'Planning for Hope': Music as an Object of Research and Practice in Peacebuilding

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Content

1. MUSIC & PEACEBUILDING

2. KEY FINDINGS

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Terms & Definitions

Conflict transformation:

"outcome, process and structure oriented long-term peacebuilding efforts, which aim to truly overcome revealed forms of direct, cultural and structural violence" (Reimann, 2004, p.10)
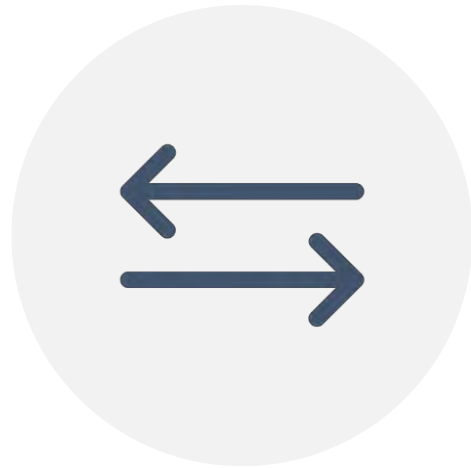
Music:

"temporal succession of articulated sounds that are more than just sound" (Adorno, 2002, p.113)
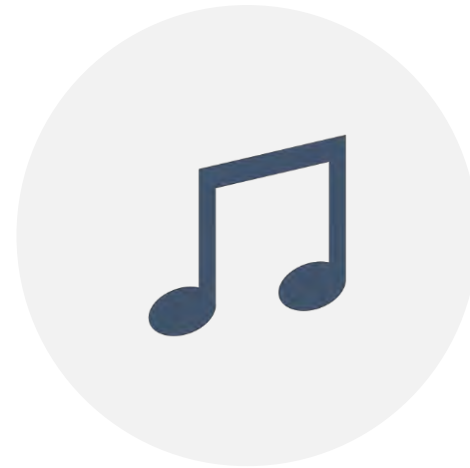
Music & Peacebuilding

1. Why Music & Peacebuilding?

NEED FOR ALTERNATIVE
APPROACHES TO PEACEBUILDING

THE POTENTIAL OF MUSIC

1. Why Music & Peacebuilding?

NEED FOR ALTERNATIVE
APPROACHES TO PEACEBUILDING

- The rise of *protracted social conflicts* (Azar, 1990)

- A rising critique of the liberal peace paradigm (Zaum, 2013; Paris, 2011; Campbell & Peterson, 2013)

- Need to engage "people's emotions, sense, and passions" (Schirch, 2005, p.1)
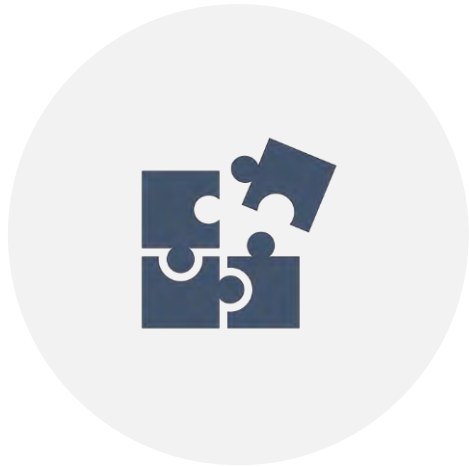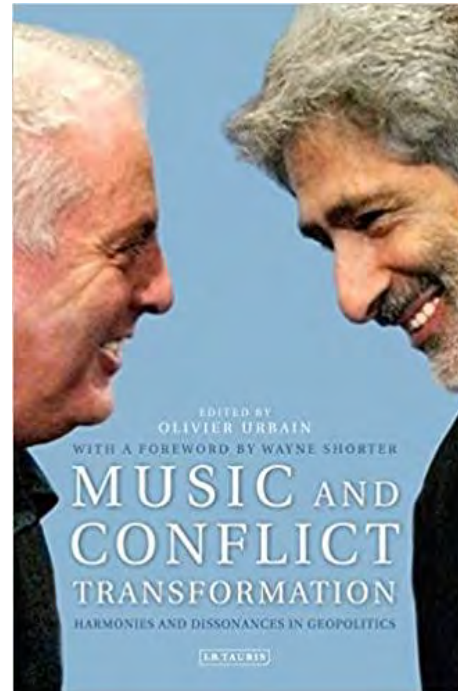
1. Why Music & Peacebuilding?

THE POTENTIAL OF MUSIC

- Transcending and breaking patterns of violent conflict requires the *moral imagination* (Lederach, 2005)

- Music provides the "wherewithal to imagine social utopia" (Leppert, 2005, p.93), enables transformation and communication (Bloch, 2000; Adorno, 1993)
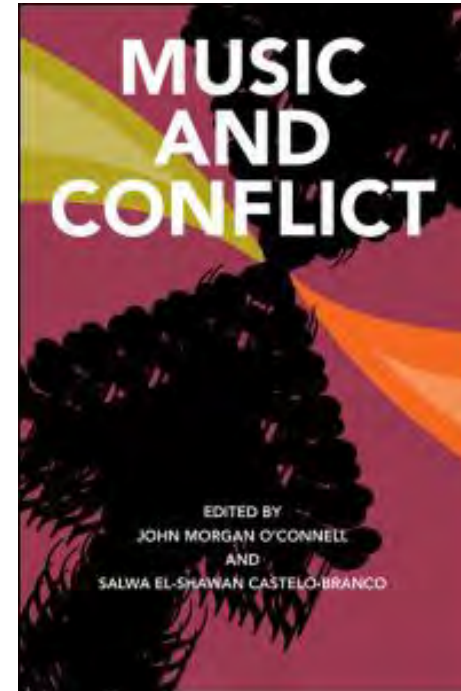
1. Why Music & Peacebuilding?

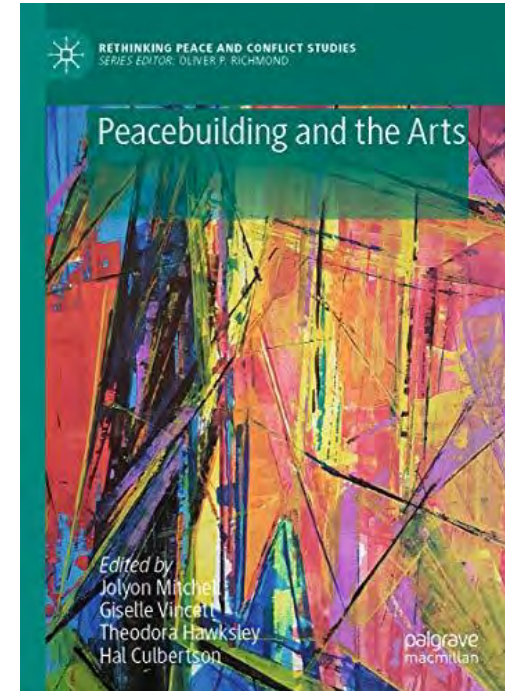LACK OF CONTRIBUTION FROM PEACE STUDIES/ INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Source: Amazon, 2021a

Source: University of Illinois, 2021

Source: Amazon, 2021b

Key Findings

2. Key Findings

LACK OF UNIFIED FRAMEWORK FOR
M&P PRACTICE AND RESEARCH

LACK OF CROSS-FERTILISATION
BETWEEN MUSIC AND PEACEBUILDING

2. Key Findings

LACK OF UNIFIED FRAMEWORK FOR
M&P PRACTICE AND RESEARCH

"We try to put elements in place that might enable a peacebuilding process. [...] The political process, that's not our process" (P08, Pos.12)

"All conflict transformation [is] connected with [...] cultural transformation" (P10 & P11, Pos.58)

2. Key Findings

LACK OF CROSS-FERTILISATION
BETWEEN MUSIC AND PEACEBUILDING

The Scientific Field

International Relations

Musicology
Incl. Ethnomusicology

Peace Studies

M&P
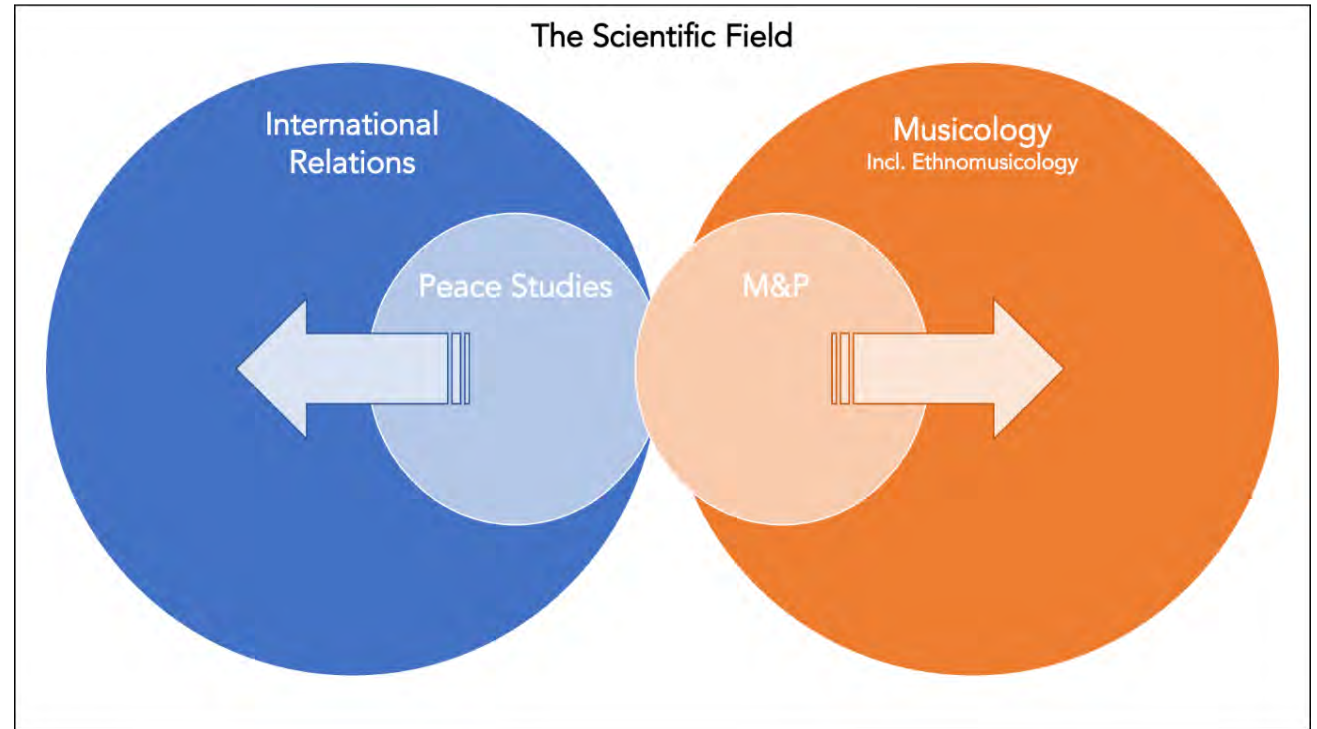
2. Key Findings

LACK OF CROSS-FERTILISATION
BETWEEN MUSIC AND PEACEBUILDING

Source: Gray, 2012

Limitations & Future Research

3. Limitations

Methodological shortcomings

Power relations inherent in music

Western bias

Feasibility

3. Future Research

DEVELOP A TRANSDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH PROGRAMME

FOCUS ON PROFESSIONAL PEACEBUILDING

CONCEPTUALISE AND TEST NEW FRAMEWORKS AND INTERVENTIONS

"It is high time for the human brain and heart to join forces to explore and apply the power of music for peaceful and effective conflict transformation."

(Urbain, 2008, p.xii)

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