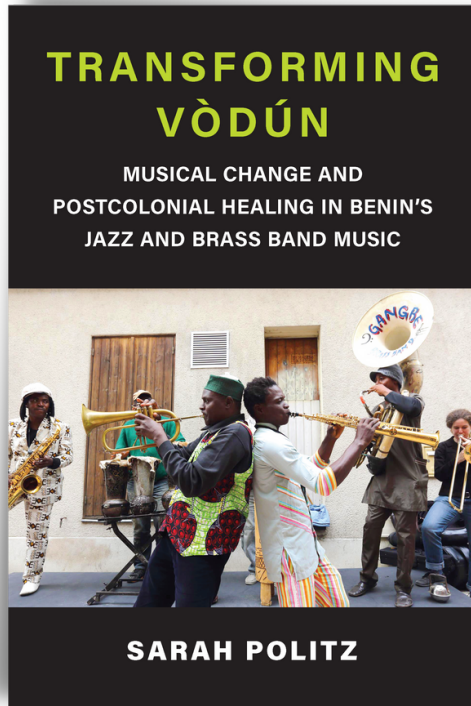




UNIVERSITY OF
MICHIGAN PRESS



TRANSFORMING VÒDÚN

MUSICAL CHANGE AND POSTCOLONIAL HEALING IN
BENIN'S JAZZ AND BRASS BAND MUSIC

Sarah Politz

Musics in Motion

Transforming Vòdún examines how musicians from the West African Republic of Benin transform Benin's cultural traditions, especially the ancestral spiritual practice of vòdún and its musical repertoires, as part of the process of healing postcolonial trauma through music and ritual. Based on fieldwork in Benin, France, and New York City, Sarah Politz uses historical ethnography, music analysis, and participant observation to examine three case studies of brass band and jazz musicians from Benin. The multi-sited nature of this study highlights the importance of mobility, and diasporic connections in musicians' professional lives, while grounding these connections in the particularities of the African continent, its histories, its people, and its present.

DOI: [10.3998/mpub.12221588](https://doi.org/10.3998/mpub.12221588)

248 pages | 17 illustrations

Hardcover | 2023 | \$70.00 U.S.
ISBN 978-0-472-07956-6

Paper | 2023 | \$29.95 U.S.
ISBN 978-0-472-05596-8

Open Access
ISBN 978-0-472-90328-3



Sarah Politz is Assistant Professor of Ethnomusicology at University of Florida.

**ORDER ONLINE AND SAVE 30%
WITH DISCOUNT CODE UMF23!**

About the Series

Musics in Motion is a book series on the cultural mobility of music that embraces all times and places.