

Red Hot Chili Peppers Review

Are you a rock fan searching for something different? A combination of funk and punk rock with flair? I've got the perfect band for you, starts with Red, ends with Peppers and it'll be a sensation you can't let go of. Red Hot Chili Peppers, an American Rock band, is bound to catch your eye through its visually immersive album art to its namesake. Formed in 1982 in Los Angeles California, vocalist Anthony Kiedis, bassist Michael Peter Balzary (also known as Flea), guitarist Hillel Slovak and drummer Jack Irons would go on to become a worldwide sensation with over 250 songs released by 1984. Their most popular hit, Californication, a song from their identically named album released in 1999, appeared in almost every setlist since its live debut and has had over 500 performances alone. Californication's meaning is centered around the darker side of Hollywood and its influences on the world. Within the bridge, lyrics such as "Pay your surgeon very well to break the spell of aging" refers to how celebrities undergo plastic surgery to conceal any signs of old age such as wrinkles. Through it all, Californication is a lyrically clever song and a beautiful album overall that'll stay on repeat.

Reggaeton: Then and Now

Reggaeton, a syncretic music genre that has dominated the world wide sphere for years, continues to rise in popularity. Yet how has it changed over time?

Dating back to the 1980s, Reggaeton was formed as Jamaican workers traveled to Panama to construct the Panama Canal. Both Jamaican and Spanish speaking cultures began to fuse into the genre we know today, later brought to Puerto Rico in the 1990s which increased its popularity significantly. Notably, the genre itself draws from influences of Black Culture particularly the East Coast rap scene of the 90s, blending with Dancehall and Hip-Hop. Additionally, through Reggaeton, many artists used this as a platform to speak about the African Diaspora and the struggle of Black Latinos in America, making it favored among those who identified Afro-Latino. Lyrically, Reggaeton is known for being extremely versatile as its theme can span from love, heartbreak, dancing to parts of their artists personal life story.

Within the early 2000s, Reggaeton was at its peak with artists such as Xion y Lennon, Ozuna, Aventura, Don Omar, Daddy Yankee and Ivy Queen. With songs such as "Dile" by Don Omar, "Gasolina" by Daddy Yankee and "Quiero Bailar" by Ivy Queen, their catchy lyrics and beats that'll make anyone get up and dance, rose to fame on networks such as MTV. Yet it would be N.O.R.E's "Oye Mi Canto" featuring Daddy Yankee, Big Mato, Gem Star and Nina Sky released in 2006 that would make Reggaeton internationally acclaimed in America. Combining both English and Spanish lyrics that appeal to both Spanish and English speakers across the world, Oye Mi Canto is seen as a representation of being proud of where you come from, regardless of where you are born.

Years later, an album that would break expectations and become the anthem of Summer 2022 was created by Benito Antonio Martinez Ocasio, otherwise known as Bad Bunny. Un Verano Sin Ti remains as Bad Bunny's second number one album and particularly the second all Spanish language

spoken album to top the Billboard 200, which is a difficult feat. Created as a love letter to Caribbean Latinos, Bad Bunny centers it's theme around love and heartbreak as described in it's title, translated to "A Summer Without You." Although Reggaeton has not faded in it's popularity, with the release of Un Verano Sin Ti, the genre began to undergo a wide transformation from its original nod by to the hip hop scene with more acoustic instruments to a combination of more electronically produced instrumentals to further encapture its digitally marketed audience.

As the world of music continues to evolve, the genre of Reggaeton will undoubtedly continue to shift and change to keep up with the rapidly adjusting world.

Citings:

<https://www.cs.mcgill.ca/~rwest/wikispeedia/wpcd/wp/r/Reggaeton.htm#:~:text=Rise%20to%20popularity,hop%2Dderived%20tracks%20previously%20created.>

<https://marquettewire.org/4065685/radio/reggaeton-origin-and-evolution-of-a-genre/#:~:text=Reggaetón%20had%20its%20conception%20in,Puerto%20Rico%20via%20Jamaican%20immigrants.>