

Psychedelic music of the 1960s

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Folk psychedelic music is a type of music that began in the 1960s that was a mixture of psychedelic rock music and folk music. Psychedelic folk music, usually favors acoustic instruments and it usually uses other instruments. Chanting and national music influences are most always discovered in psychedelic folk music. Very similar to psychedelic rock music, psychedelic folk is recognized for a strange, trance-like, and atmospheric sound. The words to the songs are usually concerned with gentle subjects, like the natural world, peace, love and the beauty that surrounds us.

The use of drugs are not as important in psychedelic folk music as it is in psychedelic rock music. The 1960's offered many bands who played psychedelic folk music, like the Incredible String Band and Donovan. These two bands are good examples of psychedelic folk bands. Many musical artists kept up the musical tradition, even though most would not describe their personal music style as psychedelic folk. In the 1990s included the bands, Neutral Milk Hotel who are known to have released psychedelic folk music.

We know that the most current generation who listen to psychedelic folk music play music from artists who are current musicians who play in the early and middle decade of 2000. These groups include The Slant and Animal Collective. Another type of folk that is popular in our world of music uses strange sounds and trippy words that include psychedelic folk music's more esoteric-oriented and hermetic-centered twin, which is Apocalyptic Folk Music.

These two types of music are similar while Apocalyptic Folk Music appeals more to followers of a darker style of music. Psychedelic folk music is more desired by psychedelic music followers, most of the time. This type of relationship between two types of music can be considered close in genre, in music. Michael Gara has helped to support a psychedelic folk music revival. Gara, we think has named his latest effort, “Angels of Light” while he named it after San Francisco’s hippy Hibiscus, a theatre group with the same name.

We learn from Chris Nixon, (2006) that, “Through coming at folk music from different angles, artists such as Devendra Banhart, Animal Collective, Vetiver, DeVotchKa and Faun Fables have been grouped together under an umbrella name: psych-folk. We can look at different angles of music and learn that psych-folk music is a hippy type of music that is more an easy listening type of music that suited a particular mood. Psychedelic music is a musical fad that is often closely related to trying to expand one’s mind and their personal, life experiences which are not always drugs experiences.

There are many styles of music that are used to express experiences. When we look at acoustic guitars in music, we learn that this could offer total freedom for jamming session where, there are some eastern influences on this type of music. Acid Folk music refers to the style of acoustic music and does not reproduce or originate from traditional styles in music, but when it plays like in an acoustic folk song with great style structure, it isn’t used as an experimental type of music. Most of the time, the style is a very personal expression for the specific group who reproduces it.

Psychedelic Folk music was listened to by so many individuals in the 1960s that wanted to get away from the ordinary music that they had been accustomed to. Psychedelic Folk music was a form of music that allowed the listener to get away from the daily routine and chores that led them. This music was an escape from the ordinary. Psychedelic Folk music was an easy flowing type of music that allowed the listener to be absorbed and forget about everything else. Many people listened to Psychedelic Folk music so they could melt into a dream world as they listened to the mellow music.

In the book, “ Tomorrow Never Knows: Rock and Psychedelics in the 1960”, by author Nicholas Bromell, we get a better sense of what psychedelic music was all about. We get a greater feel for what psychedelic folk music had done to individuals. Many of the listeners were wrapped up in that sort of music and would sit for many hours, listening and having sort of an out of body experience, as they listened. Psychedelic folk music allowed them to live a lifestyle that was tolerable to them, since they didn’t want to have to live a boring life without the music that could take them so far away.

In the decade of the 1960’s, there was something different in the air that was closely linked to the music that was popular during that era. Many people referred to psychedelic folk music as “ Psych Folk”. There were many types of psychedelic music categories, such as, acid folk, intuitive folk, neo-folk, experimental folk and pre-Raphaelitism music. Each category had it’s own special features, like psych folk, that catered to a more peaceful style of music that offered more peace and serenity in it’s lyrics.

Fairport Convention, Pentangle and T Rex are some more examples of psychedelic groups that played music in the 1960s. These bands were popular during the 1960s and hit it big by playing psych folk music. These amazing bands were all from the country of Britain where psych music usually had a stronger folk element to the music style. Britain catered to this style of music and when they saw how popular this style of music had become in the United States, they saw that they could make it big in the country by offering their talent that was centered around psychedelic music.

The United States was heavily into this new fad and it was highly obvious that bands who played this type of music could make a huge impression on large audiences of fans. Buying music in the 1960's was huge because of the psychedelic music popularity. It wasn't unheard of for teenagers to have stacks of albums in their rooms. Many people who were involved in psychedelic music in the 1960s have children of their own today.

Most of these parents who grew up in the era of the 1960s, changed their theories on the way they thought about music when it came to drugs and the non-caring attitude. We learn that the majority of these psychedelic music fans have used zero-tolerance in their parenting, which is a huge switch from their former beliefs about how one should live their life. Psychedelic folk music is very little talked about today, but you can feel certain that it will always have it's popular place in history, which is the 1960s, where there was just something magical in the air.