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Cultural production and reception in three rock groups

This project was carried out by Johan Fornäs together with the literary researcher Ulf Lindberg in Lund and Ove Sernhede at the Department of social work in Göteborg. It was funded by the Swedish research council HSFR and located at Göteborg University. The project produced the book *Under rocken. Musikens roll i tre unga band* (Under the surface of rock. The role of music in three young bands, 1988). An updated English version was published as *In Garageland: Rock, Youth and Modernity*, 1995. The book uses an ethnographic material to construct models of how music is used by adolescent teenage peer groups for identity work and learning processes in late modern society, in relation to family socialization, class, gender, school and media. A summary was published in the article “Under the surface of rock – Youth culture and late modernity”, in *Popular Music and Society*, 14:3, 1990.

The continued contact with these youth groups led to a second book, *Speglad ungdom. Forskningsreception i tre rockband* (Mirrored youth: Research reception in three rock bands, 1990), dealing with what the relation between researchers and young people tell about processes of reflexivity. This theme was further developed in Fornäs’ article “Mirroring meetings, mirroring media. The microphysics of reflexivity”, in *Cultural studies*, 8:2, 1994.

