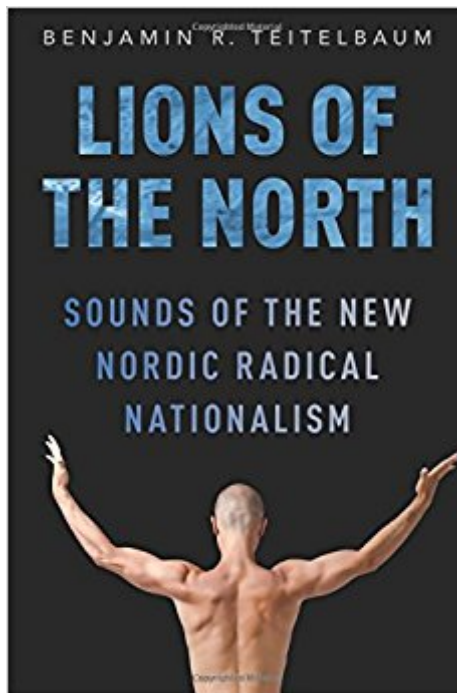




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Lions Of The North: Sounds Of The New Nordic Radical Nationalism



Synopsis

Often labeled "neo-Nazis" or "right-wing extremists," radical nationalists in the Nordic countries have always relied on music to voice their opposition to immigration and multiculturalism. These actors shook political establishments throughout Sweden, Denmark, and Norway during the 1980s and 1990s by rallying around white power music and skinhead subculture. But though nationalists once embraced a reputation for crude chauvinism, they are now seeking to reinvent themselves as upstanding and righteous, and they are using music to do it. *Lions of the North* explores this transformation of anti-immigrant activism in the Nordic countries as it manifests in thought and sound. Offering a rare ethnographic glimpse into controversial and secretive political movements, it investigates changes in the music nationalists make and patronize, reading their puzzling embrace of lite pop, folk music, even rap and reggae as attempts to escape stereotypes and craft a new image for themselves. *Lions of the North* not only exposes the dynamic relationship between music and politics, but also the ways radical nationalism is adapting to succeed in some of the most liberal societies in the world.

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Customer Reviews

"*Lions of the North* is a deftly crafted and immensely captivating account of how music plays a key part in the inner workings of Nordic radical nationalist groups. By convincingly arguing for, and consistently applying a "collaborative" approach to ethnographic fieldwork, Teitelbaum avoids any notions of underlying advocacy, a tendency which characterizes many studies on extremist groups.

This fearless and thoughtful approach transcends existing scholarship, opening for innovative perspectives that challenge us to see the motivations of radical groups in a new light...Teitelbaum's exceptional, but well-argued approach to fieldwork is challenging and provocative, and is poised to spark discussions among a wide array of scholars."--Jan Sverre Knudsen, Professor, Oslo and Akershus University College"Teitelbaum's vivid and highly readable documentation of the Scandinavian far right music scene encourages us to take racist subcultures, their international links, and the sheer creative vitality of their racism and xenophobia seriously as a strategy for perpetuating dreams of national-racial rebirth in a democratic age."--Roger Griffin, author of *The Nature of Fascism*"Lions of the North is a very timely book, which captures the rise of Sweden's radical nationalism as the music of the right is transforming diverse political groups into a widespread anti-immigrant movement. Teitelbaum's penetrating, often disturbing, analysis of European musical politics today is critical reading."--Philip V. Bohlman, Ludwig Rosenberger Distinguished Service Professor in Jewish History, The University of Chicago, and author of *Jewish Music and Modernity*"Teitelbaum explores with elegance the differences between nationalist factions today ... A brilliant approach [studying the far right through its music] ... During a time when attempts to explain the growth of the extreme right seem only to point to the failures of the left, it is uplifting to read such a methodical account from the inside of the extreme right" -- Aftonbladet

Benjamin R. Teitelbaum earned his Ph.D. in ethnomusicology from Brown University in 2013. He is Assistant Professor of Ethnomusicology and former Head of Nordic Studies at the University of Colorado, Boulder, and has been affiliate faculty in Music and International Affairs since 2012. His research focuses on western ultraconservatism, music in the Nordic countries, and music and politics.

A well-written book that could not have come more timely.

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