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Popular Music is an international multi-disciplinary journal covering all aspects of the subject - from the formation of social group identities through popular music, to the workings of the global music industry, to how particular pieces of music are put together. The journal includes all kinds of popular music, whether rap or rai, jazz or rock, from any historical era and any geographical location. *Popular Music* carries articles by scholars from a variety of disciplines and theoretical perspectives. Each issue contains substantial, authoritative and influential articles, topical pieces, and reviews of a wide range of books. Some issues are thematic. The editors also welcome polemical pieces for the 'Middle Eight' section of the journal. Contributors should consult the 'Notes' on the inside back cover.

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Front cover: Lil Nas X arrives for the 52nd Annual Country Music Association Awards at Bridgestone Arena in Nashville, Tennessee, Wednesday, November 13, 2019. Photo by John Angelillo/UPI. Credit: UPI/Alamy Live News.

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ERIC WEISBARD is Professor of American Studies at the University of Alabama. He is the author of *Songbooks: The Literature of American Popular Music* (Duke University Press, 2021) and *Top 40 Democracy: The Rival Mainstreams of American Music* (University of Chicago Press, 2014), which won the IASPM-US Woody Guthrie Award. From 2018 to 2021, he co-edited *Journal of Popular Music Studies*. From 2002 to 2018, he organised the annual Pop Conference, a gathering of music writers of all kinds, and edited three collections of conference presentations: *This Is Pop: In Search of the Elusive at Experience Music Project* (Harvard University Press, 2004), *Listen Again: A Momentary History of American Music* (Duke University Press, 2007), and *Pop When the World Falls Apart: Music in the Shadow of Doubt* (Duke University Press, 2012). Weisbard's writing for *Spin* and the *Village Voice* is collected at RocksBackPages.com. His 2007 monograph in the 33-1/3 series looked at the Guns N' Roses albums, *Use Your Illusion*.