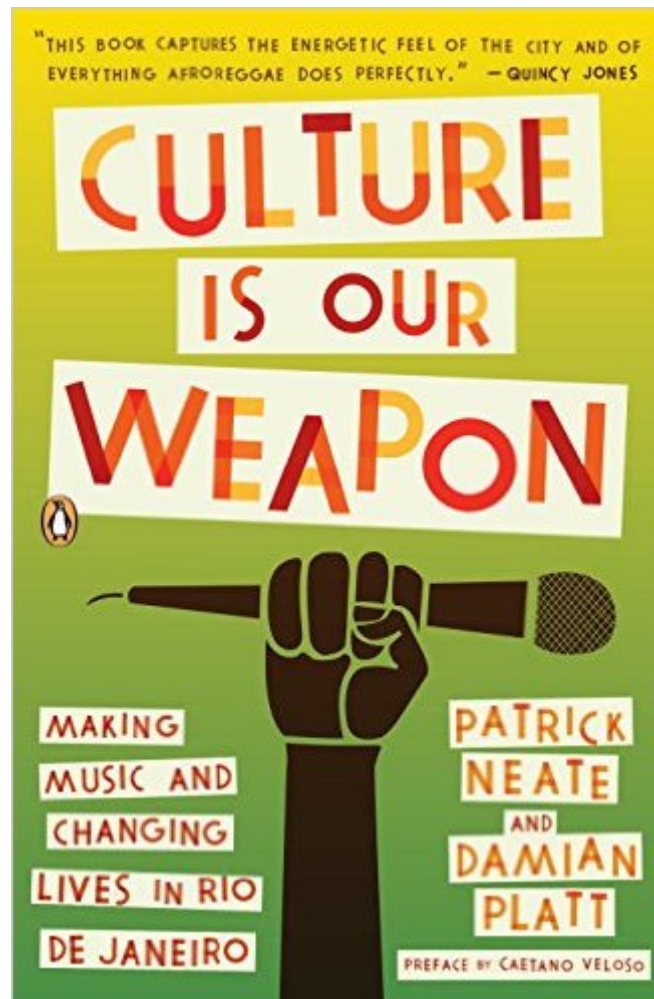


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# Culture Is Our Weapon: Making Music And Changing Lives In Rio De Janeiro



## Synopsis

An inspiring mission to rescue young people from drugs and violence with music. At a time when interest in Brazilian culture has reached an all-time high, and the stories of one person's ability to improve the lives of others has captured so many hearts, this unique book takes readers to the frontlines of a battle raging over control of the nation's poorest areas. *Culture Is Our Weapon* tells the story of Grupo Cultural AfroReggae, a Rio-based organization employing music and an appreciation for black culture to inspire residents of the favelas, or shantytowns, to resist the drugs that are ruining their neighborhoods. This is an inspiring look at an artistic explosion and the best and worst of Brazilian society.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (2 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #321,797 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #19 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Musical Genres > Reggae](#) #47 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Public Affairs & Policy > Non-Governmental Organizations](#) #169 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Philanthropy & Charity](#)

## Customer Reviews

The importance of the arts could not be better advocated than this compelling story woven with the bitter reality that exists in the poor neighborhoods of Rio de Janeiro. The reader is given a clear background of the conditions, both current and the necessary historical context, to explain how the gripping sounds of AfroReggae is succeeding in reaching across ethnic, racial, and class barriers in Brazil. This promising success story is an interesting book for music enthusiasts, visitors of this area of Brazil, non-profit organizations, and those believing in the power of the arts, particularly music, to enable positive change in communities whether affluent or poor. One improvement to suggest is a glossary of terms be added to the back of the book to help those that take a more leisurely time in their reading. All terms needing explanation are given clearly at the bottom of each page, but this

can be cumbersome to look for if coming back to the book after several days.

I read Neate's "Where You're At..." a few years ago, and thought it was great. As a music lover and working professional in the music industry I found it to be an informative read with insight into pop culture around the world, and of course Hip Hop. I came across this book while browsing the Kindle store and knew I wouldn't be disappointed with it, having read Neate's work before. Just like "Where You're At" Neate provides the reader with enough information and history to stay relevant and interested. There was a lot of new information to me, but I never felt like I was reading a high school history book. I found this a great educational and eye opening read. If you're a fan of his work, I'm sure you'll enjoy this also. Or for anyone interested in culture and ethnic studies give this a shot.

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