

Music and Writing: The Closest We Get to Magic

And now we're almost done, and we hope you've had fun at our humble inquisition
We've covered our bases and stated our cases and handled the exposition
But what we'd like to know is what you thought of the show--maybe you've got a few propositions
So just give me a few for a quick review, then we'll get on with the exhibition

Now, it's probably not news that it's all about moves in rhetorical situations
When comes to these matters, it starts with the patterns that enable improvisation
And if you don't know a song, you can still play along if you practice the generic conventions
Then you'll be ready to go just like Bill Monroe with the canon of invention

In Brazil you can find a very special kind of rhythmic inspiration
A powerful force of non-dominant discourse fighting discrimination
You can move your feet to the infectious beats that come out of the Mangueira
We can call and respond as we dance along to the sound of the bateria

And so we look for ourselves in the stories we tell as we value our own traditions
Down on our luck in this counterpublic, inhabiting our contradictions
Take a genre we know and then make it grow by roughing it around the edges
And with that rebel yell you can go to hell--we're going back to Texas

Sometimes a new kind of song can help to move us along when we use it to reach out to others
Getting better by composing together is a process that can help us recover
Healing the heart through the power of art, finding hope inside of the tragic
Such a good way to do it because writing and music are the closest we get to magic
Such a good way to do it because writing and music are the closest we get to magic