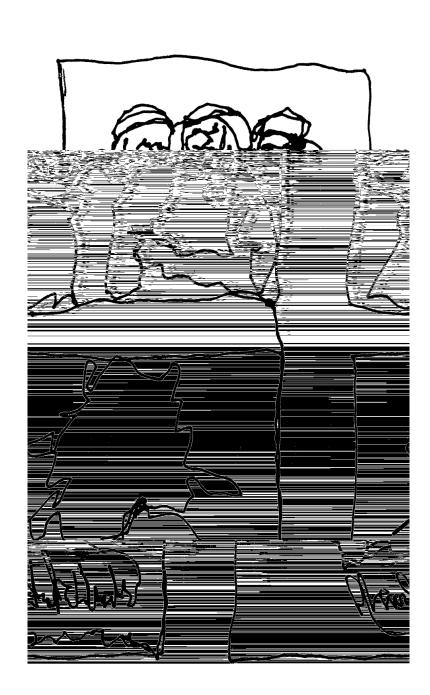






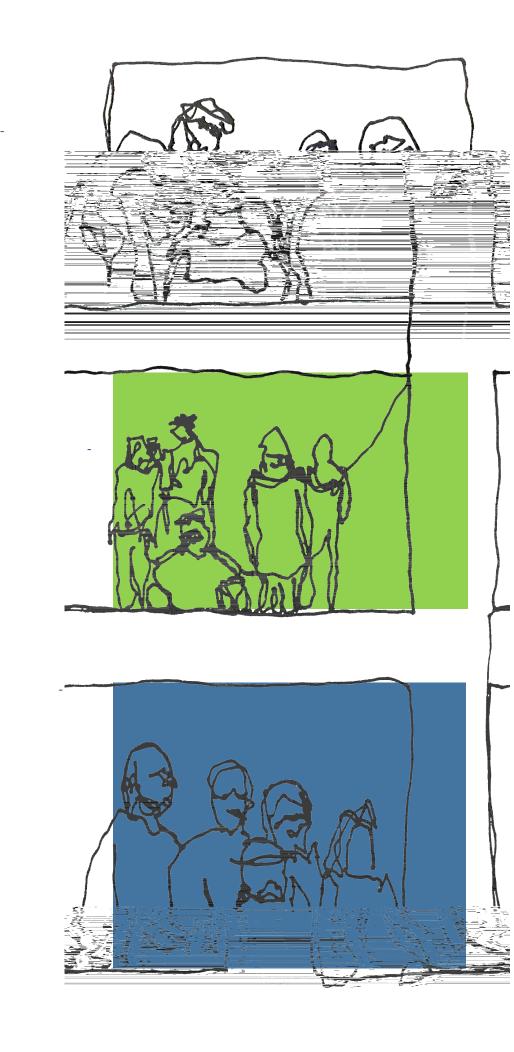


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A Partial Literature Review Hip Hop Studies

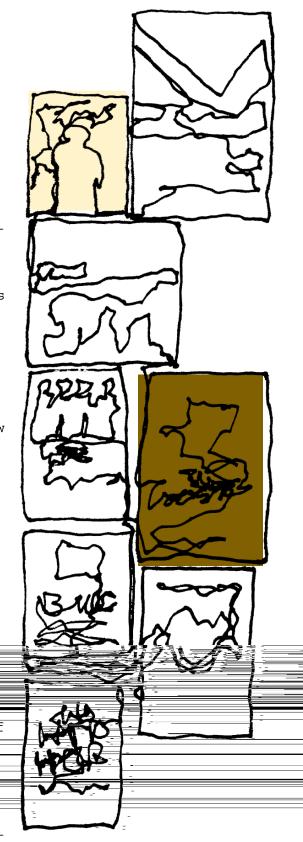
There are several social histories of hip hop culture (Chang, 2005; Ewoodzie, 2017; Fernando, 1996; Keyes, 2004) that provide detailed points of entry for educators unfamiliar with its origins, with Chang (2005) being widely hailed as the most defini-

formative years in New York City and its early-1980s manifestations in Los Angeles, these texts are supplemented by Sarig (2007), whose research into the historical development of hip hop in the Southern United States illuminates the origins of what is now recognized as a major cultural centre. Charnas (2010) offers another compelling history by examin-

-level phenomenon

to record industry domination that is particularly useful for understanding how rap came to represent the larger culture. These texts are essential and exhaustive in their breadth, though it is important to be mindful of the codification of singular his torical narratives that elevate the contributions of some while excluding others.

Many of the canonical texts within the relatively—
young field of hip hop studies refer to these histories merely by way of introduction, choosing to
delve deeper into the culture in search of meaning.

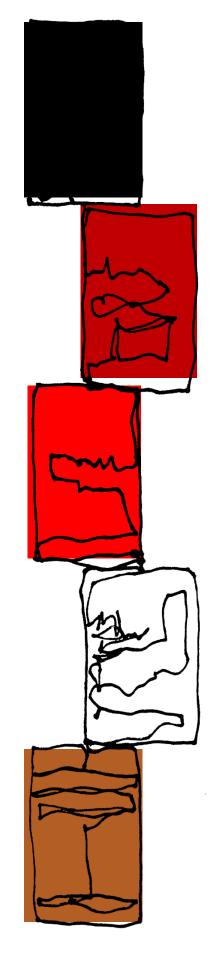


form that attempts to negotiate the experiences of marginalization, brutally truncated opportunity, and oppression within the cultural imperatives of African-American and

ture, and style, as well as the social context within

critical view has resulted in a wealth of scholarship on the social and political implications of hip hop with regard to race, gender, class, identity, religion and other intersectional vectors that influence, and are influenced by, hip hop culture (Assante, 2009; Keyes, 2004; Miller & Pinn, 2015; Perry, 2006; Rose, 1994, 2008; Watkins, 2008). Youth is a common factor in these sources, with several sources articulating a hip hop generation (Chang, 2005; Watkins, 2008) or post-hip hop generation (Asante, 2009) as those who have grown up (or are growing up now) with the sound of hip hop in their ears and its values and cultural trappings at the core of their identities and worldviews. Of particular interest in this area is Dimitriadis (2009) whose detailed ethnography of youth engagement with hip hop culture provides a tangible bridge between the academic study of hip hop and its potential use as a pedagogical tool.

The aforementioned sources examine rap music and hip hop culture in a North American context, but as hip hop has globalized, so too has the literature. Forman (2002) was

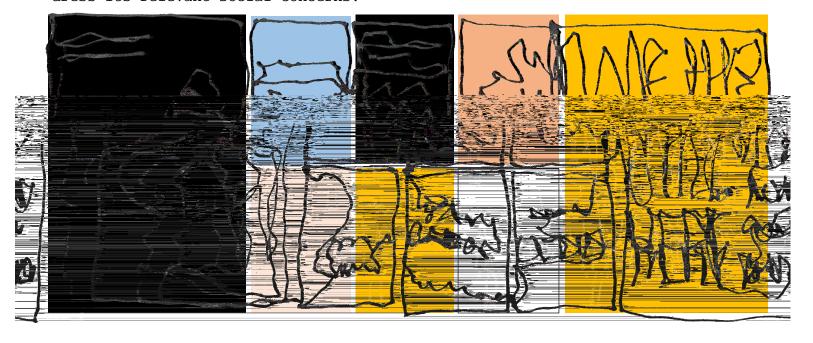


among the first to identify the strong connection between hip hop and the physical spaces that it occupies and represents. Using the elements of hip hop as a template, practitioners anywhere in the world can generate culturally relevant music, art, dance, and theatre that draws from, interacts with, and represents regionally specific issues and identities (Alim, Ibrahim, & Pennycook, 2010; Chang, 2008; Fernandes, 2011; Mitchell, 2001). These localized expressions of hip hop culture have provided researchers with the means to study how youth interact with regional politics, identities, and cultural practices in Asia (Condry, 2007; Saucier & Silva, 2014), Africa (Fredericks, 2014; Thompson, 2008), Europe (Berggren, 2014; Bertot, 2014; Putnam & Schicker, 2014), the Middle East (Drury, 2017; Ibrahim, 2017; Maira & Shihade, 2012) and Central and South America (Bell, 2017; Hornberger & Swineheart, 2012; Ramsdell, 2012). Cana-

focus of several studies (Bertot, 2014; Marsh and Campbell, 2020; Marsh, 2012; MacDonald, 2016), including my own work on the history of hip hop in Halifax,

adapt to virtually any social or cultural context, is an important aspect of the research question, as the potential use of hip hop in Nova Scotian classrooms

dress its relevant social concerns.

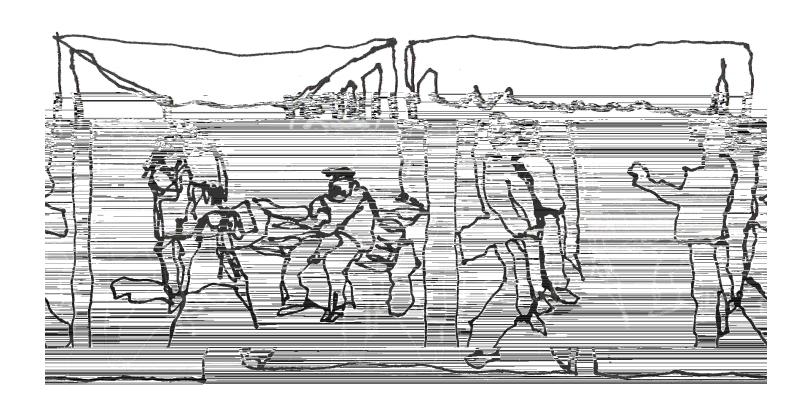


Understanding the origins of hip hop culture, how it grew into a multifaceted global phenomenon, and how it can represent and interact with different identities and cultures, is a foundational aspect of this dissertation and the development of a praxisbased methodology. These sources explain how hip hop attained its social relevance, how it functions in the context of cultural production, and justifies its use as a tool for critical and culturally relevant pedagogy.

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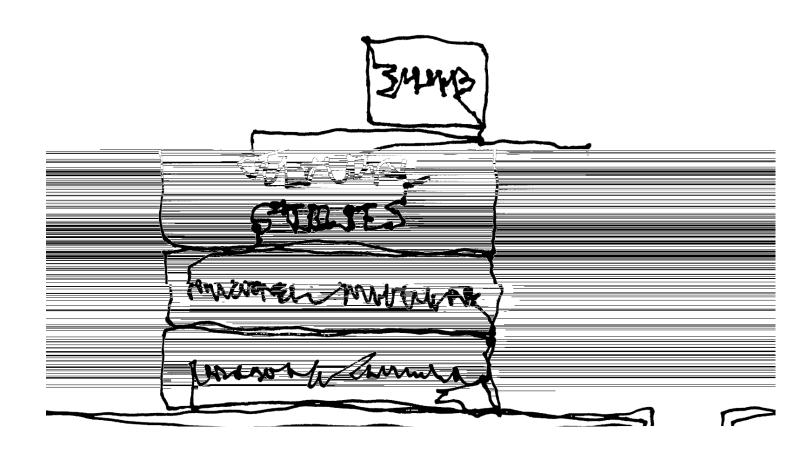
round and round







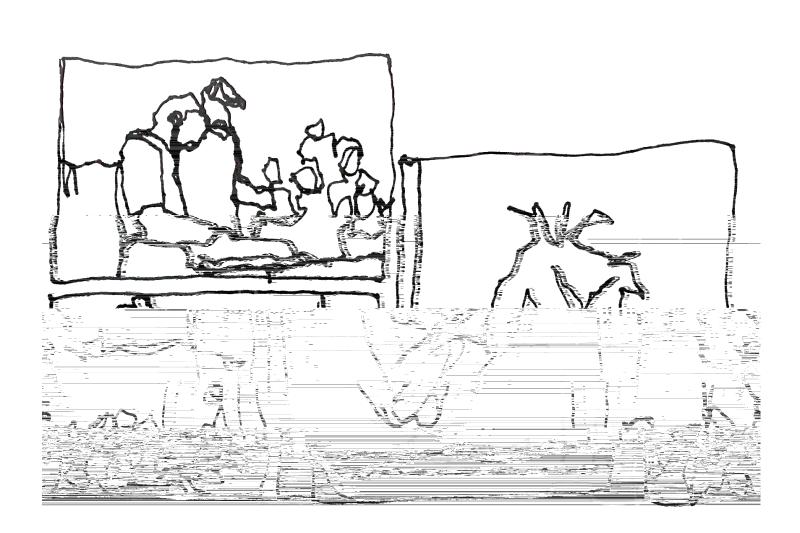
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Tales From Adjunct City

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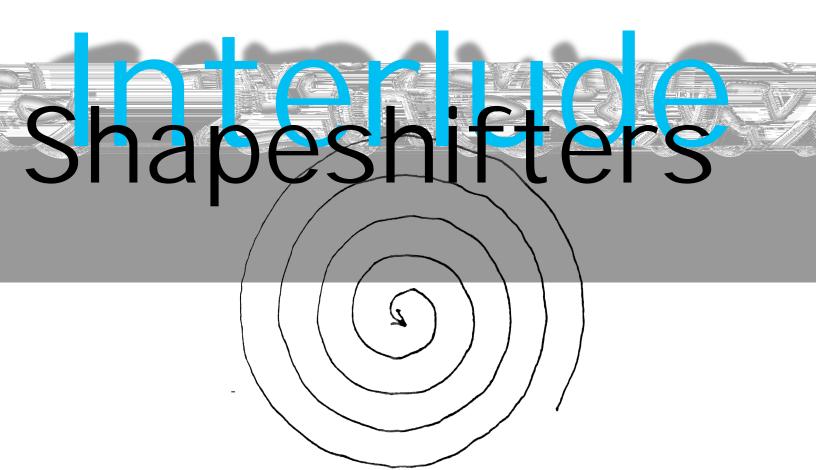
Thinking Differently About Assignments

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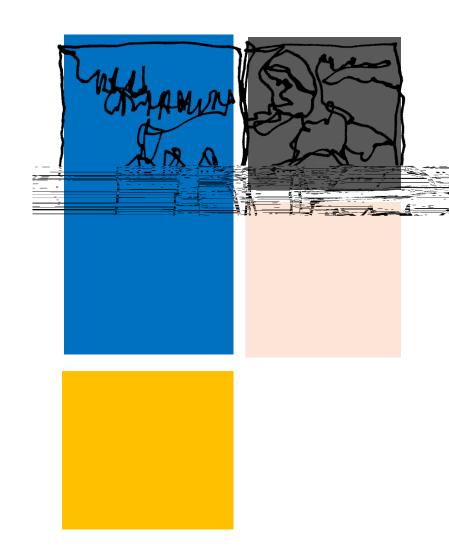


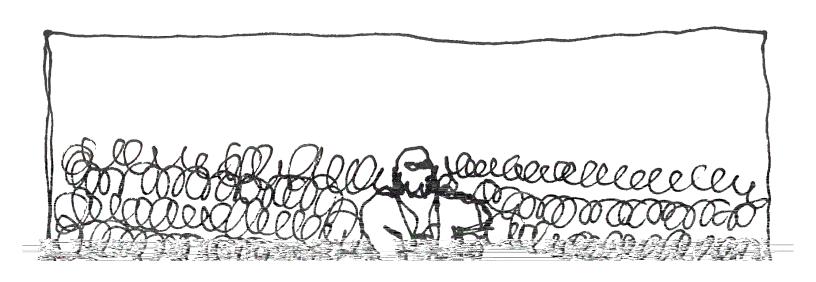
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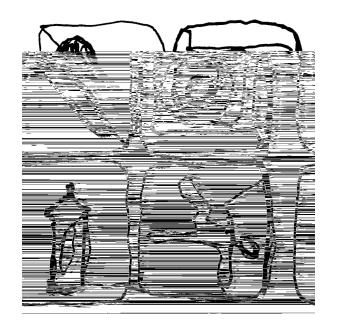


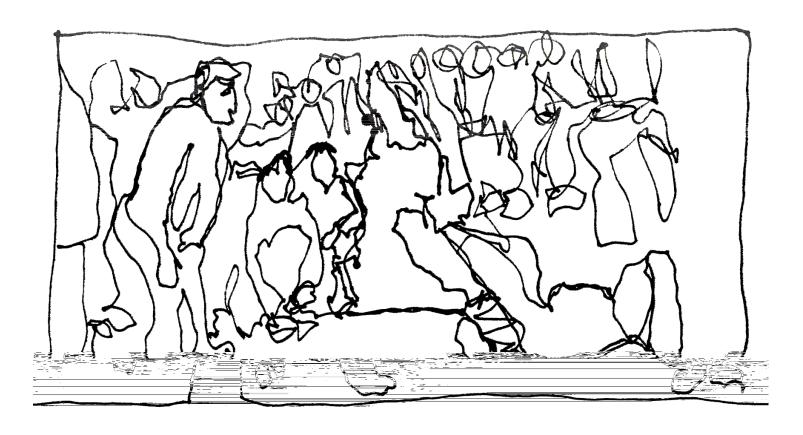
Write Your



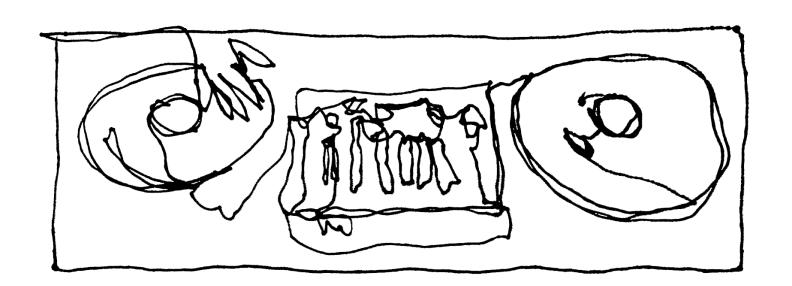


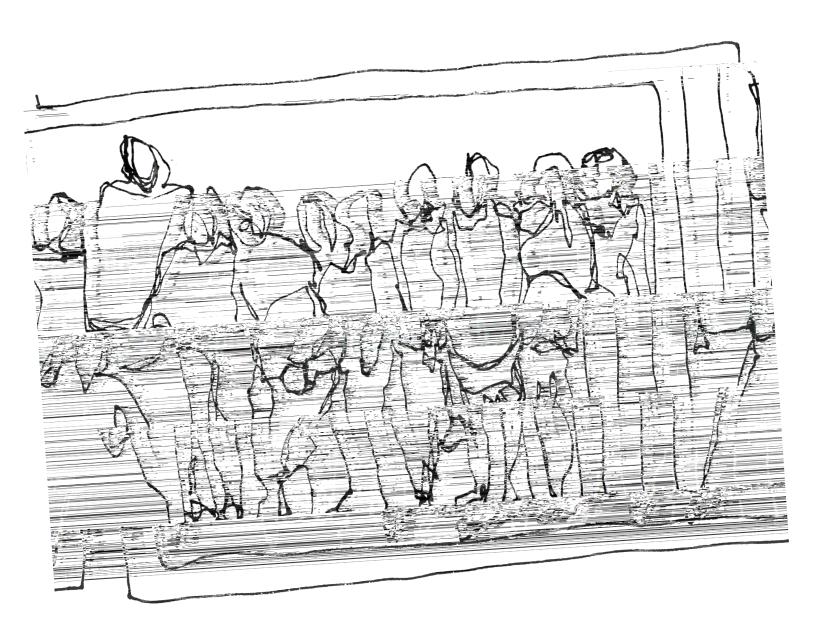
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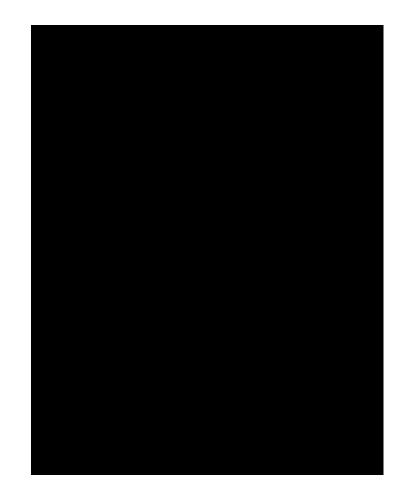


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Consider Your Audience



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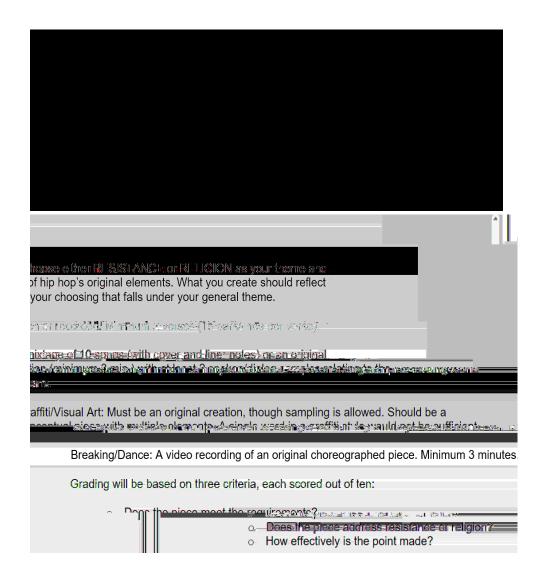


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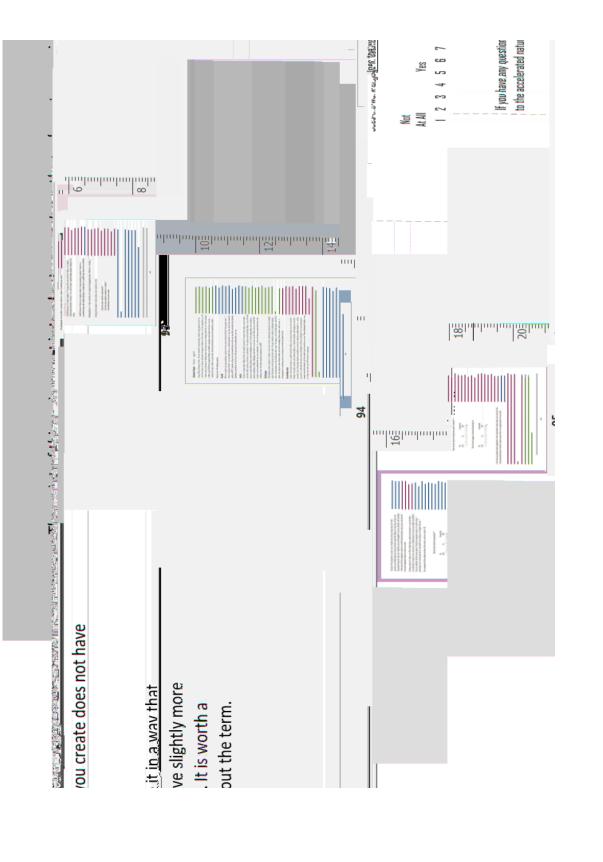
MC Assignment | 20 points (Bonus available)

Choose any rap song and rewrite the lyrics to explore issues of resistance/religion in your own life. You may "sample" the original by referencing or using some of its lyrics, but the finished product should be prominently your own words. Your song should match the length of the original song's lyrics and must have at least 2 verses and 2 choruses. No fronting. Give it some thought and be real.

The assignment is worth 20 points, but there are 5 points available for students willing to step to the mic. Submitting a recorded version of your song is worth two points and performing it in front of the class is worth another 3 points.







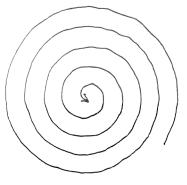
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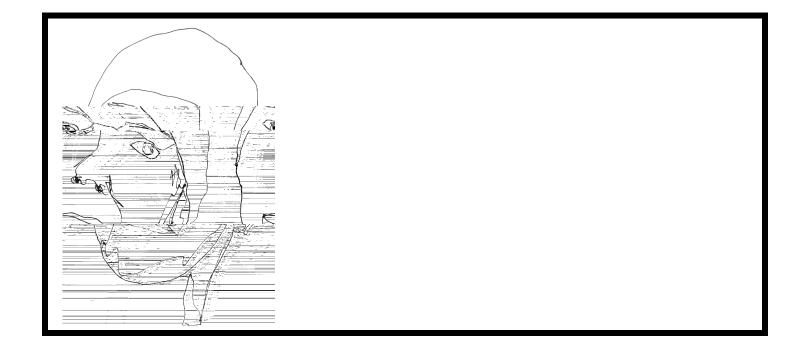
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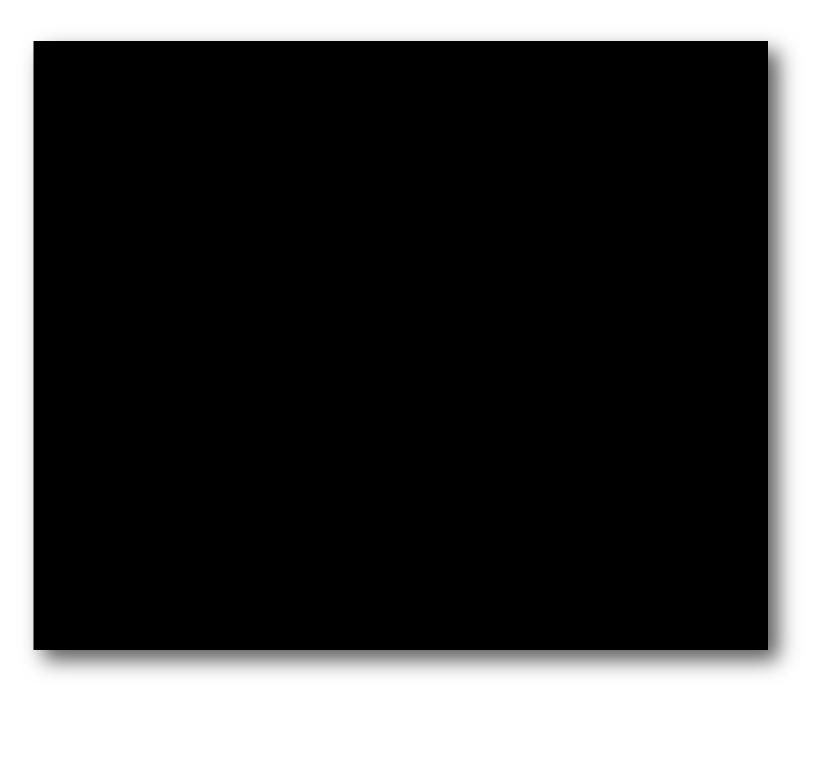
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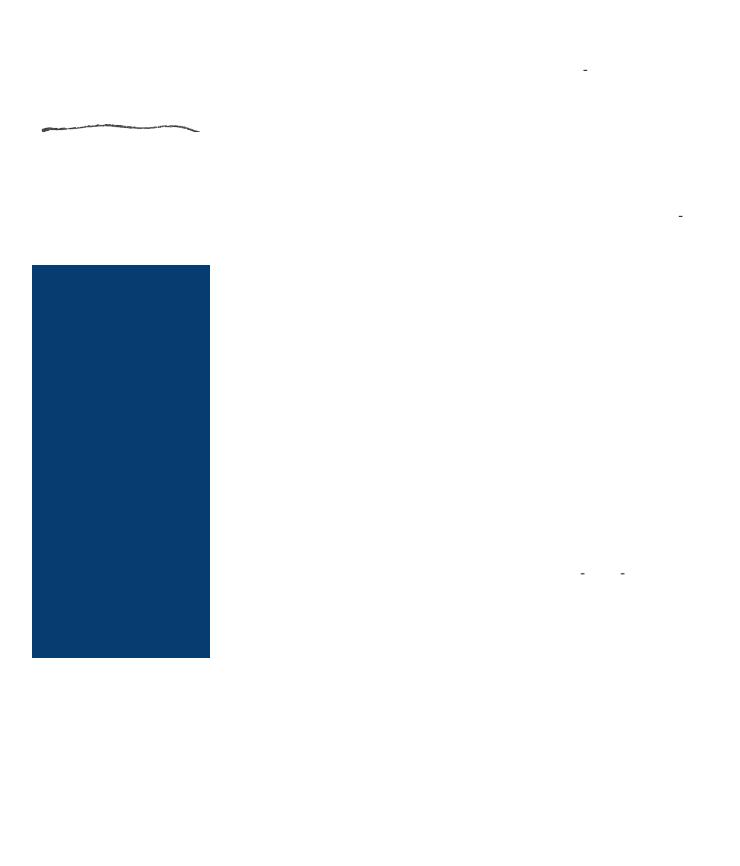
Think Global... Act local

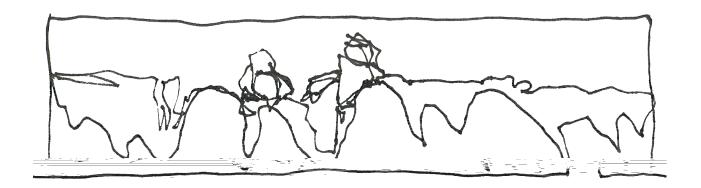


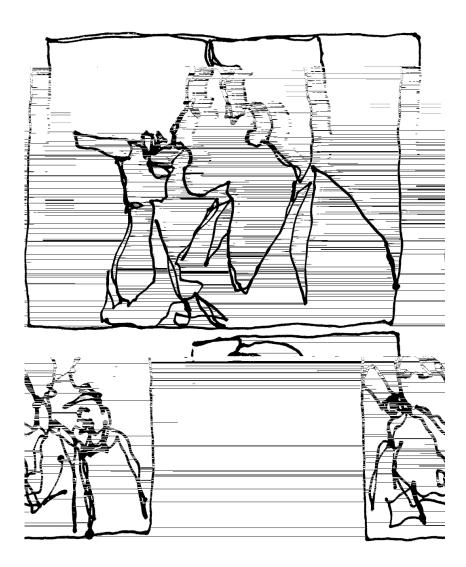


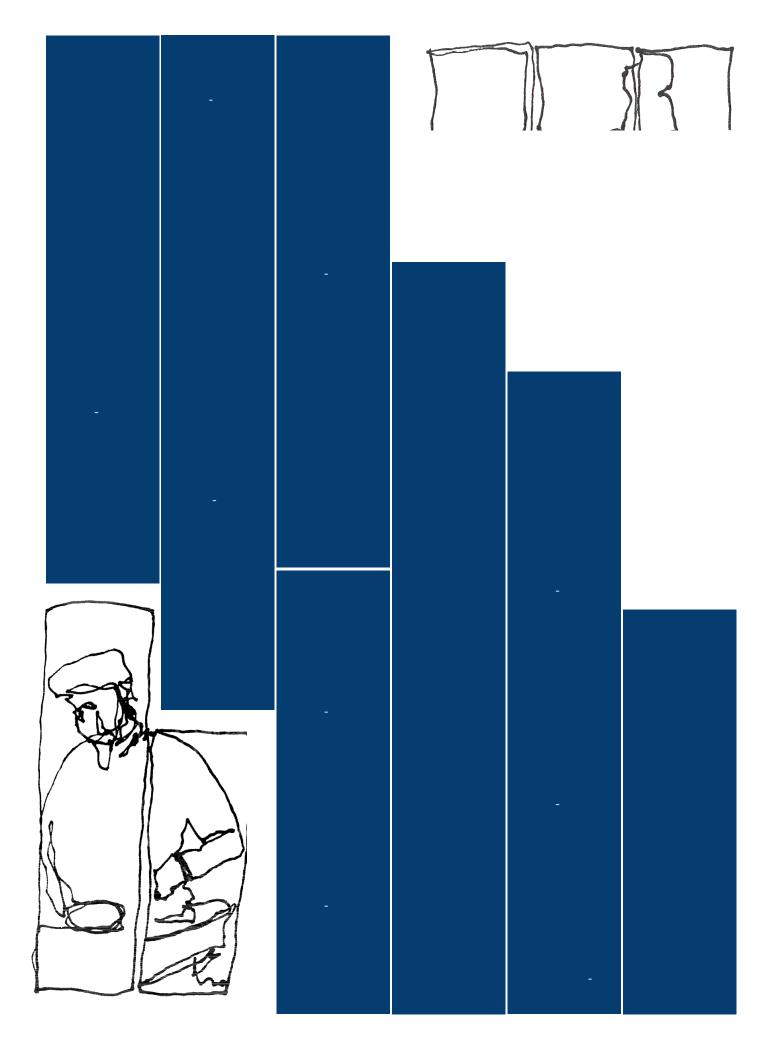








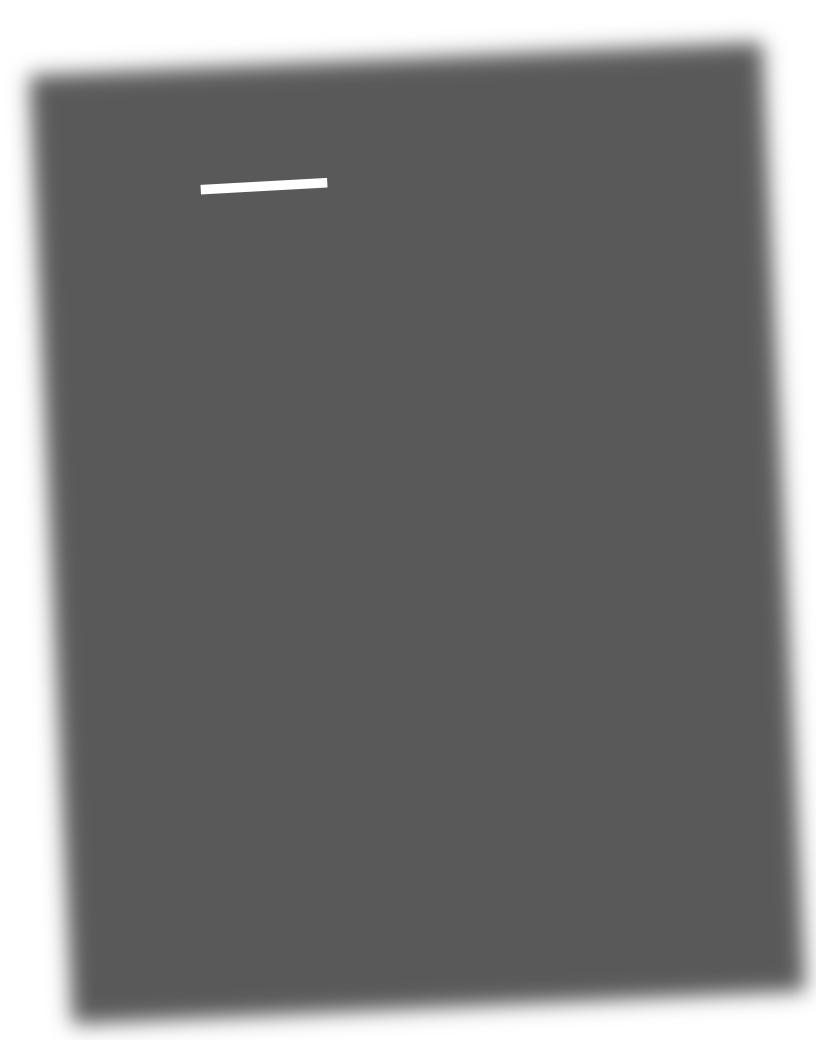


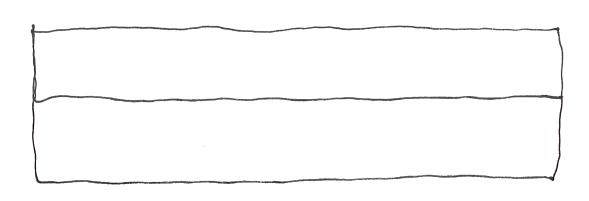


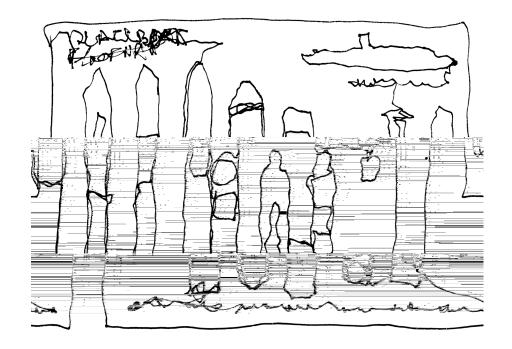
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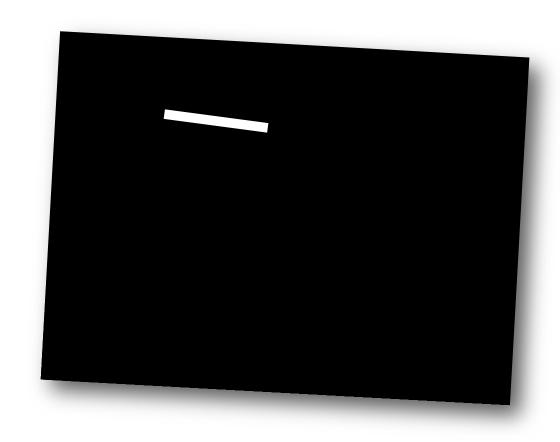
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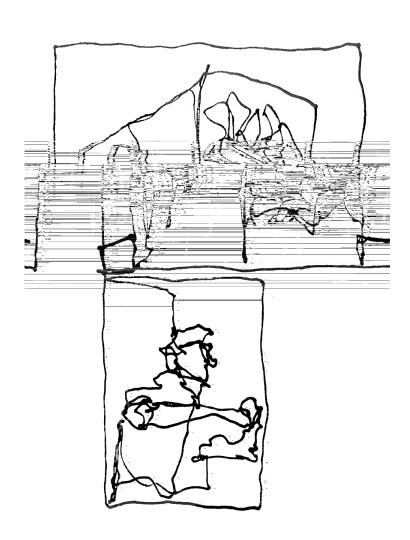


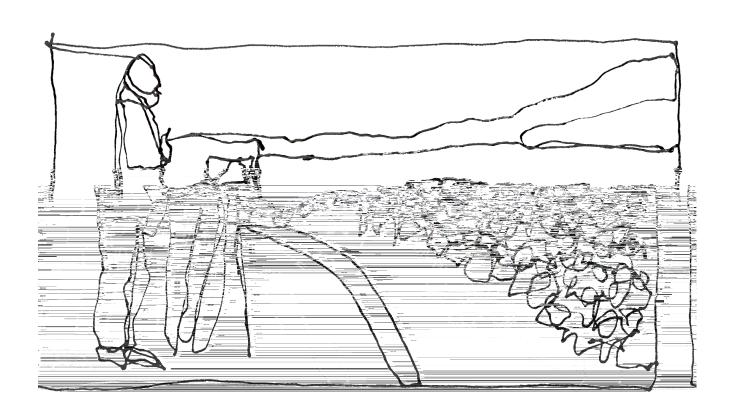




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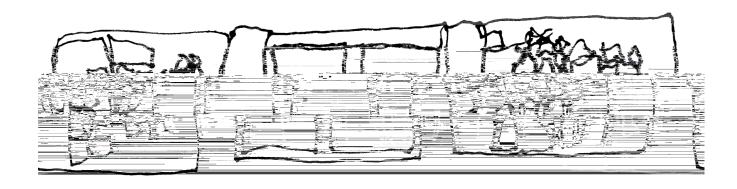


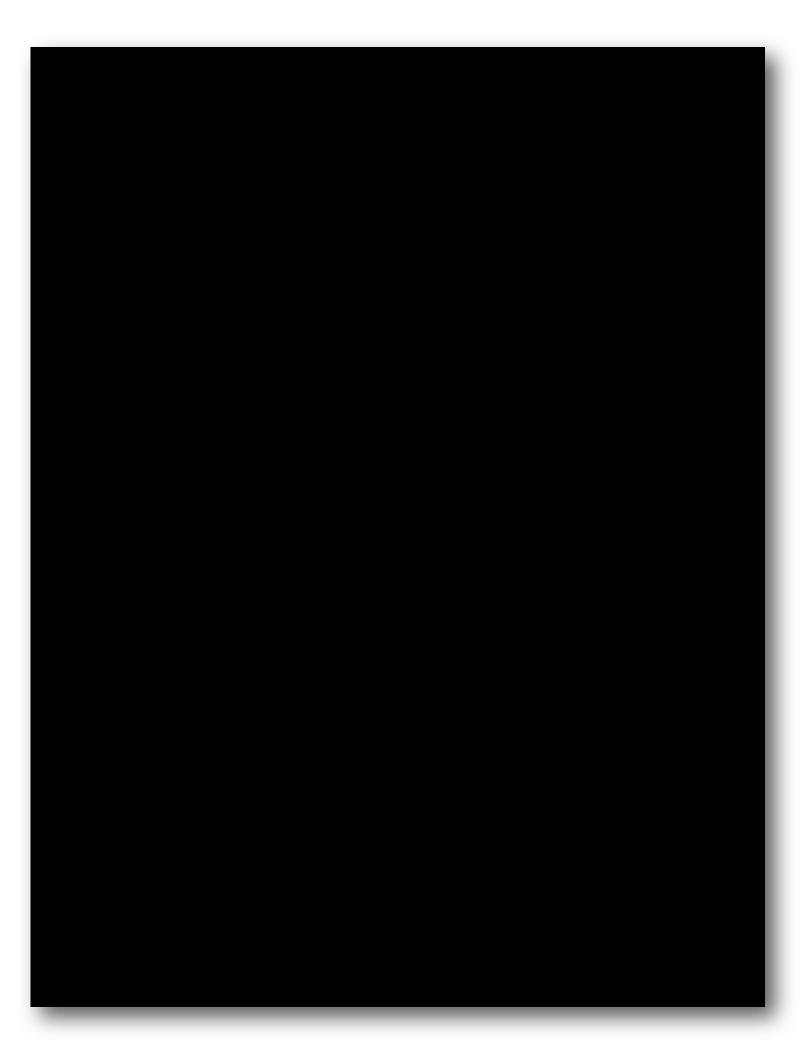


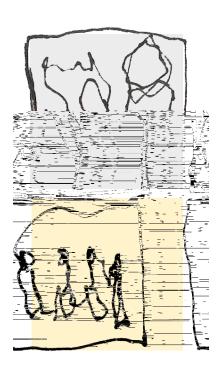


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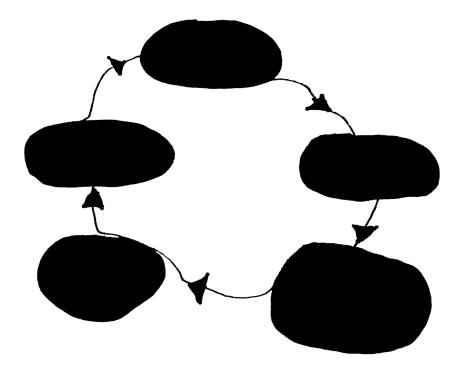


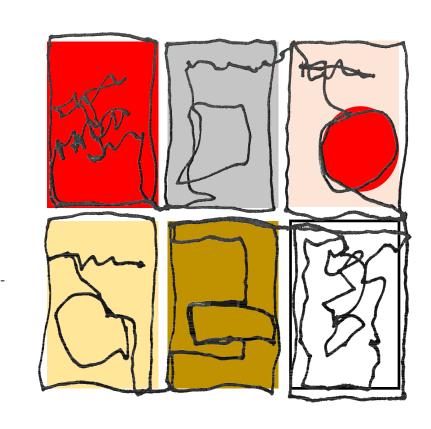




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The method





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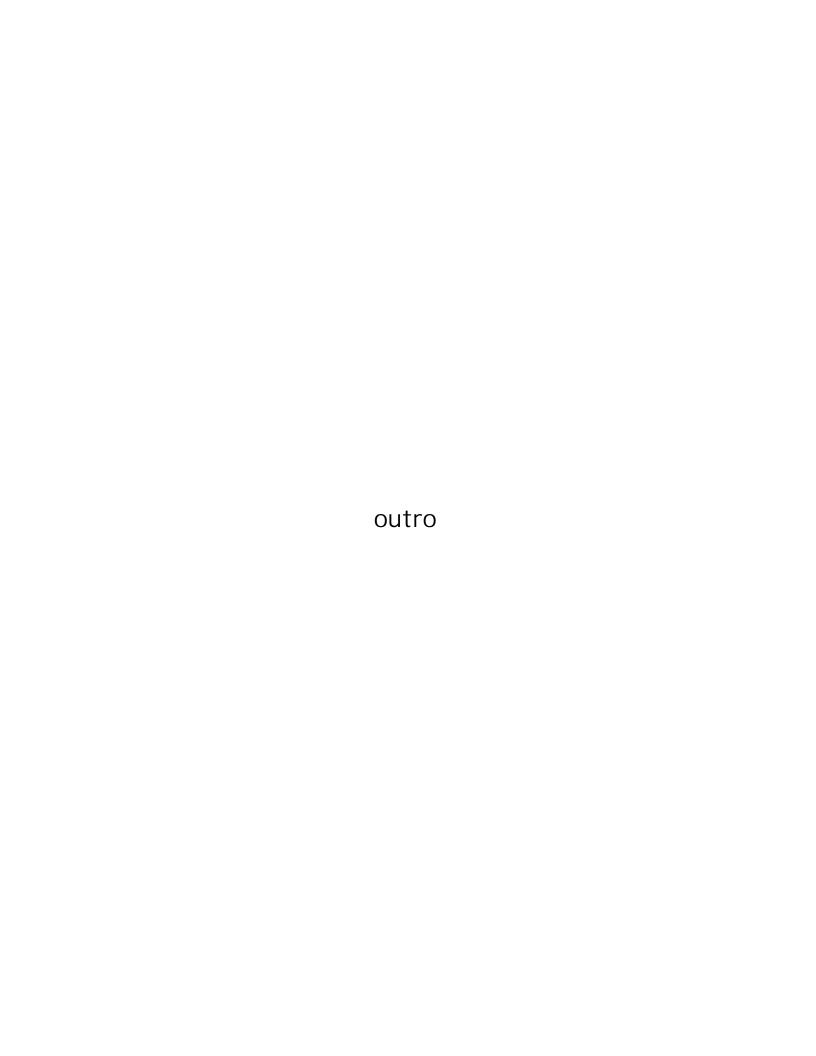
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One more before we close down the shop...

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Appendix A

Lyrics

01

Educationa**T**heory

[Sample

There is no such thing as genuine knowledge and fruitful understanding except as the offspriof

The ideas you have just heard expires as theory or philosophy of education. An educational philosophy is a body of beliefs and ideals by which educators guide their professional thoughtd practicent this program on educational philosophies concerned with hip hop as a philosophy of education.

[Sample -di Da So listen closeso listen

02

Putyour Fist Up

[Sample The Matrix1999]

it is

Like a splinter in your mind Driving you mad

[Chorus]

Puty

Put your fist up for a better education

Putyour

Resistance exists, so come alive and take it

Put your fist up for giving people what they need (and)

[Verse]

I can manifest text kinds it mad critical
Signs of social justice are criminally subliminal

Analog to digital, problems that are pivotal
Connect us to a system that limits the individual
They only see residuals in this epistemology
And all the greater things that are dreathist philosophy
Exist in mist and fog, you see, a process of the policies
So we posse up and rock the motherfucker symbiotically
Abolish banking models roll with problem solving tactics
Target your attacks and craft a battleaxe through praxis
certain is oppression with a side of death and taxes

And it happens to imagine action plans for social change got to lose are chains

[Sample The Matrix1999] It is the world that has been pulled over your eyes to blind you from the truth

[Chorus]

[Verse]

I came from critical theory, Frankfurt **stundent** Adorno and Horkheimer, in it for the music In it for the movement, KRS to Paulo Freire Critical pedagogy by all means necessary

Culturally responsive and actually effectual

What more carsay?LadsonBillings
Theory is essential, but praxis is what matters
To keep going back after the fact remains a factor

A rhizomatic map that shows where cracks cturaptiones

If we respected cultures for their knowledge and their wisdom

I have to ask you, who designed the prison that you live in? The conditions all connect to suspect definitions

[Sample Dr. Henry Giroux2019] Ideology. Culture. Power. Authority. How are these things constituted?

Who has the authority to implement it? In what way does it speak to a particular kind of future? Because all education is an inttimudin some way, to the future

and in some way understand

So they can see education as being fundamental to who they are and how they relate to the world

[Chorus]

[Chorus]

03

Situating

[Sample

(EIP) Growing up on all that music was really interesting for me. Cause it really opened my fucking mind, man.

middleclass

bullshit p has done that for a lot

definitely for people of combount you know, you hear those testimonies from white people all the time -P)You know, music is amazing in that regard, you

know what I mean? Y

Jasmin Leight/hat? But, not a fan of Black people? Or a fan of ouorcalture fan of wearing our clotbesa, fan osfelling durags f\$10 million, or Kente (ELP) If empathy and connection

[Verse]

I was born. Imagine that.

Of all the other places across the map

It was Charlottetown, that was that

Father got a new job and we movedxHali

My folks had packed-upame

Way out Eastso far away

Former lives left behind, out of sight out of mind

Left to grind here on my own

Saw these tapes, took them hornorah

It was like two shots straight to the dome

ophone

It was something different and I had to listen

Had to learn the references to make up all the time

Of the veil that was lifting from a young, white mind See, something finds you, looks you inverse e

The shit they gave you to train you was twisted lies Resist supplies, make your own Rep your set and make it known Keep it funky, to the bone And like Ice Cube said, Once againi
The origins of this are important, So I studied them Listened to the albums, music was a covenant If I could be a guest in the house of hip hop

The culture made me a rhyme disciple Beat generation, Hermit och Mele Commit to the cyclenile for mile

[Verse]

I moved to London, learned to make beats
Moved to Cali put the pen to lease
Back to Hali put the new speech
Into scratch tracks that I burned to CD
No one see meoh my
Gotta get out before I die
Shook to deathtwenty five
Or I could go and live my live

Gotta get up on the mic with a righteous mind This is my design, my beats, my rhymes line

Writing like the Sunday Times

Hermitofthewoods straight murder the rhyme

I write raps to reveal the realness
I make beatsottry to make you feel shit

This is medicineno cap

believe that

down with us, lift your cup
Hip hop belongs to who shows up
I salute the true Black roots
And, Puerto Rico, I see you, to
But something happenedit was magical
Hip hop became international
In every countryfight corruption
Speak your mindspeak with substance
Challenge lies or die for nothing
Hip hop lets you stand for something

[Sample 20]

(EI-P) Yeah, man, I feel very gratefial that assisted in pulling the veil away from thy eyes all ended up contributing essentially to my political pertiped feeling that something was wrong. (Jasmin Leigh) Yeah P) EI hat feeling the through the feeling that we are

participate in it. And, very young, I started rejecting ithgot me in a lot of trouble, got me kicked out of schools, you know? It got my life streaktene point where where I know and I kinda went a little crazy even, I feel like premisorda of time where I felt a readfribation this thing IiJ ET Q 63

 Ω 4

Pure Adrenaline

[Sample Chernobyl2019] Every lie we tell incurs a debt to the truth. Sooner or later that debt is paid.

[Sample 20/20, 1981)

Music with no melody is refrere have been talk by iges and things like concertos for drums, but right now, all around us is a music that is all beat

[Chorus]

We rock the whents to keep it all relevant Better than its ever been but Old School elegant

North, south, east, and wextre adrenaline We rock the elements to keep it all relevant

Better than its ever been busconlool elegant

North, south, east, and wextre adrenaline

[Verse]

We came of age in a radiated state debating politics, All of us, Po\$t/11 cult apologists
Swallowing the poison if it was our brand
Took a stand with EMC and the mic in my hand
Expand on the knowledge college kicked in my direction
Mix it with the elements to make legit connections
Rap the lessons, drop science on a beatbox
Class was in sessignu could hear a pin drop

Shifted into historyumped it out the speakers
For the nobelievers instead of preaching to the choir
Time to kick the tires and light the fires, I conspired
To tell a tell of this place
A gofor-broke approac
Workshops hosted, rhyming with the boombox
The global is the local catch me riding for the boondocks

[Chorus]

[Verse]

South Bronx nearly burnt to the ground
Before Kool Herc introduced the AgerRyund
Flash tweaked technies and Bam brought the streets
B-boys and girls were breaking in the basement every week
We speak of Taki 183 and bombing on the lines
Going All City and wildstyle designs

ackness

-its the foundation But not the whole equation in a global situation

The parameters shift where the cultuitests
Represent specifics of unique contexts
Possessed by the texts that set the stage
We start our own chapter by turning the page

[Chorus]

[Verse]

Back to Black Noise and Murray Forman Rapademic scholars hit harder than Tyson Anthony Pinn, Michael Eric Dyson They were the foundation for the contemplation The study of Hip Hop Based Education

I can only hope to be someday seen as Somewhere between Dimitriadis and Martha Diaz

Each One Teach One, trying to do it properly Hip hop is in classrooms all over the planet One way or another, I want to understand it Sol can kick knowledge when it comes my turn Like KRS saidYou. Must. Learn.

[Chorus]

[Sample 20/20, 1981)

Rap is likely to influence popular music for years to come. It has tremendous staying power because it lets ordinary people express ideasctategatin language they can relate to, put to music they can dance to. Not everyone can sing, but

05

Round and Round

[Intro]

Feels like two steps forward, one step back Some will get rewarded, some get caughtrianpthe

So we fake it til we make it and round and round it goes

[Verse]

They say you can never step in the same river twice The river flows and people grow, you see, change is a fact of life Sometimes wend ourselves on a path the we kind of like Some body is alwaysatching, though, got everybody acting shifty Switching up how we interact cause making change is risky

And we can even raise the stakes if we improve upon the last Experience we had, and the before that

And the one before that, and the one before that

Keeping us from speaking up cause of how they might react

[Chorus]

Round and round it .goes

[Verse]

Meditated moment about the nature of my craft
Broke it down into art, into science, into math
Thought about class practices and fish climbing trees
Difficulties some see while others earn degrees with ease
And vis a vis the need for freedom, people are havibgealthing stifled

Its ridiculous that disciples of such outdated approaches Command near total focus with just a little hocus pocus Lets us all be the crocus poking slowly through the snow Signaling something better in the slow burning morning glow

And round and round it goes but now you know the river The current and the stormestane depth to deliver Something much more important than just where the river goes

[Sample Ken Kesey, 19\beta66

And since a human being is so damned proafticing to bving himself a rut and staying in it at all eak us out of that rut.

Praxis The method

Praxis The method

n. PraxisThe method

06 Shapeshifters

[Sample Dr. Gloria LadseBillings, 2019]

hip

hop is a primary driver

of us sitting

here tonight who remember people saying

And, in fact, I teach a course on hip

hop and education and one of the first repuestio

of hip hop heads. shapeshifters origin

an environment where you sam/p/heere everything is a numpshyou take a little from here, a

that people are always taking a bit from this association can be an important tural vehicle for connecting weath century students. They end up wino relational and global contexts. We have to help our students understand that the reason that they should s

07

Write Your Own Story

[Sample Dr. Chris Emdia2017]

knowing and being and existing in the world.

about boying, and breakdancing, agreaffiti, and knowledge of shend all of those things, to me create the perfect pedagogical or teaching from the book at the elements of hip hop, they align towhat should happen in an ideal classroom. Where someone can take the stage and just perform

technology

who it is that they and what brought them to a classroom space.

[Verse]

Sally from the Valley camelation first in her family To go to university, paid the bursar-Isamgledly

Tomi from Bahamas, single mama, doing distance She sings while doing dishes and she always keeps it Christian

Everybody needs to find connections to society
The different intentions that direct our lives entirely
Give people variety

[Sample Dr. Chris Emdin, 2019]
I always have to be teaching, I always have to bealleauntinthe culture of the people. I

beauty of the cultulineat it always evolves, it always revolves, it advæytses and reforms itself in this beautiful way, but yet stillotiæshart makes it what it is.

[Verse]

Sally made a beat, sampled her brother playing banjo And busted bitter bars about her battles with Monsanto She sticks to statistics but she still spits the rhymes tom line

Tomi drew a beautiful mural with a pack of coloured pencils

After college she presented the polished project to committees Who paid her to paint it all over promoting health in her city Mohammad spends his time now in Jeddah by the sea

They call him Al Mutamarid, he raps what he believes
That a future that is feminist is just what the world needs.

the elements

The simplicity is resonant, flexible and elegant Conflicts within ourselves can be remixed to find the benefits

Transform like this, perform like this

[Sample Peace Boat, 2019]
Japanese performing Nanking Tamasudare

Transform like this, perform like this

[Choru§

React. Adapt. Put theory into practice.
You could lift up the whole world, word to Atlas
Imagine what could happen if you truly knewlfyours
And all it took was asking for a little bit of help
React. Adapt. Put theory into practice.
You could lift up the whole world, word to Atlas
Imagine what could happen if you truly knew yourself
And all it took was asking for a little bit of help

[Verse]

Do your rhymes translate from nation to nation?
Do they even get played on local radio stations?
Amazing things happen, pull out the map and walk it
Knowing you still got it if you rock it out of pocket
Powerful lessons truly transcend their context
Con

A consequence of cultivating consciousness Is constantly accounting for the cons you missed All kinds of shit goes on outside the concert, kid

so tell me how you really livin?
You on the way to finding freedom or fine with dying in a prison?
Gotta learn to reach across the aisle once in a while
Might give up a couple inches but you gain a couple miles
And Im down to expand, Scotia to Japan
But Want to build together, no lines in the sand

[Choru\$

Transform like this, perform like this

[Verse]

Think global, act local I can live with that philosophy
Im for unity in my community aint no one stopping me
I rep East of East, Halifax, Nowaiia
There are giants in these streets, all elements, true soldiers
Truth holders, and given space to shake the ground
They will catch you on a wavelength distinct from any sound around
Down for anything that puts my people on
I prove all the haters wrong

Everybody eating

See you Hopscotch weekend, you can catch me in the evening With the MC and DJs, plotting and scheming Big dreamand opportunities worth taking Keep blowing up the stage til your hands stop shaking

Step into the light the whole world is waiting [Chorus]

09

The Method

[Chorus]

I you what it is

Broken down to its very last compound Praxis. Reflection. Theory. Action. Lessons on lessons on lessons. Keep moving forward. M.E.T.H.O.D. TheMethod

[Verse]

Praxis: Reaction to past acts reflective backtracking to the stacks, review facts What tracks? What cracks will cause collapse? Redraw the maps and get back to perfecting the act Matter of fact, do all that and then do it again Make changebetween each new version of the plan

Autoethnographic approaches illuminate
A qualitative state that resonates way beyond the base
We can trace a limen educational experience

But always moving forward, always just a little farther The method is the action spun back through repetition Til the pieces get connected to erect a better system (listen)

[Chorus]

[Verse]

Then try to choose the move that will improve the situation Put the theory into practice and act on your ideas Then reflect upomhat happenedbut, there is no panacea So the wheels keep on turning, every cycle we are learning Increasingly unburdened if we keep the fire burning The process is a constant and the ends are never certain Never stop searching, always be observant Nevershy away from the difficult or tricky ones

Every situation hids special est of problems

And the lessons that we get as we reflect on how to solve them

Are the battle tested steps of a-horse impresent such as the solution of the sol

[Chorus]

[Verse]

ines

That lie between their lives and the conditions that define em Bodhisattvaninded, facilitate expansion
Of critical consciousness and complex understanding
No two people are exactly the same
So flexible lessons help them bring their best to the game
Check again and again, are there any flaws in the blueprints?
Are any parts a nuisance? Is there room for improvements?
It takes constant movement to produce a new solution
Conducive to an evenanging state of revolution

g ways to be amazing Praxis lets us practice better paths to education Interrogate ourselves, liberate assignments d that is the method.

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