For Haitian tourists, the sound of music not only evokes feelings of “home,” but also creates a sense of national connection, or “long-distance nationalism,” that allows diaspora Haitians to participate in Haitian life despite living abroad. One action that long-distance nationalists take to connect to their homeland is to consume the sounds of Haitian Rara through “sonic tourism.” Specifically, Haitian Rara bands extend the local performance of Rara to Haitians abroad through the circulation of audio recordings that create an ongoing connection between Haiti and the Haitian diaspora. By participating in this transnational economy, diaspora Haitians are helping their home country and providing a means for Haitians abroad to engage in political action across national boundaries.

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