

PERFORMANCE-LECTURE

EDUCATIONAL EMCEES IN THE ACADEMY: SPOKEN WORD POETRY AS SCHOLARLY PRACTICE

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AND ANTHONY KEITH



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This new form of scholarship explores the theoretical, conceptual, and methodological possibilities for spoken word poetry to function as a social justice pedagogy and leadership praxis. Collectively, this research situates critical race theory, Black feminism, participatory action research, Hip-Hop, and activism as epistemological positions that decolonise White, American, patriarchal ways of knowing and empirical methods of discovery. Specifically, Anthony's research about "Educational Emcees" seeks to expand what is known about educational leaders who are also spoken word artists, poets, rappers, and emcees, and who embody Hip-Hop culture in their work to improve racially suppressive learning and engagement conditions for Black and Brown learners. Crystal's work illuminates the voices of girls and women around the world engaged in social action and human rights advocacy by invoking poetry, monologues, and multimedia as data to inform policy makers, governments, and organisations about health, education, and gender equality.





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