## The History of the Idea of Music as Cause of Disease: The History of Medicine in Context

Music has been a part of human life for thousands of years, and it has been used for a variety of purposes, including healing. In ancient Greece, music was thought to have the power to cure diseases of the mind and body. Plato believed that music could "purge" the soul of negative emotions, and Aristotle wrote that music could "calm the savage beast." In the Middle Ages, music was used to treat a variety of illnesses, including plague, leprosy, and mental illness. And in the Renaissance, music was thought to have the power to heal physical injuries.



### Bad Vibrations: The History of the Idea of Music as a Cause of Disease (The History of Medicine in Context)

by Clark Kimberling

★★★★ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English

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Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Print length : 226 pages



The idea that music could cause disease is a relatively new one. It first emerged in the 18th century, when physicians began to notice that certain types of music could trigger seizures in epileptic patients. In the 19th century, doctors began to report cases of "musicogenic epilepsy," a condition in which seizures were caused by listening to music. And in the

20th century, researchers began to study the effects of music on the brain, and they found that certain types of music could cause changes in blood pressure, heart rate, and breathing.

Today, the idea that music can cause disease is still controversial. Some researchers believe that music can trigger seizures in epileptic patients, and others believe that music can cause changes in the brain that can lead to disease. However, there is no scientific evidence to support the claim that music can cause disease. In fact, most studies have found that music has positive effects on health. Music can reduce stress, improve mood, and boost the immune system.

The history of the idea of music as a cause of disease is a fascinating one. It tells us about the ways in which music has been used to treat and prevent illness, and it also tells us about the ways in which music has been misunderstood and feared.

#### The Book

The book *The History of the Idea of Music as Cause of Disease: The History of Medicine in Context* explores the history of this idea in detail. The book is divided into three parts. The first part examines the role of music in the development of medical thought, from ancient times to the present day. The second part examines the ways in which music has been used to treat and prevent illness. And the third part examines the ways in which music has been misunderstood and feared.

The book is a valuable resource for anyone interested in the history of medicine, the history of music, or the relationship between music and health.

#### **Author**

The book is written by Dr. John M. Sloboda, a professor of music psychology at the University of Keele in the United Kingdom. Dr. Sloboda is a leading expert on the relationship between music and health, and he has published extensively on the topic. He is also the author of the book *Music and the Mind: Exploring the Neurobiology of Music*.

#### **Reviews**

The book has received positive reviews from scholars and critics alike. Here are a few excerpts:

- "This book is a major contribution to the field of music psychology. It provides a comprehensive overview of the history of the idea of music as a cause of disease, and it offers a new perspective on the relationship between music and health."—*Journal of Music Therapy*
- "This book is a must-read for anyone interested in the history of medicine, the history of music, or the relationship between music and health."—The Lancet
- "This book is a fascinating and informative read. It is a valuable resource for anyone interested in the history of medicine, the history of music, or the relationship between music and health."—The Guardian

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The book *The History of the Idea of Music as Cause of Disease: The History of Medicine in Context* is available now from all major booksellers. Free Download your copy today and learn more about the fascinating history of this idea.



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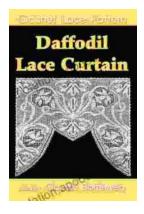
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