



PRESS RELEASE

The Rough Guide to Hip Hop

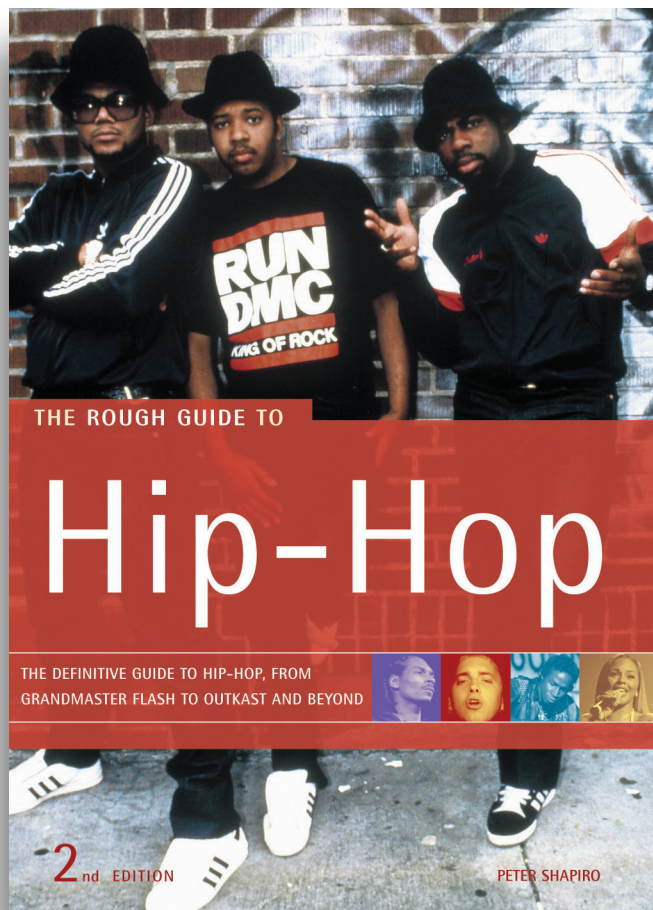
Hip-Hop maybe all about lyrical flow, but it has never been about simplistic narratives or smooth, progressions. Like the music itself, Hip-Hop's history has been characterized by ludicrous leaps of imagination, flights of fancy and derring-do.

The **Rough Guide to Hip-Hop** follows Hip-Hop culture in all its aspects, both musical (DJ-ing and MC-ing) and visual (graffiti and breakdancing), from its origins as the urban folk culture of the mid-70s Bronx to its present status as the most important and best-selling genre of modern music. Containing everything you need to know about the world's most exciting music, the **Rough Guide** is a one stop A-Z of the best rappers, DJs, breakdancers, beatboxers and graffiti writers, with all the producers, record labels and players behind the scenes thrown in too. From old school pioneers such as Grandmaster Flash and the Sugar Hill Gang, through acts like Public Enemy and the Beastie Boys, to current superstars such as Eminem, 50 Cent and Jay-Z, this Rough Guide has got it covered.

Extensive biographies, recommended albums and hundreds of photos tell Hip-Hop's story. Plus there are boxes on Hip-Hop's fashions, films, feuds and fads, alongside topics like Hip-Hop slang and sub-genres.

Following Hip-Hop's basic tenet of competition, the Rough Guide to Hip-Hop is as opinionated as it is comprehensive, and will spark as many debates and cause as many beefs as it quashes.

Author Peter Shapiro is a regular contributor to *The Wire* magazine, and an avid collector of, and expert on, Hip-Hop, funk and soul.



The Rough Guide to Hip Hop

2nd edition

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