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## The Role of Pronunciation in Billy Bragg's Music

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British singers don't always sound British. In fact, in rock and pop music, British singers Americanizing their pronunciation is so common that it's often heard simply as normal. There are always exceptions, though. One Englishman who sounds unmistakably English when he sings is protest singer Billy Bragg. My dissertation looks at the role of pronunciation in Billy Bragg's music. Using phonetic analysis, I study Bragg's pronunciation in three contexts: when singing his own original songs, when singing a cover, and when singing his own music to words he did not write. I look at how pronunciation has served Bragg in creating a musical identity, how pronunciation interacts with other musical features, and how pronunciation can be used to create a character. This research showcases the importance of pronunciation in how we come to know and appreciate vocal music.