



Department of Music
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
香港中文大學 音樂系

Colloquium

Towards the Applicability of Musical *Terror* to the Context of Dwindling Sonic Structures

by **Made Mantle Hood**
Universiti Putra Malaysia



Instrument specific tunings and fostering distinctive style have been cornerstones of Balinese music for generations. However, tuning systems as sonic structures have diminished considerably with the expanse of modernity and the invasion of conservatory-trained teachers into village contexts where “unique tunings have consequently disappeared over recent decades” (Harnish 2005). With the influx of “transnational popular styles,” globally oriented youth-culture may be oblivious to what sonic structures lurk just beneath the surface of homogenized diatonic soundscapes. Therefore it seems pertinent to address the issue of what has been recently deemed “musical invasives,” not as preservationists, but as active agents in the dynamic, multi-tiered exchange between industry leaders, researchers and local bearers of culture to participate in the active recreation of soundscapes that are sustainable and musically diverse. In this paper I do just that by examining the applicability of a highly prescriptive approach to biological systems called *terror* to the arts and humanities. I will argue that “musical terror” as a concept may provide a framework for approaching and empowering musical systems such as the increasingly endangered Balinese tuning systems that may be nurtured and cultivated to satisfy local agendas against the backdrop of dominant global cultural forces.

Made Mantle Hood is currently Associate Professor of ethnomusicology at Universiti Putra Malaysia and has been lecturer and research fellow in ethnomusicology and Indonesian Studies at Monash University and Melbourne University. While studying at Universität zu Köln, he was the recipient of both a one-year Fulbright and two-year DAAD scholarships and awarded a research assistantship at the Berlin Phonogram Archive. In 2010, his book entitled *Triguna: A Hindu-Balinese Philosophy for Gamelan Gong Gede Music* was published by Lit Verlag Press in Muenster. He researches musical diversity and the negotiation of tradition and is the Secretary of ICTM PASEA.

1 April 2014 (Tuesday)/ 4:30 - 6:00 p.m.
Refreshments served after the event
Rm LG01, Hui Yeung Shing Building, Chung Chi College,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

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下午四時半至六時
崇基學院
香港中文大學
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