

**Title:**

Druids, Celtic Knots, and Stonehenge, Oh My!: Controversies Regarding Authenticity and Celtic Music

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**Abstract**

This paper examines the problem posed by globalization on the authentic definition of cultures through the example of the Celtic music genre. Though defended by many modern musicians as an authentic, traditional genre, many critics maintain that Celtic music does not follow a "true" definition of Celtic culture because, in fact, all definitions known to modern scholars of Celtic traditions are based upon other cultures' (i.e. Greek and Roman) perspectives on those traditions. These critics argue that because there is no authentic representation or definition of Celtic culture the modern Celtic genre cannot qualify as authentic. By building upon the arguments of critics like David Harker and Malcolm Chapman, who dispute that Romanticism and exoticism is the reason that Celtic authenticity is distorted, the paper explores how the current phase of globalization puts into question the very concept of authenticity.