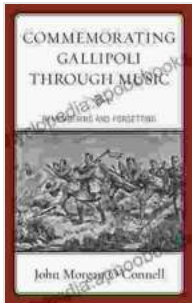


# Remembering and Forgetting: The Power of Music in Commemorating Gallipoli



## Commemorating Gallipoli through Music: Remembering and Forgetting by Lang Lang

★★★★☆ 4.9 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 5137 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Print length : 333 pages  
Screen Reader : Supported



The Battle of Gallipoli, fought during World War I, has been extensively commemorated through various forms of art and media, including music. This article explores the role of music in shaping collective memory and remembrance of the Gallipoli campaign, examining how it can both preserve memories and influence how we remember and forget.

## Music as a Memorial

Music has played a significant role in memorializing the Battle of Gallipoli. The haunting melodies and evocative lyrics of songs like "The ANZACs" by Eric Bogle and "Gallipoli" by John Schumann have become synonymous with the campaign, serving as poignant reminders of the sacrifices made by soldiers on both sides.

These songs have become part of the cultural fabric of Australia and New Zealand, often performed at commemorative events and ceremonies. By incorporating these songs into our collective rituals of remembrance, we perpetuate the memory of Gallipoli and ensure that the sacrifices of those who fought and died are not forgotten.

### **Music as a Shaping Force**

While music can serve as a memorial, it also has the power to shape our understanding of history. By highlighting certain aspects of the Gallipoli campaign and downplaying others, music can influence how we perceive the event.

For example, many popular songs about Gallipoli focus on the heroism and sacrifice of the ANZAC troops. While this is an important aspect of the campaign, it can overshadow other perspectives, such as the experiences of the Turkish soldiers or the impact on the local population. Music, therefore, has the potential to perpetuate a partial and potentially biased view of history.

### **Music as a Catalyst for Forgetting**

Music can also contribute to forgetting. As new songs and musical interpretations emerge, older ones may fade into obscurity. This can lead to a gradual erosion of memory, as certain aspects of the Gallipoli campaign are no longer recalled or remembered.

Additionally, the focus on popular and emotionally evocative songs can overshadow the role of more challenging or critical works of music that explore the complexities of the Gallipoli campaign. This can result in a

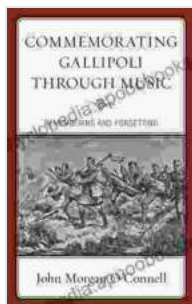
sanitized and simplified understanding of the event that fails to acknowledge the full range of experiences and perspectives.

## The Future of Gallipoli Commemoration

As we approach the centenary of the Battle of Gallipoli, it is important to reflect on the role of music in commemorating this significant event. While music has played a vital role in preserving memories and shaping collective remembrance, it is also essential to be aware of its potential to influence and even distort our understanding of history.

In the future, it will be crucial to ensure that our commemorations of Gallipoli are inclusive, diverse, and critically engaged. Music can continue to play a powerful role in these commemorations, but it must be used responsibly and thoughtfully to promote a comprehensive and nuanced understanding of the Gallipoli campaign and its legacy.

Music is a powerful tool for commemorating historical events such as the Battle of Gallipoli. It can preserve memories, shape our understanding of history, and even contribute to forgetting. As we continue to commemorate Gallipoli, it is important to be aware of the potential of music to both remember and forget, and to use it responsibly and thoughtfully to ensure a comprehensive and nuanced understanding of this significant event.



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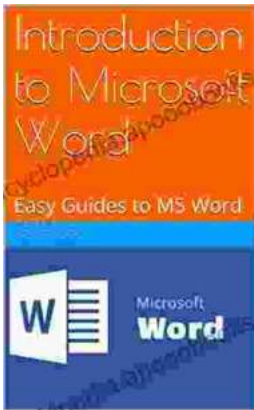
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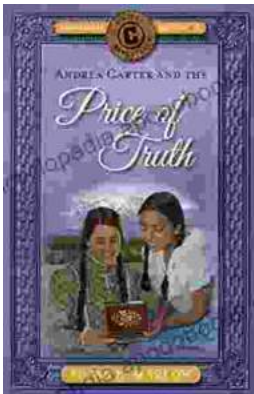
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