Groove Music: The Art and Culture of the Hip-Hop DJ (Mark Katz)

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Keywords: hip-hop, DJ, turntablism
"What to ask women composers?" asks Magdalena Olszanowski (while undertaking feminist fieldwork) • David Madden cross-dresses to backbeats as he uncovers the politics of electroclash • Simon A. Morrison says deviant clubs aren’t quite like they appear on the big screen

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Reviews
In its earliest form, the music and culture of hip hop boasted five key areas of activity: break-dance, graffiti, rap, DJ'ing and knowledge. Each of these so-called tenets of hip hop has come under varying degrees of scrutiny in the academy, with particular interest being shown - perhaps not surprisingly - in the area of knowledge. To say that Mark Katz’s extensive research into this understudied area is long overdue is an understatement. This excellent book draws on 10 years of interviews with some of the key figures in hip hop’s emergence and development in order to explore the art, culture, geography and technology of the hip hop DJ, or turntablist. The hip hop DJ’s battle weapons eventually extended beyond breakbeats and into the entirely new realm of scratching. Katz, Mark. Year: 2012. Other readers will always be interested in your opinion of the books you’ve read. Whether you’ve loved the book or not, if you give your honest and detailed thoughts then people will find new books that are right for them. 1. Fires, fuel & the fate of three billion: the state of the energy impoverished. Oxford University Press. Katzman, Mark, Yadama, Gautam N. By Mark Katz. New York: Oxford University Press, 2012. Loren Kajikawa. 1 For other books that devote significant attention to the history of hip-hop DJing, see Rose, Tricia, Black Noise: Rap Music and Black Culture in Contemporary America (Hanover, NH: Wesleyan University Press, 1994); Schloss, Joseph, Making Beats: The Art of Sample-Based Hip-Hop (Middletown, CT: Wesleyan University Press, 2004); Chang, Jeff, Can't Stop, Won't Stop: A History of the Hip-Hop Generation (New York: St. Martin's Press, 2005); Charnas, Dan, The Big Payback: The History of the Business of Hip-Hop (New York: New American Library, 2010). 2 Schloss, Joseph, Foundation: B-B In Groove Music, Katz (an amateur DJ himself) delves into the fascinating world of the DJ, tracing the art of the turntable from its humble beginnings in the Bronx in the 1970s to its meteoric rise to global phenomenon today. Based on extensive interviews with practicing DJs, historical research, and his own personal experience, Katz presents a history of hip-hop from the point of view of the people who invented the genre. Here, DJs step up to discuss a wide range of topics, including the transformation of the turntable from a playback device to an instrument in its own right, the highly charg