

ABSTRACT

DISSERTATION: Teaching the Authentic Performance of Brazilian Popular Music Styles to Non-Native Musicians: The Development of a Pedagogical Approach

STUDENT: Bruno Modolo Cabrera

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The lack of stylistic authenticity in performances of Brazilian popular music by non-native musicians is a significant and often-cited issue among native Brazilians who live and perform outside the country. Based on research in the areas of music perception, music cognition, and psychomotor learning theories, a complete pedagogical approach was created that develops cultural background, context, pattern vocabulary, and technical skills and guides non-native musicians to authentic performances of Brazilian popular music styles such as samba, bossa nova, choro, baião, and maracatu. A brief survey of four Brazilian popular music experts obtained anecdotal results suggesting that student ensembles prepared using the pedagogical approach were perceived as relatively more authentic as compared to professional non-native ensembles. Future studies can provide more information about the approach's effectiveness and applications to cultural music styles from different countries around the world.