

## **Rock and the Global Scene**

### VOCABULARY TERMS

<b>rock and roll</b>	American popular music style first heard in the 1950s; derived from the union of African-American rhythm and blues, country-western, and pop music.
<b>rhythm &amp; blues</b>	Popular African-American music style of the 1940s through 1960s featuring a solo singer accompanied by a small instrumental ensemble (piano, guitar, double bass, drums, tenor saxophone), driving rhythms, and blues and pop song forms.
<b>backbeat</b>	In rock and roll and related genres, the second and fourth beats of the measure.
<b>Motown</b>	A record company, originally from Detroit, that moved to Los Angeles in 1971. Also the associated musical style -- a fusion of gospel, rock and roll, and rhythm and blues.
<b>acid rock</b>	Genre of American rock that emerged in the late 1960s, often associated with psychedelic drugs. Its style featured heavy amplification, instrumental improvisation, new sound technologies, and light shows.
<b>psychedelic rock</b>	same as acid rock
<b>jam band</b>	A group that focuses on live performance rather than commercial recordings. Jam bands, such as the Grateful Dead and Phish, combine many different musical traditions, most notably folk, jazz, rock, and country-western, in a highly improvisational and expressive style.
<b>trance music</b>	A style of dance music fusing techno and house music. The name derives from the throbbing beats designed to put the listener in a trance-like state.
<b>art rock</b>	Genre of rock that uses larger forms and more complex harmonies than other popular styles; occasionally quotes examples from classical music. Also progressive rock.
<b>progressive rock</b>	same as art rock
<b>Latin rock</b>	Subgenre of rock featuring Latin and African percussion instruments (maracas, conga drums, timbales).
<b>heavy metal</b>	Rock style that gained popularity in the 1970s, characterized by simple, repetitive ideas and loud, distorted instrumental solos.
<b>glitter rock</b>	Theatrical, flamboyant rock style popular in the 1970s.

<b>punk rock</b>	Subgenre of rock, popular since the mid-1970s; characterized by loud volume levels, driving rhythms, and simple forms typical of earlier rock and roll; often contains shocking lyrics and offensive behavior.
<b>disco</b>	Commercial dance music popular in the 1970s, characterized by strong percussion in a quadruple meter.
<b>reggae</b>	Jamaican popular music style characterized by offbeat rhythms and chanted vocals over a strong bass part; often associated with the religious movement Rastafarianism.
<b>soft rock</b>	Lyrical, gentle rock style that evolved around 1960 in response to hard-driving rock and roll.
<b>new wave</b>	Subgenre of rock popular since the late 1970s, highly influenced by simple 1950s-style rock and roll; developed as a rejection of the complexities of art rock and beauty metal.
<b>rap</b>	Style of popular music in which rhymed lyrics are spoken over rhythm tracks; developed by African Americans in the 1970s and widely disseminated in the 1980s and 1990s; the style is part of the larger culture of hip hop.
<b>hip hop</b>	Black urban art forms that emerged in New York City in the 1970s, encompassing rap music, break dancing, and graffiti art as well as the fashions adopted by the artists. The term comes from the strings of vocables, or nonsense syllables, used by rap artists.
<b>gangsta rap</b>	A particularly violent style of rap, with lyrics depicting gangs and street life.
<b>grunge rock</b>	Seattle-based rock style characterized by harsh guitar chords; hybrid of punk rock and heavy metal.
<b>country-western</b>	Genre of American popular music derived from traditional music of Appalachia and the rural South, usually vocal with an accompaniment of banjos, fiddles, and guitar.
<b>bluegrass</b>	Country-western music style characterized by quick tempos, improvised instrumental solos, and high-range vocal harmonies.
<b>Nashville sound</b>	A style of country-western influenced by record producers centered in Nashville. These producers had a broad knowledge of music and the industry, and cultivated a more mainstream style.
<b>honky tonk</b>	A genre of country-western music developed in the 1950s that was heavily influenced by rock and roll.

<b>country rock</b>	A hybrid of country-western and rock music, fusing the themes and sound of country-western with the driving rhythms and instrumentation of rock.
<b>global pop</b>	Collective term for popular third-world musics, ethnic and traditional musics, and eclectic combinations of Western and non-Western musics. Also world beat.
<b>zydeco</b>	A combination of traditional French Cajun music, rhythm and blues, rock and roll, Caribbean music and country-western. The typical ensemble consists of voice, fiddle, accordion, electric guitar, and washboard.
<b>drone</b>	Sustained sounding of one or several tones for harmonic support, a common feature of some folk musics.
<b>double-stop</b>	Playing two notes simultaneously on a string instrument.
<b>slide</b>	In bowed string instruments, moving from one pitch to another by sliding the finger on the string while bowing.
<b>trill</b>	Ornament consisting of the rapid alternation between one tone and the next or sometimes the tone below.

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### Research Assignment

**Each of the artists on this sheet has been involved in social protest of one kind or another in their careers. Using research methods, write down the following information about ten (10) of the artists listed below:**

- The kind of music this artist plays...
- A song title...
- One way this artist has challenged social conditions or concerns...
- List something else interesting you learned about this artist...

1. James Brown
2. Bob Dylan
3. Aretha Franklin
4. Woody Guthrie
5. Grandmaster Flash and the Furious Five
6. Lead Belly
7. John Lennon
8. Madonna
9. Pearl Jam
10. Elvis Presley
11. Queen Latifah
12. Sly and the Family Stone
13. Bruce Springsteen
14. The Temptations
15. Muddy Waters

## **Rock & the Global Scene**

### KEY POINTS

*"You know my temperature's risin',  
The juke box's blowin' a fuse,  
My heart's beatin' rhythm,  
My soul keeps singin' the blues—  
Roll over, Beethoven,  
Tell Tchaikovsky the news."  
—CHUCK BERRY*

### **Key Points**

- The rise of **rock and roll** in the 1950s is one of the most significant phenomena in twentieth-century music history.
- Rock had its origins in rhythm and blues, countrywestern, pop music and gospel; early rock crossed racial lines, featuring both white and black performers.
- The Beatles, first heard live in the United States in 1964, were highly influential because of their expressive experiments in various musical styles (including non-Western ones).
- California groups also contributed to the expressiveness of rock, particularly to the emergence of **folk rock**.
- The 1960s and 1970s saw the rise of many eclectic musical styles, including **acid rock, art rock, Latin rock, punk rock, disco, reggae, and new wave**.
- Music videos and MTV were important media for the dissemination of rock in the 1980s; other developments led the way for the emergence of rap.
- **Rap, or hip hop**, is one of the most popular forms of African-American music; like earlier rock styles, it has crossed racial lines and been adopted by white performers.
- In the 1990s and beyond, **grunge rock, alternative rock, and global pop** have captured the listening audience, along with numerous revivals by wellknown artists and groups.
- The origins of **country-western music** derive from Appalachian folk songs; through the Grand Ol' Opry and the Nashville recording industry, this style has developed commercially into one of the most widespread genres of popular music.
- The range of **global pop** styles and performers continues to grow, as music from all corners of the world is made available—some in "authentic" recordings and performances, others in a blend of contemporary and traditional styles.

# **Rock and the Global Scene**

## UNIT OUTLINE

### **1. Rock and roll emerged in the 1950s**

Origins in rhythm and blues, country-western, pop music, and gospel

Crossed racial lines: white singers drew from black music; African-Americans got the attention of white audiences

In the 1960s a bevy of teen idols emerged

At the same time, black America turned to soul and Motown

The Beatles took America by storm in the early 1960s

Later Beatles music reflected non-Western musical influence (India)

The Beatles' success inspired the British Invasion (the Rolling Stones)

California groups raised the standard for studio production (the Beach Boys)

Folk rock also emerged in California, groups influenced by Bob Dylan and Joan Baez

Eclectic musical styles emerged: acid rock (the Doors, Jimi Hendrix)

Culminating event for rock music in the 1960s was Woodstock Festival in 1969

Grateful Dead and Pink Floyd spawned a new generation of improvisational bands and trance music

### **2. The Eclecticism of the 1970s**

Art rock (progressive rock) served to unite classical instruments and form with rock

Moody Blues; the Who; Emerson, Lake, and Palmer; Frank Zappa

Latin rock was the fusion of Latin jazz with rock and roll

Santana's distinctive sounds comes from Latin and African percussion

Other offshoots of rock and roll: heavy metal, glitter rock (glam rock), punk rock, disco, reggae, new wave

### **3. The 1980s and Beyond**

The 1980s saw the development of the music video

MTV was important in the dissemination of rock

Technological developments added synthesizers and stereo turntables to the music

Rap and hip hop became one of the most popular forms of music

Soul and rhythm and blues divas were successful

Whitney Houston, Mariah Carey

Grunge rock, alternative rock, and global pop are more recent developments

"Alternative" rock of the late 1990s defies specific definition

Eclecticism represented by artists like Beck and Björk

Women artists find success in all genres

Artists-singer-songwriters, folk music, pop-punk, country, rap, etc.

Significant revivals have occurred and early rock bands enjoy continued success

Eagles, Rolling Stones, Elton John

Older styles (blues, country, soul, ska, punk, etc.) are being updated by new artists

White Stripes, Alicia Keys, No Doubt, Green Day

Popularity in rock is fleeting

#### **4. Country-Western Music**

Country-western music evolved out of Appalachian folk songs

Early recordings have this type of music labeled "hillbilly" music

Hollywood began to make movies featuring singing cowboys in the 1930s

The Grand Ol' Opry was the place where many new acts were introduced

Bluegrass, Nashville sound

Honky-tonk was electrified folk-derived music

In the 1970s, classic country music and mainstream country emerged

Country rock or "southern-fried rock" was a successful crossover style

#### **5. Global Pop**

Universalistic movement, not a single style

Promotes popular music of the third world, ethnic and traditional music from all over the globe, and collaborations between Western and non-Western musicians

#### **6. BeauSoleil and the Revival of Cajun Music**

Two distinct cultural groups in Southwestern Louisiana

Creoles: mixed French, Spanish, and African or Afro-Caribbean descent

Cajuns: French colonists of Canada, exiled by the British, settled in Louisiana

The two groups shared French as a common language

Cajun music was mostly vocal, influenced by all southern music

Zydeco music arose in midcentury as a blend of African-American, Caribbean, and Cajun styles

Incorporates voice, fiddle, accordion, electric guitar, washboard

**7. *Think of Me (Jongle à moi)*, by BeauSoleil (Listening Guide 50)**

Traditional dance song

Cajun fiddle techniques

Drones, double-stops, slides, trills

Text is in Cajun French

**Rock and the Global Scene**  
**LISTENING GUIDE**

***Think of Me (Jongle à moi)*, by BeauSoleil**

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FORM:	Tune built on 8-bar phrases (verse and bridge); alternation of vocal and instrumental verse
METER:	4/4
TEXTURE:	Heterophonic
BASIS:	Traditional Cajun fiddle tune, recorded in 1930s, by J.B. Fuselier
INSTRUMENTS:	Fiddle, guitar, accordion, washboard, drums, bass, vocals
WHAT TO LISTEN FOR:	Rousing dance tune, with syncopated rhythms and wide-ranging instrumental lines  Typical Cajun fiddle (violin) techniques (drones, double-stops, slides, and trills)  Unique timbre of accordion, blending with fiddle and guitar  Instrumental and vocal embellishments of tune  Text sung in Cajun French, with interjections ( <i>yé yalle</i> )  Regular structure, with 8-measure phrases, repeated and varied; a bridge (or <i>turn</i> ) alternates with main tune

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## **Rock and the Global Scene**

### STUDY QUESTIONS

1. Name at least two progressive rock bands discussed in class.
2. Name some heavy metal groups discussed in class.
3. Describe the characteristics of acid rock and give two examples.
4. What ethnic instrument did the Beatles first use on *Norwegian Wood*?
5. What type of music is best represented by the Grateful Dead?
6. Name at least two bands associated with grunge rock.
7. For which album did U2 win a Grammy in 1987?
8. Name at least two fiddle techniques used in *Think of Me*.
9. What type music is *Think of Me*?
10. In what year was the Beatles first American performance?
11. Name at least two bands associated with punk rock.
12. Name at least two bands associated with art rock.
13. Name a new wave band discussed in class.
14. Describe the texture of *Think of Me*.
15. In which country did reggae originate?
16. When did the original Woodstock Festival take place?
17. Name at least two glam rock artists discussed in class.
18. What stringed instruments can be heard in *Think of Me*?
19. What type music can be associated with Public Enemy?
20. How long did Pink Floyd's *Dark Side of the Moon* album stay in the Top 40 charts?
21. In what language is *Think of Me*?
22. Name the two rhythm instruments heard in *Think of Me*.
23. Discuss the popularity of women rock singers today.
24. Which two bands are most associated the "British Invasion?"

25. What genre of music can rhythm and blues be most associated?
26. What style music highly influenced Elvis Presley and Jerry Lee Lewis?
27. What lyrical style rock developed in the 1960s as a reaction to hard driving rock?
28. Who is Carlos Santana?
29. Name an '80s band catapulted to fame via MTV.
30. What are the origins of country-western music?
31. When did music videos originate?
32. When did rock and roll first come on the scene?

**Study all vocabulary terms.**

**Study listening guides.**

**Explain how and why rock and roll is the most important music of the past half-century?**