

NaukaBezGranic recording transcript for the Mark Wills 'British Pop' workshop: The Beatles and Oasis Part 1 (2:54)

This is Mark Wills for Learning Without Borders. We are going to look at the similarities between the British bands, The Beatles and Oasis.

Well, first of all they were both pop bands with a rock edge. So, The Beatles had, on the one hand, gentle pop songs like *I Want To Hold Your Hand* and, on the other, out-and-out rock songs like *Helter Skelter* from *The White Album*. Then, Oasis had the ballad *Wonderwall*, which featured a cello, the same as The Beatles song *Eleanor Rigby*, and they also had rock songs like *Roll With It*. It is interesting to see how The Beatles changed their musical style as the 1960s progressed. They began as a rock 'n' roll band, then became a pop band, essentially to sell more records, and, when they had so much money that they could do whatever they wanted, became more experimental with songs like *Tomorrow Never Knows* and albums like *Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*, which, if you listen carefully, both have an Indian influence.

The Beatles' musical evolution is also reflected in their hairstyles. When they began, they had rock 'n' roll hairstyles like Elvis Presley, and then when they became more commercial because they wanted to appeal to a wider audience, they had mop-tops. Now, a mop, of course, is what is used with soap and water to clean the floor. Finally, towards the end of their career in the late 1960s, reflecting the hippy revolution that was taking place around the world, they had long hair and beards. By the way, there is a fabulous film about The Beatles' early years in Hamburg called *Backbeat*. If you get the chance, you should definitely see it. Also, the soundtrack album for *Backbeat*, featuring Dave Grohl from Nirvana and Foo Fighters on drums, is well worth a listen. It's like listening to heavier versions of The Beatles' early songs.

As for Oasis, well, since their heroes were The Beatles, they more or less followed the same musical evolution, but they never changed their hairstyle. From the beginning until the present day, the members of Oasis have sported a mop-top hairstyle.

I'll be back to talk about more similarities between the Beatles and Oasis in the next instalment. Bye for now!