

Music 428: Music of Bali

Michael Tenzer Winter 2006
T/Th 10:30 AM Asian Centre 105
Office: Room 204A Old Auditorium Building, Tel: 2-3405
Office Hours: Th, 9-10:30 and by appointment
mtenzer@interchange.ubc.ca

Balinese guest artists-in-residence:

Wayan Sudirana (musician)
Putu Widiyanti (dancer)

Graduate Assistants:

Pete Steele (MA Ethnomusicology) psteele@interchange.ubc.ca
Leslie Tilley (PhD Ethnomusicology) lester_yellit@hotmail.com

Gamelan rehearsal hours:

Music 165: Monday and Friday 2-4
Gamelan Gita Asmara: Thursday 7-9:30 and Sunday 4-6:30

Course blurb:

Bali is part of the Republic of Indonesia, a vast island nation and the world's fourth-most populous country (after China, India and the U.S.). Located in hospitable waters that have known traders, scribes and religious leaders for millennia, it is now home to more than 200 million people speaking more than 600 languages living on over 3,000 islands (out of a total of 13,667), and is among the most diverse regions on earth. Within this Bali has a special place as the sole Hindu-based traditional society outside of India and a remarkable and resilient culture. I hope to create a framework for your insight into the island's multiple musical worlds, which connect to and mirror our own, distant though they may be.

My personal discovery of Balinese gamelan has led me down a long path of participation in what I feel is truly magnificent music (and people and culture), one of the greatest creative legacies on the planet. It is a rich music system with deep expressive roots and refined structure. Instead of giving an ordinary survey, in this course I will try to go as deeply into the heart of the music as I can. If you come to the course as an absolute neophyte you might find my gung-ho plunge into musical details a bit overwhelming. I urge you to consider whether you wish to take the course if you are not already part of, or have been part of, the gamelan ensemble.

The material covered this semester will also include anthropological debates, arguments about traditional culture and politics in the post-colonial world, and more—a very wide and fast-moving scope. My involvement with all of these issues is consuming and life-long, and I am looking for you to lock in with them too. Your questions, no matter how basic, are always welcome.

Required Books (at the bookstore):

- Vickers, Adrian. *Bali: A Paradise Created* (Periplus 1989)
- Gold, Lisa. *Music in Bali*. (Oxford 2004)

Optional book (available at amazon.ca):

- Tenzer, Michael. *Gamelan Gong Kebyar: The Art of Twentieth Century Balinese Music*. (Chicago Press 2000)

Library resources (journals, books, recordings and videos):

The relevant journals specifically for Indonesian studies are *Indonesia* and *RIMA* (Review of Indonesian and Malay Affairs), both of which are in Koerner. Books and articles in which readings are assigned are on reserve at the Music Library.

I will give out some CDs of my own recordings documenting a variety of genres.

Balinese music is well-represented on commercial CDs. I have placed a good selection on reserve. The 4 CDs available at <http://www.vitalrecords.ws/recordings.htm> are all highly recommended if you want to buy them. Some other CDs are on the King label: fine recordings but awful notes, poorly translated too.

These five videos about Bali are in the UBC library system.

Sight unseen Music Library DS632.B25 K87 1996

Island of Temples Music Library DS647.B2 I84 2003 DVD

Releasing the spirits: a village cremation in Bali. Koerner Library GT3280.A3 R443

1981

The Three worlds of Bali Koerner Library DS647.B2 T573 1981

The goddess and the computer Koerner Library GN635.I65 G64 1988

Internet information:

There is plenty to Google, of course. Feel free, but be skeptical of things that seem too tourist-oriented or commercial. I recommend joining the international gamelan listserv for the sake of the periodic interesting discussion thread. There about 400 subscribers worldwide. Send an email to <GAMELAN@LISTSERV.DARTMOUTH.EDU> with the message SUBSCRIBE GAMELAN. For a list devoted to Balinese Studies in general, there is BACN (Bali Arts and Culture Newsletter). To subscribe, send a blank message to: bacn-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. Also see Gamelan Sekar Jaya (www.gsj.org), and “gamelan mecanique” at www.cite-musique.fr/gamelan/shock.html.

Course work in a nutshell:

Weeks 1-6: Learn the structure of Balinese music, do listening, oral drills, transcription, music homework and in-class exercises, and a written exam Feb. 9.

Weeks 7-10: Read and discuss historical and anthropological literature about Bali, and write an 8-10 page paper comparing the thought of two or three authors.

Weeks 11-14: Do collaborative or Independent projects (see suggestions below)

Grading:

Exam (February 9) 33%

Paper (March 14) 33%

Independent Project 33%

Good participation, attendance, small written assignments, reading and listening preparation are all assumed, but I will penalize if you do poorly in these areas.

Required concerts or events

- Attendance at least 3 gamelan rehearsals this term
- UBC student Balinese gamelan concert (Music 165/565) on April 5th at the School of Music recital hall.
- (non-required) *Gamelan Gita Asmara* (UBC community Balinese gamelan) at Sun-Yat Sen garden on April 8, 2PM and 7PM, \$15.

Syllabus

Unit 1: The Music

(Gold text as background reading)

Week 1 (January 5): Instrumentation

Week 2 (January 10, 12) Genre, Tuning and Mode (additional reading: (Tenzer 1998 Ch. 6, McPhee 1966 Ch. 6-8; Tenzer 2000 Ch. 2)

Week 3 (January 17, 19) Melody and Elaboration (Tenzer 1998 ch. 4-5; Vitale 1990 article; Tenzer 2000 Ch. 6)

Week 4 (January 24, 26) Drumming and Metre (additional reading: Tenzer 2000 Ch. 7)

Week 5 (January 31, Feb 2) Form and Composition (Tenzer 2000 ch. 8; Vitale 2002 article)

Week 6 (Feb 7, 9) Review and *Written Exam*

Week 7 (February 14, 16) Winter break

Unit 2: Balinese Culture and Society

(Vickers text as background reading)

Week 8 (February 21, 23)

Introduction To Indonesia: History Sketch, S.E. Asian Music and Cultural Context, Balinese Culture Overview, Art forms, Dance, Painting, Wayang

Reading

Becker, J. (article) "A Musical Icon: Power and Meaning in Javanese Gamelan Music"

Reid, A. *Southeast Asia In the Age of Commerce, Vol. 1* p. 1-11, 201-15.

Lansing, J. Stephen *The Three Worlds of Bali*, p.51-93

Bandem/DeBoer. *From Kaja to Kelod*. p. vii-viii, 1-14, 26-27, 44-45, 70, 102-106

Geertz, Clifford and Hildred *Kinship in Bali* p. 1-30.

Week 9 (February 28, March 2)

Anthropological Arguments About Bali.

Reading:

Geertz, C. *The Interpretation of Cultures* p. 360-412 ("Person, Time and Conduct in Bali")

Picard, M. (article): "Cultural Tourism in Bali: Cultural Performances as Tourist Attraction" in *Indonesia* 49 1990: 37-74.

Vickers, A. *Being Modern in Bali*, Chapter 1 (Introduction), 1-37.

Wikkan, U. *Managing Turbulent Hearts*, 3-38

Robinson, G. *The Dark Side of Paradise*, 1-18

Week 10 (March 7, 9)

Bali and Modernity

Reading:

McGraw, Andrew Clay. 2005. *Musik Kontemporer: Experimental Music by Balinese Composers*. (Introduction)

Rubinstein, Raechelle and Linda H. Connor, eds. 1999. *Staying Local in the Global Village: Bali in the Twentieth Century*. (pages TBA)

Vickers, Adrian, Ed. 1996, *Being Modern in Bali*. (Introduction)

Paper due March 14

Unit 3: Week 11-14 (March 14, 16, 21, 23, 28,30, and April 4)

Independent or Collaborative Projects

Project suggestions:

- Transcribing and Analyzing a full composition
- Preparing and Doing a Balinese ritual (with Putu Widiyanti)
- Critical and Comparative Studies of Anthropological or Musical Writings or Films about Bali (library research)
- Ethnography/Biography of a local Balinese (contacts available: Kadek Suriana, Wayan Sudirana, Putu Widiyanti, Heny Janawati, Ketut Suarman, Wayan Sugita)
- Tuning Study of UBC's Gamelan
- Other ideas?

During these weeks we will devote class time to the subjects you choose for your projects, share independent work-in-progress, and do in-class collaborative learning. N.B. Class will be cancelled April 6th.

(Mainly) English-Language book-length Studies, Theses, or Dissertations on Balinese Music (* = on reserve; + = in my office)

- +Asnawa, Ketut Gde. 1991. *The Kendang Gambuh in Balinese Music*. M.A. Thesis: University of Maryland, Baltimore County.
- *Bakan, Michael. 1999. *Music of Death and New Creation: Experiences in the World of Balinese Gamelan Baleganjur*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. ML345.15 B34 1999
- +Basset, Catherine. 2004. Tome I: *Gong, Vingt Ans de Recherche*; Tome II: *Musiques de Bali à Java: L'Ordre et la Fête*; Tome III: *Gamelan, Architecture Sonore* (internet site: /www.cite-musique.fr/gamelan/); Tome IV: *Roue Sonore, Cosmogonie et Structures Essentielles de L'offrande*; Tome V: *Bibliographie et Table des Matières*. Thèse d'Ethnologie: Université Paris X-Nanterre, Laboratoire d'Ethnomusicologie UMR 8574.
- +Dibia, Wayan. 1992. *Arja: A Sung Dance-Drama of Bali; A Study of Change and Transformation*. Ph.D. Dissertation: University of California at Los Angeles.
- *Gold, Lisa. 2004. *Music in Bali: Experiencing Music, Expressing Culture*. New York: Oxford University Press. ML345 I5 G64 2004
- +-----1998. *The gender wayang repertoire in theater and ritual: a study of Balinese musical meaning*. Ph.D. Dissertation: University of California at Berkeley.
- *Herbst, Edward. 1997. *Voices in Bali: Energies and Perceptions in Vocal Music and Dance Theater*. Hanover: University Press of New England. ML3758 I53 H47 1997
- +Kunst, Jaap, and C.J.A. Kunst-van Wely. 1925. *De Toonkunst van Bali*. Weltevreden, Koninklijk Bataviaasch Genootschap.
- +McGraw, Andrew Clay. 2005. *Musik Kontemporer: Experimental Music by Balinese Composers*. Ph.D. diss. Wesleyan University.
- *McPhee, Colin. 1966. *Music in Bali: A Study in Form and Instrumental Organization in Balinese Orchestral Music*. New Haven: Yale University Press. ML345 B3 M25
- +-----1946. *A House in Bali*. New York: The John Day Company. ML410 M17 A3
- +Ornstein, Ruby. 1971. *Gamelan Gong Kebyar: The Development of a Balinese Musical Tradition*. Ph.D. diss. University of California, Los Angeles.
- +Rai, Wayan. 1996. *Balinese Gambelan Semar Pegulingan Saih Pitu: The Modal System*. Ph.D. Dissertation: University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

- +Schaareman, D., ed., 1992. *Balinese Music in Context: A Sixty-Fifth Birthday Tribute to Hans Oesch*. Winterthur: Amadeus Verlag, Forum Ethnomusicologicum 4. 59-84.
- +Schlager, Ernst. 1976. *Rituelle Siebenton-Musik Auf Bali*. Winterthur: Amadeus Verlag, Forum Ethnomusicologicum 1. MAIN ML245 B34 S34 1976
- *Tenzer, Michael. 1998[1991] *Balinese Music*. Singapore: Periplus ML345 I5 T46 1998 (1991)
- *-----, 2000. *Gamelan Gong Kebyar: The Art of 20th Century Balinese Music*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press ML1251 I53 T45 2000
- +Tilley, Leslie. 2003. *The Technique of Reyong Norot Elaboration in Balinese Gamelan Music*. M.A. Thesis, University of British Columbia.
- +Wallis, Richard. 1979. *The Voice as a Mode of Cultural Expression in Bali*. Ph.D. Dissertation: University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Other Books on Reserve:

- Bandem, Madé and Fredrik E. DeBoer. 1995 [1981]. *From Kaja to Kelod: Balinese Dance in Transition*. Kuala Lumpur: Oxford University Press. KOERNER GV1703 I532 B3425 1981
- De Zoete, Beryl & Spies, Walter. *Dance and Drama in Bali*. MAIN GV1703 B3 D4 1958
- Geertz, Clifford 1973. *The Interpretation of Cultures*. New York: Basic Books. GN315 G36 1973
- Geertz, Hildred and Clifford Geertz. 1975. *Kinship in Bali*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. KOERNER GN635 B3 G42 1975
- Lansing, J. Stephen. 1983. *The Three Worlds of Bali*. Westport: Praeger/Greenwood Press. Also Video (same name) KOERNER DS647 B2 L26 1983
- Reid, Anthony. 1988, 1993. *Southeast Asia in the Age of Commerce, Vol. 1-2*: New Haven: Yale University Press. KOERNER DS526 R46 v. 1-2
- Robinson, Geoffrey. 1995. *The Dark Side of Paradise: Political Violence in Bali*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press. KOERNER DS647 B2 R63 1995
- Rubinstein, Raechelle and Linda H. Connor, eds. 1999. *Staying Local in the Global Village: Bali in the Twentieth Century*. Honolulu : University of Hawai'i Press. KOERNER DS647 B2 S77 1999
- Vickers, Adrian. 1989. *Bali: A Paradise Created*. Singapore: Periplus. KOERNER DS647 B2 T83 1989
- Vickers, Adrian, Ed. 1996, *Being Modern in Bali*. Yale Southeast Asia Studies Monograph 43. KOERNER DS647 B2 B37 1996
- Wikan, Uni. 1990. *Managing Turbulent Hearts: A Balinese Formula for Living*. University of Chicago Press KOERNER DS632 B25 W55 1990

Articles:

- Becker, Judith and Alton Becker. 1981. "A Musical Icon: Power and Meaning in Javanese Gamelan Music." In Steiner, W. ed., *The Sign in Music and Literature*. Austin: University of Texas Press. 203-25.
- Picard, Michel. 1990 "Cultural Tourism in Bali: Cultural Performances as Tourist Attraction" *Indonesia* 49: 37-74
- Vitale, Wayne. 1990. "Kotekan: The Technique of Interlocking Parts in Balinese Music" *Balungan*, 4(2)
- Vitale, Wayne. 2002. "Balinese music breaks the five-tone barrier: new composition for seven-tone gamelan," *Perspectives of New Music*, vol 40, no. 1, p. 5-69.

Recordings (a selected list; some are on reserve, others in the collection):

Buda Records

92531-2 *Gong Kebyar of Sebatu*

CMP

CD 3003 *Gamelan Batel Wayang Ramayana*

- CD 3008 *Gamelan Semar Pegulingan Saih Pitu: The Heavenly Orchestra of Bali*
 CD 3014 *Gender Wayang Pemarwan*
 CD 3011 *Jegog: The Bamboo Gamelan of Bali*
- King Records
 KICC 5126 *Gamelan Music of Bali*
 KICC 5127 *Music of Bali*
 KICC 5128 *Kecak and Sanghyang of Bali*
 KICC 5154 *Gamelan Gong Kebyar "Eka Cita"*
 KICC 5157 *Jegog of Negara*
 KICC 5156 *Gender Wayang of Sukawati Village*
 KICC 5155 *Gamelan Semar Pegulingan of Binoh Village*
 KICC 5153 *Gamelan Gong Gde of Batur Temple*
 KICC 5182 *Gamelan Selonding "Guna Winangun"*
 KICC 5180 *Gamelan Semar Pegulingan "Gunung Jati"*
 KICC 5181 *Gamelan Joged Bumbung "Suar Agung"*
 KICC 5183 *Geguntangan Arja "Arja Bon Bali"*
 KICC 5195 *"Golden Rain" Gong Kebyar Gunung Sari*
 KICC 5196 *Saron of Singapadu, Bali*
 KICC 5197 *Balaganjur of Pande and Angklung of Sidan*
- Long-Distance
 122119 *Clash of the Gongs (Kebyar from Munduk and Sawan Villages)*
- Nonesuch
 9 79204-2 *Bali: Gamelan and Kecak*
 9 79196-2 *Music from the Morning of the World*
- Ocora
 C559002 *Bali: Musique pour le Gong Gde*
 C559076/77 *Bali: Hommage a Wayan Lotring*
 C560057/58 *Bali: Les Grands Gong Kebyar des Annees Soixante*
- Rykodisc
 RCD10315 *Music for the Gods*
- New World Records
 CD 80430-2 *American Works for Balinese Gamelan*
- Vital Records
 401 *Music of the Gamelan Gong Kebyar Vol. 1*
 402 *Music of the Gamelan Gong Kebyar Vol. 2*
 403 *Music of the Gamelan Gambuh Theater*
 404 *Gamelan Cudamani*