

## Abstract

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### Contemporary Polymorphisms of Segá in the Creole Islands of the Indian Ocean.

Since the 1960s, the séga has given rise to a multitude of stylistic variants that testify to the symbolic and identity manipulations to which it has been (and is still) subjected: modern séga which contrasts with the so-called "traditional" forms, disco séga, bollywood séga (modern séga often sung in bhojpuri), seggae (séga - reggae), ségazz (séga jazz) ... The dynamics of adaptation and appropriation of these stylistic variants will be analyzed in the context of the political, economic and identity issues which shape their diffusion across the creole islands of the Indian Ocean, particularly Mauritius and Reunion Island.

The role played by phonographic production, live performance and, more recently, inscription on the UNESCO ICH Lists (Reunion maloya, Mauritian séga tipik, Rodrigues séga tanbour ...) will be given special attention. The séga, which is now part of a regional broadcasting market (including Reunion, Mauritius, Rodrigues and Seychelles), gives rise to regular collaborations between professionals and musicians of these islands. This contributes to the construction of a "trans-" or "inter-regional" musical expression in which insular particularisms are either erased (in favor of pan-island markers) or enhanced according to audiences and local targeted "markets". In this way, I would like to show that séga's musical creolization processes are at present a permanent negotiation between, on the one hand, plural identity and political aspirations and, on the other, a regional musical economy, which conditions the expression and reception of séga at the inter-island scale.

Linked to inter-regional cultural circulation and globalization, these contemporary processes of musical creation will ultimately be re-inserted in a more global history of creole musical forms in the Indian Ocean, dating back to the colonial period. In particular, it will be necessary to identify continuities and / or breaks in the creative processes observable in the history of sega and the forms that are more or less related to it.

