



## The Throes of Democracy: Brazil since 1989 (Global History of the Present)

By Bryan McCann

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In the 1980s, Brazil emerged from two decades of military dictatorship and embarked on an experiment in full democracy for the first time in the nation's history. Since then, Brazilians have sought to live up to the ideals of this experiment while negotiating dramatic economic and cultural transformations.

In *The Throes of Democracy*, Bryan McCann gives a panoramic view of this process, exploring the relationships between the rise of the political left, the escalation of urban violence, the agribusiness boom and the spread of pentecostal evangelization. Brazil remains a land marked by deep inequality, but in the last two decades the structure of that inequality has changed substantially.

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#### Review

'The Throes of Democracy offers a perceptive, and highly readable, interpretation of Brazil's recent past and present. An astute observer of politics, social mores, and popular culture, Bryan McCann constructs a portrait of contemporary Brazil that helps us to understand new and long-standing problems, while also accounting for Brazilian society's dynamism and ongoing democratization.' Barbara Weinstein, New York University  
'Keen to innovation and tradition alike, McCann judiciously weighs forces shaping postdictatorial Brazil. He interrelates political economy and cultural politics with care and insight, encompassing oral, print and digital domains. This is a remarkable and resonant report on the current Brazilian republic.' Charles A. Perrone, University of Florida

#### About the Author

Bryan McCann teaches Latin American history at Georgetown University, where he is Director of the Brazilian Studies Program. He has written broadly on Brazil's cultural and social history in the 20th century. His first book *Hello, Hello Brazil: Popular Music in the Making of Modern Brazil* was published in 2004. His current research focuses on the recent history of urban conflict in Rio de Janeiro.

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