

Race and Cultural Politics of Japanese Hip-Hop

Ian Condry

M.I.T.

Announcement 1

- Next Week: SPECIAL EVENT
- "Testimony of a Korean Comfort Woman"
 - As a girl, Kim HwaSun was forced into sexual slavery by the Japanese Imperial Forces during World War II. She will discuss her horrifying experience and psychological struggles during and after the war.
 - Wednesday, February 26
 - 7:15pm
 - Killian Hall (Building 14)

Announcement 2

- Stellar website is up and running
 - Feel free to use discussion board to continue conversations started in class.
- Condry article "Introduction" (on website)
 - Please read for March 5 class

"Respect"

See:

[http://www.sonymusic.co.jp/Music/Arch/KS/RHYMESTE
R/m_disco.html](http://www.sonymusic.co.jp/Music/Arch/KS/RHYMESTE
R/m_disco.html)

Japanese "Wanna-be's" . . . ?

WANNA-BES
THE WEIRD WORLD OF
JAPANESE DANCEHALL
FANATICS

Vibe, August 2002

. . . and hip-hop fans

Black Culture

Wild Style, 1996 Re-release flyer

"Wild Q"

Dainosuke a.k.a.

DNK

as gang member in
NYC

Chusonji (1996)

Utamaru says,

- Hip-hop is a culture of the "first person singular."
- Whether music or graffiti, everyone's yelling "I'm this!"

Being Hip-Hop

Miyoshi Zenzou (2000) *Tekken Gaiden*

Language

Yo, check it!

Yo チェキッ!

要チェキッ!

↑
yô = "necessary"

侍

"samurai"

Sakuragi-cho, Yokohama

What's "Japanese"?

CD jacket Kohei Japan (2000)

King Giddra

See <http://www.sonymusic.co.jp/Music/Info/kg/>

from L to R:

K Dub Shine

DJ Oasis

Zebra

Sora kara no chikara (1995)

("The Power from the Sky")

Censorship

See:

[http://www.sonymusic.co.jp/Music/Arch/KS/RHYMESTE
R/m_disco.html](http://www.sonymusic.co.jp/Music/Arch/KS/RHYMESTE
R/m_disco.html)

Pornography symbolism on CD cover (2001)

Tough as . . .

Hadashi no Gen

(Barefoot Gen)

See

<http://www.theblackmoon.com/BarefootGen/bomb.html>

ECD self-titled (1992)

Lafura Jackson / A-Twice

New Voices

Fans at "B-Boy Park 2001," Yoyogi Park, Tokyo

Opposing the Japanese Government

"Shakai no mado" DJ Oasis, Utamaru

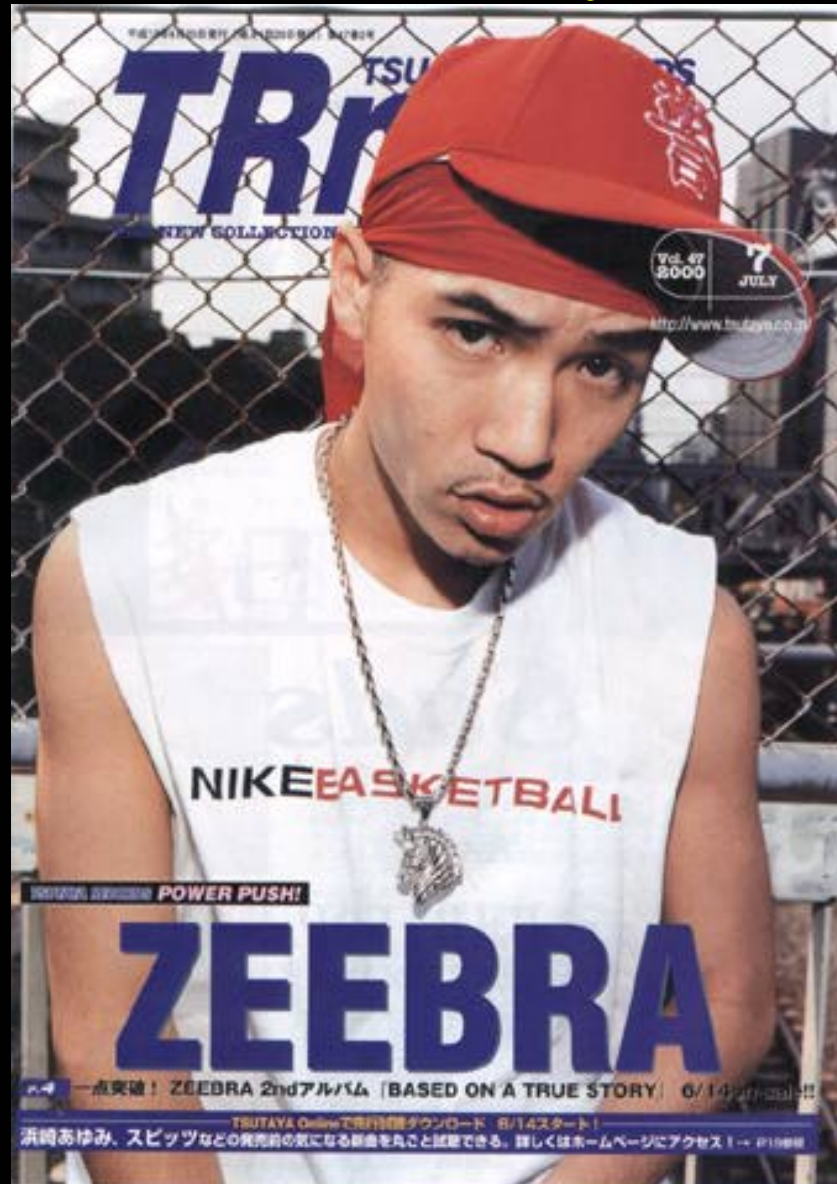
- The government is a rotting penis behind zipper of Japan's pants
- Ministry of Ed. textbooks
- Misplaced "pride" in Japan is actually "blindness"
- Smoking "old men" will die in a gunpowder blast of their own making



Utamaru

- Sony refuses to release original version criticising Emperor Hirohito

Global Style



July 2000, free paper cover

Hip-Hop in Japan

4 elements:

- Breakdance
- DJ
- Rap
- Graffiti



Yoyogi Park, Tokyo

MIT OpenCourseWare
<http://ocw.mit.edu>

21G.039 / 21G.037 Japanese Popular Culture
Spring 2003

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: <http://ocw.mit.edu/terms>.