

# contact high a visual history of hip hop

**\*\*Contact High: A Visual History of Hip Hop\*\***

**contact high a visual history of hip hop** is more than just a catchy phrase—it's an invitation to dive deep into the vibrant, transformative world of hip hop through the lens of photography. This phrase, originally capturing the essence of being so close to something powerful that you almost feel its energy, perfectly encapsulates the experience of witnessing hip hop's evolution visually. From grainy snapshots of block parties in the Bronx to glossy magazine covers of today's rap icons, the visual history of hip hop tells a story as rich and complex as the music itself.

## The Power of Visual Storytelling in Hip Hop

Hip hop is often celebrated for its lyrical genius, rhythmic innovation, and cultural impact, but its visual documentation has played a crucial role in shaping how the world perceives this dynamic culture. Photography, album art, graffiti, and fashion all serve as visual registers that chronicle hip hop's journey from underground movement to global phenomenon.

The phrase **\*\*contact high a visual history of hip hop\*\*** also references the groundbreaking book and exhibition that brought together hundreds of iconic images capturing hip hop's most pivotal moments. These images don't just illustrate the history—they evoke the spirit, style, and soul of each era, allowing fans to connect with hip hop on a deeper, almost tactile level.

## The Origins: Hip Hop's Visual Roots

Before hip hop exploded into mainstream consciousness, it was a grassroots movement fueled by DJs, MCs, dancers, and graffiti artists. Visuals from this era are raw and unfiltered, giving us intimate glimpses into block parties, underground clubs, and the vibrant street art that defined neighborhoods like the Bronx, Harlem, and Brooklyn.

#### Graffiti as the First Visual Voice

Graffiti was hip hop's original visual language—a bold, rebellious art form that turned urban landscapes into canvases. Early photographs of graffiti tags and murals serve as historical records of the culture's defiant spirit and creativity. These images reveal how street art was not just decoration but a form of identity, resistance, and communication.

#### Early Photography: Capturing the Movement

Photographers like Martha Cooper and Jamel Shabazz documented the birth of hip hop culture in the 1970s and '80s. Their candid shots of breakdancers, DJs spinning records, and MCs battling tell stories beyond words. These images helped spread hip hop's influence far beyond the Bronx, showing its energy and style to the world.

## Contact High: The Book and Exhibition

The 2018 release of *\*Contact High: A Visual History of Hip-Hop\** curated by Vikki Tobak was a landmark moment in hip hop historiography. The book features over 200 photographs alongside stories from the photographers themselves, offering insider perspectives on how these iconic images came to be.

### #### Behind the Lens: Photographers Who Shaped Hip Hop's Image

Many of the photographers featured in *\*Contact High\** were not just passive observers but active participants in the culture. Their work helped define the visual identity of hip hop, capturing moments that would become legendary: Run-DMC's swagger, Tupac's intensity, Notorious B.I.G.'s charisma, and Lauryn Hill's grace.

In interviews, these photographers reveal how building trust with artists was crucial to capturing authentic moments. This human connection adds layers of meaning to the images, showing that hip hop's visual history is as much about relationships as it is about aesthetics.

## Visual Evolution: Hip Hop Through the Decades

Hip hop's visual narrative is a fascinating journey that mirrors the genre's musical and cultural shifts. Each decade brought new styles, technologies, and social contexts that influenced how hip hop was portrayed and perceived.

### #### The 1980s: From the Streets to the Spotlight

In the 1980s, hip hop started to enter mainstream media. Music videos became a powerful medium for visual storytelling, with artists like Run-DMC and LL Cool J pioneering a look that combined streetwear with a newfound commercial appeal. Photographs and visuals from this time reflect a blend of gritty realism and emerging celebrity culture.

### #### The 1990s: Golden Age Glamour and Grit

The 1990s are often called hip hop's "Golden Age," and visuals from this era are iconic. The East Coast-West Coast rivalry, flashy jewelry, and designer fashions are all immortalized in photographs, album covers, and films. This period saw hip hop's aesthetics become a symbol of success and power, while still rooted in

stories of struggle and resilience.

#### #### The 2000s and Beyond: Global Reach and Digital Revolution

With the rise of the internet and social media, hip hop's visual history exploded in diversity and accessibility. Artists could now craft their images in real-time, using platforms like Instagram and YouTube. Photography styles also evolved, embracing everything from high fashion editorials to street snaps, reflecting hip hop's global influence and multifaceted identity.

## The Role of Album Art and Fashion in Hip Hop's Visual History

Album covers have always been a vital part of hip hop's visual expression. From Public Enemy's politically charged imagery to Kanye West's minimalist designs, album art communicates messages that go beyond music.

Fashion, too, is inseparable from hip hop's visual story. The evolution of style—from Adidas tracksuits and Kangol hats to luxury brands and avant-garde looks—tells its own tale of cultural shifts, economic change, and identity.

## Tips for Exploring Hip Hop's Visual History

If you're new to the world of hip hop photography and visual culture, here are some ways to deepen your appreciation:

- **Explore Iconic Photography Books**: Start with *Contact High: A Visual History of Hip-Hop* to see a curated collection of legendary images.
- **Visit Exhibitions and Museums**: Many museums now feature hip hop photography exhibitions that offer immersive experiences.
- **Follow Contemporary Photographers**: Social media is full of emerging artists documenting today's hip hop scene with fresh perspectives.
- **Study Album Covers and Music Videos**: These are rich sources of visual storytelling that reflect the artist's identity and the culture's evolution.
- **Learn About Graffiti and Street Art**: Understanding hip hop's roots in urban art helps contextualize the visuals you see.

## Why Visual History Matters in Hip Hop

Hip hop is often described as a voice for the voiceless, and its visual history amplifies that voice. Images

capture the unfiltered reality of communities, struggles, celebrations, and creativity. They serve as cultural archives that preserve moments which might otherwise be lost to time.

By engaging with the visual history of hip hop, fans and scholars alike gain insight into the social dynamics, artistic innovations, and personal stories behind the music. This multidimensional approach enriches our understanding and keeps the culture vibrant and relevant.

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Hip hop's story is as much about what we see as what we hear. The phrase **'Contact High: A Visual History of Hip Hop'** invites us to get close, feel the energy, and appreciate the powerful images that have shaped one of the most influential cultural movements of our time. Whether through a photograph, graffiti, or fashion, hip hop's visual legacy continues to inspire, educate, and connect generations around the world.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What is 'Contact High: A Visual History of Hip Hop' about?**

'Contact High: A Visual History of Hip Hop' is a book that showcases iconic hip hop photography and tells the stories behind the images, highlighting the culture, artists, and moments that shaped hip hop history.

### **Who are the authors or creators behind 'Contact High: A Visual History of Hip Hop'?**

The book was created by Vikki Tobak, a former music industry executive and photographer, who curated and compiled the collection of hip hop photographs and stories.

### **What makes 'Contact High' unique compared to other hip hop history books?**

'Contact High' is unique because it focuses on the visual aspect of hip hop history through rare and iconic photographs, accompanied by firsthand stories from photographers and artists, offering an intimate look into the culture.

### **Are there any notable photographers featured in 'Contact High: A Visual History of Hip Hop'?**

Yes, the book features work from legendary hip hop photographers such as Janette Beckman, Danny Clinch, Ricky Powell, and others who captured pivotal moments in hip hop history.

## **Has 'Contact High: A Visual History of Hip Hop' been adapted into any other formats?**

Yes, alongside the book, there has been a traveling exhibition featuring the photographs from 'Contact High,' allowing fans to experience the visual history of hip hop in a gallery setting.

## **How does 'Contact High' contribute to the preservation of hip hop culture?**

'Contact High' preserves hip hop culture by documenting its visual history through photographs and stories that might otherwise be lost, offering a rich, authentic archive for future generations.

## **What time period does 'Contact High: A Visual History of Hip Hop' cover?**

The book covers hip hop from its early days in the late 1970s through its evolution into the 2000s, capturing key moments and figures across decades.

## **Where can fans purchase or view 'Contact High: A Visual History of Hip Hop'?**

'Contact High' is available for purchase at major bookstores, online retailers like Amazon, and the accompanying exhibition is hosted in various museums and galleries worldwide.

## **Additional Resources**

Contact High: A Visual History of Hip Hop

**contact high a visual history of hip hop** stands as an evocative exploration into the cultural and artistic evolution of one of the most influential music genres of the past five decades. More than just a chronicle of sound, this visual history captures the essence of hip hop's rise from the streets of the Bronx to a global cultural phenomenon. Through powerful imagery and compelling narratives, Contact High offers a unique window into the movement's visual identity, showcasing iconic photographs that have shaped public perception and documented the genre's dynamic trajectory.

## **The Significance of Visual Storytelling in Hip Hop Culture**

Hip hop is intrinsically tied to visual culture. From graffiti and breakdancing to fashion and album art, the

genre's history is as much about imagery as it is about lyrics and beats. *Contact High* a visual history of hip hop emphasizes this integral connection by compiling a collection of photographs that reveal the genre's multifaceted nature. The book and exhibition serve as a testament to how photographers and artists have framed hip hop's narrative, capturing moments that resonate far beyond the music itself.

The importance of photography in hip hop cannot be overstated. Iconic images—whether candid shots of artists in studios, concert performances, or street scenes—have contributed to constructing hip hop's mythology. These photographs provide authentic glimpses into the lives and personalities of key figures such as Tupac Shakur, The Notorious B.I.G., Run-DMC, and Nas, among others. *Contact High* harnesses this power, inviting viewers to engage with hip hop through a visual lens that complements its sonic richness.

## **Curating Contact High: A Collaborative Effort**

*Contact High* was curated by Vikki Tobak, a veteran music journalist and photographer whose deep understanding of both hip hop and visual media underpins the project's success. Tobak's curation involved collaborations with more than 100 photographers who have documented hip hop's golden era and contemporary scenes alike. This collaborative approach enriches the narrative, offering diverse perspectives that collectively map hip hop's visual history.

The name "*Contact High*" itself is a clever nod to photography's technical roots—the contact sheet—a tool photographers use to review shots before selecting the final image. This metaphor extends to the idea of “catching a contact high” from the powerful energy and creativity captured in these images. It signals the immersive experience that the visual history provides, enabling audiences to feel the pulse of hip hop culture through still frames.

## **Key Themes Explored in Contact High**

*Contact High* a visual history of hip hop is organized around several thematic pillars that trace the genre's growth and cultural impact. These themes provide structure to the visual narrative while highlighting the complex layers that define hip hop.

## **The Origins and Early Days**

The visual documentation of hip hop's inception in the 1970s is crucial for understanding its roots. *Contact High* features rare and intimate photographs that depict early block parties, DJ sets, and the birth of breakdancing. Images of pioneers like DJ Kool Herc and Afrika Bambaataa contextualize the socio-economic and political backdrop of the Bronx during this period. These photographs are not merely historical artifacts; they illustrate the grassroots nature of hip hop, which emerged as a form of expression and resistance in

marginalized communities.

## **Golden Age and Mainstream Breakthrough**

Moving into the 1980s and early 1990s, hip hop underwent a transformative phase often referred to as the “Golden Age.” *Contact High* captures this era’s vibrancy through images of trailblazing artists who expanded the genre’s sonic and lyrical boundaries. The photographs from this time reflect the growing diversity within hip hop, showcasing East Coast and West Coast styles, as well as the emergence of socially conscious rap. Iconic album covers and fashion statements from Run-DMC, Public Enemy, and A Tribe Called Quest underscore hip hop’s increasing influence on popular culture.

## **The Business of Hip Hop and Celebrity Culture**

As hip hop commercialized in the 1990s and 2000s, *Contact High* also explores how photography documented the genre’s entanglement with celebrity culture and the music industry’s commodification. Images of artists like Jay-Z, Missy Elliott, and OutKast highlight the shift toward global stardom and corporate branding. The visual history reveals both the empowerment and challenges that came with hip hop’s mainstream success, illustrating a complex interplay between artistic integrity and commercial pressures.

## **Impact on Contemporary Visual Culture**

The influence of *Contact High* extends beyond its role as a historical record. By foregrounding visual culture, the project has inspired a new generation of photographers, designers, and artists who continue to shape hip hop’s aesthetic. The book and exhibitions have sparked renewed interest in analog photography techniques and archival preservation within hip hop communities.

Moreover, the visual narratives within *Contact High* emphasize the enduring role of imagery in social commentary and identity formation. Hip hop’s visual history is not static; it evolves as artists use photography and videography to confront issues such as racial injustice, gender, and globalization. This dynamic aspect ensures that *Contact High* remains relevant as both an educational resource and a cultural artifact.

## **Visual Elements That Define Hip Hop**

- **Photography:** Candid and staged images of artists, crowds, and behind-the-scenes moments.
- **Album Art:** Graphic designs that became synonymous with hip hop's brand identity.
- **Fashion:** Styles immortalized in photographs, reflecting hip hop's influence on streetwear and luxury brands.
- **Graffiti and Street Art:** Visual expressions that parallel hip hop's lyrical creativity.

Each element plays a crucial role in crafting hip hop's visual lexicon, which Contact High brings to life through a curated, accessible format.

## Comparative Perspectives: Contact High vs. Other Hip Hop Documentaries

While many documentaries and books focus primarily on hip hop's musical evolution or biographical accounts of its stars, Contact High distinguishes itself through its exclusive focus on photography. This sets it apart from projects like "Hip-Hop Evolution" or "The Defiant Ones," which emphasize interviews and music production. The photographic approach provides a visceral, immediate connection to moments frozen in time, allowing audiences to engage with hip hop's history on a visual and emotional level.

However, the reliance on photography also means that Contact High sometimes sacrifices narrative depth for aesthetic impact. Without extensive contextual commentary, some images require viewers to possess prior knowledge of hip hop history to fully appreciate their significance. This trade-off, while limiting for some, ultimately reinforces the book's role as a visual companion to broader hip hop scholarship.

## The Role of Contact High in Hip Hop Archiving and Education

In academic and cultural institutions, Contact High has become a valuable resource for studying hip hop's visual culture. Its comprehensive and diverse photographic collection aids educators in illustrating the genre's complex history and social impact. Additionally, the project has helped legitimize hip hop photography as an art form worthy of preservation and critical study.

The accessibility of Contact High to both hip hop aficionados and newcomers fosters cross-generational dialogue. By preserving these images, the project combats the erasure of hip hop's roots and highlights the genre's continuing relevance in contemporary society.



The visual history presented in *Contact High* thus serves multiple functions: it archives, educates, and inspires, making it an indispensable part of hip hop's cultural legacy.

## **Contact High A Visual History Of Hip Hop**

**contact high a visual history of hip hop: Contact High** Vikki Tobak, 2018-10-16 ONE OF AMAZON'S BEST ART & PHOTOGRAPHY BOOKS OF 2018 AN NPR AND PITCHFORK BEST MUSIC BOOK OF 2018 PICK ONE OF TIME'S 25 BEST PHOTOBOOKS OF 2018 NEW YORK TIMES, ASSOCIATED PRESS, WALLSTREET JOURNAL, ROLLING STONE, AND CHICAGO SUN HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE PICK The perfect gift for music and photography fans, an inside look at the work of hip-hop photographers told through their most intimate diaries—their contact sheets. Featuring rare outtakes from over 100 photoshoots alongside interviews and essays from industry legends, *Contact High: A Visual History of Hip-Hop* takes readers on a chronological journey from old-school to alternative hip-hop and from analog to digital photography. The ultimate companion for music and photography enthusiasts, *Contact High* is the definitive history of hip-hop's early days, celebrating the artists that shaped the iconic album covers, t-shirts and posters beloved by hip-hop fans today. With essays from BILL ADLER, RHEA L. COMBS, FAB 5 FREDDY, MICHAEL GONZALES, YOUNG GURU, DJ PREMIER, and RZA

**contact high a visual history of hip hop: Listen to Hip Hop!** Anthony J. Fonseca, Melissa Ursula Dawn Goldsmith, 2021-09-09 *Listen to Hip Hop! Exploring a Musical Genre* provides an overview of hip-hop music for scholars and fans of the genre, with a focus on 50 defining artists, songs, and albums. *Listen to Hip Hop! Exploring a Musical Genre* explores non-rap hip hop music, and as such it serves as a compliment to *Listen to Rap! Exploring a Musical Genre* (Greenwood Press, Anthony J. Fonseca, 2019), which discussed at length 50 must-hear rap artists, albums, and songs. This book aims to provide a close listening/reading of a diverse set of songs and lyrics by a variety of artists who represent different styles outside of rap music. Most entries focus on specific songs, carefully analyzing and deconstructing musical elements, discussing their sound, and paying close attention to instrumentation and production values—including sampling, a staple of rap and an element used in some hip hop dance songs. Though some of the artists included may be normally associated with other musical genres and use hip hop elements sparingly, those in this book have achieved iconic status. Finally, sections on the background and history of hip hop, hip hop's impact on popular culture, and the legacy of hip hop provide context through which readers can approach the entries.

**contact high a visual history of hip hop: The City of Hip-Hop** Rob Swift, Rasul A. Mowatt, 2024-12-17 *The City of Hip-Hop* positions a unique conceptualization of the history of Hip-Hop, that it was a combination of forces that produced the environment for Hip-Hop to specifically grow in the geographies of New York City and its boroughs. This book argues it was the political forces of the 1970s combined with the economic forces of free market capitalism and privatization of public services, neoliberalism, and the social forces of the deindustrialization of major cities and displacement of populations that led the cultural creation of the “Boogie Down” Bronx. *The City of Hip-Hop* shows how Hip-Hop is a socio-political reaction that created an alternate reality with a geographic specificity, and it is the interplay with those forces that nurtured it to become the culture force that we know it today in New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Los Angeles, Chicago, London, Manchester, Liverpool, Berlin, São Paulo, Tokyo, Washington D.C., Seattle, Paris, Houston, Dallas, Miami, Atlanta, Detroit, Toronto, Cleveland, Johannesburg, Barcelona, Belfast, Gaza City, and elsewhere. Once those of us as fans of the culture zoom out to see such a bigger picture, a much-needed criticism and retelling of the culture and art of Hip-Hop emerges as our understanding. This book is essential for preservers of the culture, students, scholars, and general

readers interested in urban planning, urban design, urban geography, place-making, American Studies, Cultural Studies, Black Studies, and Latin American Studies.

**contact high a visual history of hip hop: Fashion Killa** Sowmya Krishnamurthy, 2024-09-03 A cinematic narrative of glamour, grit, luxury, and luck, Fashion Killa draws on exclusive interviews with the leaders of the fashion world to tell the story of the hip-hop artists, designers, stylists, and unsung heroes who fought the power and reinvented style around the world over the last fifty years. Set in the sartorial scenes of New York, Paris, and Milan, journalist Sowmya Krishnamurthy's reporting on the intersecting histories of hip-hop and contemporary fashion focuses on the risk takers and rebels-the artists, designers, stylists, models, and tastemakers-who challenged a systemic power structure and historically reinvented the world of haute couture. Fashion Killa is a classic tale of a modern renaissance; of an exclusionary industry gate-crashed by innovators; of impresarios-Sean Diddy Combs, Dapper Dan, Virgil Abloh-boosting hip-hop from the streets to the stratosphere; of supernovas-Lil' Kim, Cardi B, and Megan Thee Stallion-allying with kingmakers-Anna Wintour, Donatella Versace, and Ralph Lauren; of traditionalist fashion houses-Louis Vuitton, Fendi, and Saint Laurent-transformed into temples of rap gods like Kanye West, Nicki Minaj, and Travis Scott. Krishnamurthy explores the connections between the DIY hip-hop scene and the exclusive upper-echelons of high fashion. She tracks the influence of music and streetwear on the most exclusive (and exclusionary) luxury brands. At the intersection of cultural commentary and oral history, Fashion Killa commemorates the contributions of hip-hop to music, fashion, and our culture at large--

**contact high a visual history of hip hop: Spirit Behind the Lens** Eddie Otchere, 2024-09-10 The collected photographic works of Eddie Otchere, Britain's foremost chronicler of Black youth culture. Spirit Behind the Lens takes the reader into the visual world of one of hip-hop's most enigmatic photographers: Eddie Otchere. Hailing from the epicentre of London's jungle scene, this book documents how Otchere crafted the visual identities of house, garage, jungle, drum n bass and hip-hop, working with artists including Biggie Smalls, Wu-Tang Clan, Lil Louis, So Solid Crew, Kemet Crew, Goldie and Black Star. Accompanied by a written memoir in which Otchere outlines his practice, influence and personal history, Spirit Behind the Lens is not only a history of Black culture told through the work of its greatest and most influential photographer, but a manual on how to navigate the emotional aspects of being creative and an exploration of the romance of photography itself.

**contact high a visual history of hip hop: Baby Girl: Better Known as Aaliyah** Kathy Iandoli, 2022-08-23 By twenty-two years old, Aaliyah had already accomplished a staggering amount: hit records, acclaimed acting roles, and fame that was just about to cross over into superstardom. Like her song, she was already more than a woman but her shocking death in a plane crash prevented her from fully growing into one. Now, two decades later, the full story of Aaliyah's life and cultural impact is finally and lovingly revealed. Baby Girl features never-before-told stories, including studio anecdotes, personal tales, and eyewitness accounts on the events leading up to her untimely passing. Her enduring influence on today's artists--such as Rihanna, Drake, Normani, and many more--is also celebrated, providing Aaliyah's discography a cultural critique that is long overdue. --Provided by publisher.

**contact high a visual history of hip hop: From the Streets of Shaolin** S. H. Fernando Jr., 2021-07-06 This definitive biography of rap supergroup, Wu-Tang Clan, features decades of unpublished interviews and unparalleled access to members of the group and their associates. This is the definitive biography of rap supergroup and cultural icons, Wu-Tang Clan (WTC). Heralded as one of the most influential groups in modern music--hip hop or otherwise--WTC created a rap dynasty on the strength of seven gold and platinum albums that launched the careers of such famous rappers as RZA, GZA, Ol' Dirty Bastard, Raekwon, Ghostface Killah, Method Man, and more. During the '90s, they ushered in a hip-hop renaissance, rescuing rap from the corporate suites and bringing it back to the gritty streets where it started. In the process they changed the way business was conducted in an industry known for exploiting artists. Creatively, Wu-Tang pushed the boundaries of

the artform dedicating themselves to lyrical mastery and sonic innovation, and one would be hard pressed to find a group who's had a bigger impact on the evolution of hip hop. S.H. Fernando Jr., a veteran music journalist who spent a significant amount of time with The Clan during their heyday of the '90s, has written extensively about the group for such publications as Rolling Stone, Vibe, and The Source. Over the years he has built up a formidable Wu-Tang archive that includes pages of unpublished interviews, videos of the group in action in the studio, and several notepads of accumulated memories and observations. Using such exclusive access as well as the wealth of open-source material, Fernando reconstructs the genesis and evolution of the group, delving into their unique ideology and range of influences, and detailing exactly how they changed the game and established a legacy that continues to this day. The book provides a startling portrait of overcoming adversity through self-empowerment and brotherhood, giving us unparalleled insights into what makes these nine young men from the ghetto tick. While celebrating the myriad accomplishments of The Clan, the book doesn't shy away from controversy—we're also privy to stories from their childhoods in the crack-infested hallways of Staten Island housing projects, stints in Rikers for gun possession, and million-dollar contracts that led to recklessness and drug overdoses (including Ol' Dirty Bastard's untimely death). More than simply a history of a single group, this book tells the story of a musical and cultural shift that started on the streets of Shaolin (Staten Island) and quickly spread around the world. Biographies on such an influential outfit are surprisingly few, mostly focused on a single member of the group's story. This book weaves together interviews from all the Clan members, as well as their friends, family and collaborators to create a compelling narrative and the most three-dimensional portrait of Wu-Tang to date. It also puts The Clan within a social, cultural, and historical perspective to fully appreciate their impact and understand how they have become the cultural icons they are today. Unique in its breadth, scope, and access, *From The Streets of Shaolin* is a must-have for fans of WTC and music bios in general.

**contact high a visual history of hip hop: Dangerous Visions and New Worlds** Andrew Nette, Iain McIntyre, 2021-10-26 Much has been written about the “long Sixties,” the era of the late 1950s through the early 1970s. It was a period of major social change, most graphically illustrated by the emergence of liberatory and resistance movements focused on inequalities of class, race, gender, sexuality, and beyond, whose challenge represented a major shock to the political and social status quo. With its focus on speculation, alternate worlds and the future, science fiction became an ideal vessel for this upsurge of radical protest. *Dangerous Visions and New Worlds: Radical Science Fiction, 1950 to 1985* details, celebrates, and evaluates how science fiction novels and authors depicted, interacted with, and were inspired by these cultural and political movements in America and Great Britain. It starts with progressive authors who rose to prominence in the conservative 1950s, challenging the so-called Golden Age of science fiction and its linear narratives of technological breakthroughs and space-conquering male heroes. The book then moves through the 1960s, when writers, including those in what has been termed the New Wave, shattered existing writing conventions and incorporated contemporary themes such as modern mass media culture, corporate control, growing state surveillance, the Vietnam War, and rising currents of counterculture, ecological awareness, feminism, sexual liberation, and Black Power. The 1970s, when the genre reflected the end of various dreams of the long Sixties and the faltering of the postwar boom, is also explored along with the first half of the 1980s, which gave rise to new subgenres, such as cyberpunk. *Dangerous Visions and New Worlds* contains over twenty chapters written by contemporary authors and critics, and hundreds of full-color cover images, including thirteen thematically organised cover selections. New perspectives on key novels and authors, such as Octavia Butler, Ursula K. Le Guin, Philip K. Dick, John Wyndham, Samuel Delany, J.G. Ballard, John Brunner, Judith Merrill, Barry Malzberg, Joanna Russ, and many others are presented alongside excavations of topics, works, and writers who have been largely forgotten or undeservedly ignored.

**contact high a visual history of hip hop: Achieving Social Justice Through Music: Influence of Hip-Hop and Rap** Simmons, Janelle Christine, 2025-07-23 Hip-hop and rap emerged as a powerful cultural response to systemic inequality, social displacement, and economic hardship. Rooted in

artistic expression, storytelling, and resistance, hip-hop and rap became a means for marginalized voices to reclaim agency, shared lived experiences, and foster community identity. Their evolution from a local street movement to a global phenomenon illustrates their role not just as entertainment, but as a form of protest, pedagogy, and social commentary. These genres have influenced education, politics, and mental health practices, showing that hip-hop and rap are not only cultural artifacts but also catalysts for dialogue and change. Understanding their history and impact allows society to better appreciate their potential as a tool for empowerment, healing, and justice. *Achieving Social Justice Through Music: Influence of Hip-Hop and Rap* addresses the history of hip-hop, the differences between hip-hop and rap, the business and money behind and surrounding hip-hop, and more. It further examines how hip-hop became a cry for social justice. Covering topics such as evangelization, poverty, and social justice, this book is an excellent resource for researchers, academicians, historians, hip-hop counselors, hip-hop practitioners, non-profit executives, educators, students, and more.

**contact high a visual history of hip hop:** *Music* DK, 2019-12-20 Humans have always made music and this authoritative and lavishly illustrated guide is your companion to its fascinating history across the globe. Music - that mysterious alchemy of harmonies, lyrics, and rhythm - is a constant in our lives. Discover how music has evolved with human society, accompanying our leisure, religious rituals, and popular festivities. Watch its development during prehistory and before musical notation, when melodies were memorized or improvised. Enjoy galleries of historical instruments such as dulcimers, shawms, psalteries, and tabor pipes. The universal language of music is expressed in an astonishing number of styles today, and *Music* presents its evolution around the globe, including the classical European tradition of JS Bach, the passionate sounds of Spain's flamenco, and the sonic power of electronica and heavy rock. With spectacular timelines of key events and profiles of musicians from Amadeus Mozart to David Bowie, *Music* is an unrivaled and comprehensive reference. Whether you are into the Blues, Brahms, or Bhangra, it is essential reading and guaranteed to hit the right note.

**contact high a visual history of hip hop:** *Ice Cold. A Hip-Hop Jewelry History* Vikki Tobak, 2022-09 *Ice Cold: A Hip-Hop Jewelry History* presents the bling culture of rappers and their jewelry. Using 40 years of iconic imagery and compelling stories, this visual history shines a light on the world of hip-hop, where mega stars from Run-DMC to Tupac and Jay-Z to Migos and Cardi B flash brilliant custom pieces to show status and personal style.

**contact high a visual history of hip hop:** *Unpackaging Art of the 1980s* Alison Pearlman, 2003-06-15 American art of the 1980s is as misunderstood as it is notorious. Critics of the time feared that market hype and self-promotion threatened the integrity of art. They lashed out at contemporary art, questioning the validity of particular media and methods and dividing the art into opposing camps. While controversies have since subsided, critics still view art of the 1980s as a stylistic battlefield. Alison Pearlman rejects this picture, which is truer of the period's criticism than of its art. Pearlman reassesses the works and careers of six artists who became critics' biggest targets. In each of three chapters, she pairs two artists the critics viewed as emblematic of a given trend: Julian Schnabel and David Salle in association with Neo-Expressionism; Jean-Michel Basquiat and Keith Haring vis-à-vis Graffiti Art; and Peter Halley and Jeff Koons in relation to Simulationism. Pearlman shows how all these artists shared important but unrecognized influences and approaches: a crucial and overwhelming inheritance of 1960s and 1970s Conceptualism, a Warholian understanding of public identity, and a deliberate and nuanced use of past styles and media. Through in-depth discussions of works, from Haring's body-paintings of Grace Jones to Schnabel's movie Basquiat, Pearlman demonstrates how these artists' interests exemplified a broader, generational shift unrecognized by critics. She sees this shift as starting not in the 1980s but in the mid-1970s, when key developments in artistic style, art-world structures, and consumer culture converged to radically alter the course of American art. *Unpackaging Art of the 1980s* offers an innovative approach to one of the most significant yet least understood episodes in twentieth-century art.

**contact high a visual history of hip hop: Hip-hop Revolution** Jeffrey Ogbonna Green Ogar, 2007 As hip-hop artists constantly struggle to keep it real, this fascinating study examines the debates over the core codes of hip-hop authenticity--as it reflects and reacts to problematic black images in popular culture--placing hip-hop in its proper cultural, political, and social contexts.

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lyricists, songs, musical genres, places, instruments, technologies, music in films, music in political realms, and music shows on television.

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**contact high a visual history of hip hop:** *Aesthetics of Excess* Jillian Hernandez, 2020-09-21 Heavy makeup, gaudy jewelry, dramatic hairstyles, and clothes that are considered cheap, fake, too short, too tight, or too masculine: working-class Black and Latina girls and women are often framed as embodying excessive styles that are presumed to indicate sexual deviance. In *Aesthetics of Excess* Jillian Hernandez examines how middle-class discourses of aesthetic value racialize the bodies of women and girls of color. At the same time, their style can be a source of cultural capital when appropriated by the contemporary art scene. Drawing on her community arts work with Black and Latina girls in Miami, Hernandez analyzes the art and self-image of these girls alongside works produced by contemporary artists and pop musicians such as Wangechi Mutu, Kara Walker, and Nicki Minaj. Through these relational readings, Hernandez shows how notions of high and low culture are complicated when women and girls of color engage in cultural production and how they challenge the policing of their bodies and sexualities through artistic authorship.

**contact high a visual history of hip hop: Standard Catalog for High School Libraries** H.W. Wilson Company, 1997 Each vol. is divided into 2 parts 1st-7th ed.: Dictionary catalog and Classified catalog; 8th-9th ed. have 3rd. part: Directory of publishers.

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