

3-27-2018

# The Metal Islands: Culture, History, and Politics in Caribbean Heavy Metal Music

Nelson Varas-Diaz

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.fiu.edu/cri\\_events](https://digitalcommons.fiu.edu/cri_events)



Part of the [Arts and Humanities Commons](#)

---

## Recommended Citation

Varas-Diaz, Nelson, "The Metal Islands: Culture, History, and Politics in Caribbean Heavy Metal Music" (2018). *Cuban Research Institute Events*. 406.

[https://digitalcommons.fiu.edu/cri\\_events/406](https://digitalcommons.fiu.edu/cri_events/406)

This work is brought to you for free and open access by the Cuban Research Institute at FIU Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Cuban Research Institute Events by an authorized administrator of FIU Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [dcc@fiu.edu](mailto:dcc@fiu.edu).

# Cuban Research Institute

Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs



## ***The Metal Islands: Culture, History, and Politics in Caribbean Heavy Metal Music*** **Film Screening and Discussion with Producer Nelson Varas-Díaz**

Tuesday, March 27, 2018 | 7:00 PM | FIU Modesto A. Maidique Campus | Green Library (GL) 220

For the past forty years, the Caribbean has spawned a massive array of metal music, which for the most part has remained under the radar from the rest of the world. It is nearly impossible to capture the entire history of metal in the region given its prolific output. Nevertheless, this documentary sheds some light on three metal scenes in the Spanish-speaking Caribbean: Cuba, the Dominican Republic, and Puerto Rico. The documentary examines how each island's metal scene has been influenced by history, culture, and political context. It explores issues related to the origins of these scenes, social stigmatization, media persecution, the integration of local culture into the metal scene, and the relationship between the state and metal, among other topics.

**Dr. Nelson Varas-Díaz** is a professor of social-community psychology at Florida International University's Department of Global and Sociocultural Studies. His work has been published in multiple journals, including *Metal Music Studies*, *International Journal of Community Music*, and the *Journal of Community Psychology*. He coedited the book *Heavy Metal Music and the Communal Experience* and produced the award-winning documentary *The Distorted Island: Heavy Metal and Community in Puerto Rico*.

**This event is free and open to the public.**

The film, 97 minutes long, is in Spanish with English subtitles.

To confirm your attendance and for more information, please call (305) 348-1991 or write [cri@fiu.edu](mailto:cri@fiu.edu).