

2021MeadMichael-abstract

Abstract

The year 2020 brought with it numerous trials of the human spirit. From frequent and senseless police brutality to a global pandemic to the mental health challenges which followed for many, 2020 was subjectively among the worst years, if not *the* worst year, in recent memory. In America, music has long been a reliable tool in exploring the thoughts and feelings of different generations, and there was no shortage of music released in 2020. However, there seemed to be a void of popular protest music which spoke for an entire generation's experiences during an intensely difficult year. This project contributes a five-song EP to the catalogue of protest music about 2020 as well as a review of protest music's history in America and a brief discussion of why the genre has a tougher time gaining traction in the modern day than it did in the 1960s. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LXjJ-5eF5no>

Honors College
Ball State University
Muncie, IN 47306