# Article information:

Beyoncé’s country album drowns out the Black music history it claims to celebrate | Beyoncé | The Guardian
<https://www.theguardian.com/music/2024/apr/02/beyonce-version-of-country-cowboy-carter-yasmin-williams?CMP=GTUS_email>

# Article summary:

1. Beyoncé's country album, "Cowboy Carter," fails to effectively highlight Black country and folk artists and instead uses their contributions as props in the overall production of the record.

2. The album is criticized for conforming to mainstream standards and capitalizing on the growing popularity of country music, with guest spots from white artists like Post Malone and Miley Cyrus raising questions about authenticity.

3. Beyoncé's attempts at country-style storytelling are seen as lacking authenticity and depth compared to traditional country music, with her larger-than-life persona feeling at odds with the genre.

# Article rating:

May be slightly imbalanced: The article presents the information in a generally reliable way, but there are minor points of consideration that could be explored further or claims that are not fully backed by appropriate evidence. Some perspectives may also be omitted, and you are encouraged to use the research topics section to explore the topic further.

# Article analysis:

The article "Beyoncé’s country album drowns out the Black music history it claims to celebrate" from The Guardian provides a critical analysis of Beyoncé's latest album, Cowboy Carter. The author raises concerns about how the album fails to effectively highlight and celebrate Black country and folk artists, despite Beyoncé's claims of delving into the history of country music.

One potential bias in the article is the author's focus on criticizing Beyoncé for not fully utilizing the expertise and contributions of Black country artists like Rhiannon Giddens and Robert Randolph. While it is important to acknowledge and uplift these artists, it is also worth considering that Beyoncé may have had her own artistic vision for the album. The author's emphasis on this aspect could be seen as one-sided reporting, as it does not fully explore Beyoncé's perspective or intentions behind the project.

Additionally, the article questions Beyoncé's authenticity in embracing country music traditions, suggesting that her incorporation of country aesthetics is a capitalist gesture to capitalize on the genre's popularity. However, these claims are not fully supported with evidence or examples from the album itself. It would have been beneficial for the author to provide specific instances from Cowboy Carter that illustrate this point more clearly.

Furthermore, while critiquing Beyoncé's storytelling in comparison to classic country songs like Merle Travis's "Sixteen Tons" and Johnny Cash's "Folsom Prison Blues," the author overlooks the evolution of storytelling in music and fails to consider Beyoncé's unique perspective as an artist. This narrow focus on traditional country themes may limit a comprehensive understanding of how artists can reinterpret and innovate within different genres.

The article also highlights collaborations with white artists like Post Malone and Miley Cyrus as potentially incongruous with Beyoncé's efforts to give Black artistry its due. While this point raises valid concerns about representation in music collaborations, it would have been valuable for the author to explore potential reasons behind these choices or engage with counterarguments that challenge this interpretation.

Overall, while the article offers a critical perspective on Beyoncé's Cowboy Carter album, there are areas where further exploration, balanced reporting, and deeper analysis could enhance its credibility and provide a more nuanced understanding of the complexities surrounding cultural appropriation, genre blending, and artistic expression in contemporary music.

# Topics for further research:

* Beyoncé Cowboy Carter album artistic vision
* Black country and folk artists contributions in music history
* Evolution of storytelling in music genres
* Beyoncé collaborations with white artists in music industry
* Cultural appropriation and genre blending in music
* Beyoncé's perspective on embracing country music traditions

# Report location:

<https://www.fullpicture.app/item/d269e90b7b9d79edb168fc91205e8e26>