



## The Mystery of Samba : Popular Music and National Identity in Brazil

By Hermano Vianna

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

**The Mystery of Samba : Popular Music and National Identity in Brazil** By Hermano Vianna

Samba is Brazil's "national rhythm" the foremost symbol of its culture and nationhood. To the outsider, samba and the famous pre-Lenten carnival of which it is the centerpiece seem to showcase the country's African heritage. Within Brazil, however, samba symbolizes the racial and cultural mixture that, since the 1930s, most Brazilians have come to believe defines their unique national identity. But how did Brazil become "the Kingdom of Samba" only a few decades after abolishing slavery in 1888? Typically, samba is represented as having changed spontaneously, mysteriously, from a "repressed" music of the marginal and impoverished to a national symbol cherished by all Brazilians. Here, however, Hermano Vianna shows that the nationalization of samba actually rested on a long history of relations between different social groups-poor and rich, weak and powerful-often working at cross-purposes to one another. A fascinating exploration of the "invention of tradition" The Mystery of Samba is an excellent introduction to Brazil's ongoing conversation on race, popular culture, and national identity.

 [Download The Mystery of Samba : Popular Music and National ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Mystery of Samba : Popular Music and Nationa ...pdf](#)

# **The Mystery of Samba : Popular Music and National Identity in Brazil**

*By Hermano Vianna*

## **The Mystery of Samba : Popular Music and National Identity in Brazil By Hermano Vianna**

Samba is Brazil's "national rhythm" the foremost symbol of its culture and nationhood. To the outsider, samba and the famous pre-Lenten carnival of which it is the centerpiece seem to showcase the country's African heritage. Within Brazil, however, samba symbolizes the racial and cultural mixture that, since the 1930s, most Brazilians have come to believe defines their unique national identity. But how did Brazil become "the Kingdom of Samba" only a few decades after abolishing slavery in 1888? Typically, samba is represented as having changed spontaneously, mysteriously, from a "repressed" music of the marginal and impoverished to a national symbol cherished by all Brazilians. Here, however, Hermano Vianna shows that the nationalization of samba actually rested on a long history of relations between different social groups—poor and rich, weak and powerful—often working at cross-purposes to one another. A fascinating exploration of the "invention of tradition" The Mystery of Samba is an excellent introduction to Brazil's ongoing conversation on race, popular culture, and national identity.

## **The Mystery of Samba : Popular Music and National Identity in Brazil By Hermano Vianna**

### **Bibliography**

- Rank: #471591 in Books
- Brand: Brand: The University of North Carolina Press
- Published on: 1999-02-16
- Released on: 1999-02-16
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.00" h x .42" w x 5.50" l, .52 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 168 pages



[Download The Mystery of Samba : Popular Music and National ...pdf](#)



[Read Online The Mystery of Samba : Popular Music and National ...pdf](#)

---

**Download and Read Free Online The Mystery of Samba : Popular Music and National Identity in Brazil By Hermano Vianna**

---

## **Editorial Review**

### From Library Journal

The "mystery" of the title is samba's transformation "from infamous outcast to (virtually official) national emblem." Brazilian anthropologist Vianna here casts a dry postmodern eye on issues of cultural invention and the identification of "authentic" folk idioms for political and commercial purposes. His long essay discusses Brazilian nation building, cultural mediators, essentialist attitudes, and individual cultural theorists. Vianna concludes that establishing the "Kingdom of Samba" was a complex process, not controlled by any one segment of Brazilian society. For contrast, readers should look at Alma Guillermoprieto's passionate Samba (LJ 1/90), a poetic report from an outsider allowed to participate in the dance. Both treatments enhance understanding. For large public and academic collections. A Bonnie Jo Dopp, Univ. of Maryland Lib., College Park

Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

### Review

This very readable book provides an interpretation of an aspect of the Brazilian culture that has remained unexplored until now.

### "Choice"

"A wonderfully knowledgeable and thoughtful investigation of how Brazil and samba helped create each other.

Alma Guillermoprieto, author of "Samba""

"An important contribution . . . to today's lively multidisciplinary discussion about race, nation, and popular culture.

"Estudios Interdisciplinarios de America Latina y El Caribe""

A wonderfully knowledgeable and thoughtful investigation of how Brazil and samba helped create each other.

Alma Guillermoprieto, author of "Samba"

An important contribution . . . to today's lively multidisciplinary discussion about race, nation, and popular culture.

"Estudios Interdisciplinarios de America Latina y El Caribe"

Hermano Vianna's new book is a valiant effort to make sense of both [Brazil's music and culture].

"Lingua Franca"

A subtle and convincing analysis of the connection between popular culture and its manipulation by the elite.

Thomas E. Skidmore, Brown University

## Review

A wonderfully knowledgeable and thoughtful investigation of how Brazil and samba helped create each other.--Alma Guillermoprieto, author of *Samba*

*The Mystery of Samba* points to the Brazilian nation's strong expression of popular culture as a long term transcultural experience between cultural elites and popular voices both inside and outside Brazil. . . . This masterful work is a very current and major contribution to the debate about culture across the social sciences and the humanities.--Nelson H. Vieira, Brown University

A subtle and convincing analysis of the connection between popular culture and its manipulation by the elite. A major contribution to our understanding of the development of Brazilian national identity.--Thomas E. Skidmore, Brown University

Despite the fact that Brazil is one of the three most prolific sources for the continuing evolution of popular music (the United States and Cuba being two others), an outsider without a decent knowledge of Portuguese must struggle to grasp the significance of the country's music and its culture. Hermano Vianna's new book is a valiant effort to make sense of both. . . . Popular music isn't only what one turns to when taking a rest from important things like writing social history. It can actually work, if sometimes indirectly, to change the world.--*Lingua Franca*

An important contribution not only to English-language scholarship on Latin American music, but also to today's lively multidisciplinary discussion about race, nation, and popular culture.--*Estudios Interdisciplinarios de America Latina y El Caribe*

This very readable book provides an interpretation of an aspect of the Brazilian culture that has remained unexplored until now.--*Choice*

## Users Review

### From reader reviews:

#### Tisha Betancourt:

The book The Mystery of Samba : Popular Music and National Identity in Brazil can give more knowledge and information about everything you want. Why then must we leave a good thing like a book The Mystery of Samba : Popular Music and National Identity in Brazil? Wide variety you have a different opinion about book. But one aim which book can give many details for us. It is absolutely suitable. Right now, try to closer with your book. Knowledge or details that you take for that, you could give for each other; you can share all of these. Book The Mystery of Samba : Popular Music and National Identity in Brazil has simple shape

however you know: it has great and large function for you. You can look the enormous world by wide open and read a publication. So it is very wonderful.

**Marguerite Boutte:**

Do you one of people who can't read pleasant if the sentence chained within the straightway, hold on guys this aren't like that. This The Mystery of Samba : Popular Music and National Identity in Brazil book is readable simply by you who hate those perfect word style. You will find the data here are arrange for enjoyable examining experience without leaving possibly decrease the knowledge that want to provide to you. The writer of The Mystery of Samba : Popular Music and National Identity in Brazil content conveys the thought easily to understand by most people. The printed and e-book are not different in the articles but it just different such as it. So , do you nevertheless thinking The Mystery of Samba : Popular Music and National Identity in Brazil is not loveable to be your top record reading book?

**Michele Fernandez:**

Is it a person who having spare time in that case spend it whole day simply by watching television programs or just lying on the bed? Do you need something new? This The Mystery of Samba : Popular Music and National Identity in Brazil can be the response, oh how comes? The new book you know. You are so out of date, spending your spare time by reading in this brand new era is common not a nerd activity. So what these guides have than the others?

**Jennifer Knott:**

As a university student exactly feel bored to help reading. If their teacher asked them to go to the library or to make summary for some book, they are complained. Just little students that has reading's spirit or real their leisure activity. They just do what the professor want, like asked to go to the library. They go to at this time there but nothing reading very seriously. Any students feel that studying is not important, boring and also can't see colorful photos on there. Yeah, it is for being complicated. Book is very important for yourself. As we know that on this time, many ways to get whatever we really wish for. Likewise word says, many ways to reach Chinese's country. Therefore this The Mystery of Samba : Popular Music and National Identity in Brazil can make you really feel more interested to read.

**Download and Read Online The Mystery of Samba : Popular Music and National Identity in Brazil By Hermano Vianna  
#F12SQI7RP8Z**

# **Read The Mystery of Samba : Popular Music and National Identity in Brazil By Hermano Vianna for online ebook**

The Mystery of Samba : Popular Music and National Identity in Brazil By Hermano Vianna Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Mystery of Samba : Popular Music and National Identity in Brazil By Hermano Vianna books to read online.

## **Online The Mystery of Samba : Popular Music and National Identity in Brazil By Hermano Vianna ebook PDF download**

**The Mystery of Samba : Popular Music and National Identity in Brazil By Hermano Vianna Doc**

**The Mystery of Samba : Popular Music and National Identity in Brazil By Hermano Vianna MobiPocket**

**The Mystery of Samba : Popular Music and National Identity in Brazil By Hermano Vianna EPub**

**F12SQI7RP8Z: The Mystery of Samba : Popular Music and National Identity in Brazil By Hermano Vianna**