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## Salsa music

This thesis converses on salsa music. The background of exploring this theme is my personal interest in salsa music and dancing. There is one troubling question between salsa music and dance. Talking about music salsa is a broad word for all Cuban music styles including son, chachachà, rumba, mambo and some others. When dancing there is a different dance for all these music styles. There is a dance called son for son music, a dance called chachachà for chachachà music and so on. There is also a dance called salsa and the question is, what is the music style that we dance it to. That is the main research question in the thesis.

The target in this thesis is to explore what does word salsa music include and focus on the question, what is the under category under word salsa music that we use for dancing salsa. When teaching different things about salsa for students it's important to use right and clear terms. You can't say: "Now I will teach you salsa rhythm" because there is no one rhythm called salsa. You must say: "I will teach you timba rhythm that belongs to salsa music." That's why the purpose of this thesis is to define clear and exact words to use when talking about and teaching salsa music.

This candidate's thesis will concentrate on defining the term salsa music. Later in master's thesis I'll go deeper with question, how to teach salsa rhythms through eurhythmics. For that it's important to define well what kind of rhythms there are under word salsa and what they are called.

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## Comments from **Ketil Thorgersen**

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### ***Disposition***

The context

What is being studied?

Power

The research question

Advice

### **The Context**

Bachelor thesis

Theoretical – no empirical work

Music educational

Supposed to provide a base for master thesis

### ***Questions***

What do you expect to find?

Do you expect to find one correct answer ?

### ***What is being studied?***

Salsa music genres?

Salsa dance genres?

Salsa music's musical elements?

-Salsa music's rhythmical patterns

-Salsa music's harmonical patterns (etc)

Would this be a satisfactory answer:

SALSA

Cha cha Son Merengue Salsa

### ***Power***

Who defines what salsa is?

The Cuban, Puerto Rican, Jamaican, Afro-American (etc) originators to the styles contributing to the Salsa (the sauce) (authenticity)?

The Latin groups who constructed salsa as an identification mark (Copyright holder/composer)

The language in use in:

-The salsa music scene

-The salsa dance scene

-In Finland/Europe/New York....?

Whose interests does the different options benefit? (Gender/race/heterogeneity..)

### ***Research question***

What under categories of salsa-music does music we use for dancing salsa include? (Bachelor)

...leading to...

how to teach salsa rhythms through eurhythmics. (Master)

Where is the music education?

As a precondition but is that enough?

***Advice***

!Map the field – do not try to find a right answer

!Map the musical genres/parameters connected to expression/language/music in use

!Discuss possible educational consequences of your mapping

!Discuss the mapping in relation to power

!Try to reformulate the research question to include the educational aspect.