



Dr Karen Lonsdale

Abstract

Malaysia is a country in South-east Asia with a multi-ethnic, multi-cultural and multi-religious society, that consists of Malay, Chinese, Indian and indigenous peoples. Malaysia has a vibrant, growing music scene, with a large number of flute players who play the modern Western classical flute in wind orchestras, symphony orchestras, pops orchestras, marching bands, and small ensembles, including traditional Malaysian music ensembles.

Several Malaysian universities offer undergraduate and post-graduate music courses, in which flute may be studied as a major applied study, as part of an ensemble such as marching band, wind orchestra, pops orchestra, symphony orchestra, or for music education courses for pre-service teachers, such as woodwind pedagogy. The standard flute repertoire contains numerous pieces for intermediate and advanced players that are based on Asian themes, or written by Asian composers, and various pieces based on Chinese, Korean, or Japanese folk songs. However, a critical review of existing beginner flute books written in the English language revealed that there is no music from Malaysia, and few Asian melodies included in the content of books used widely in Malaysia and internationally. The primary aim of this research is to source traditional Malaysian music such as folk songs, and create new tunes based on Malaysian themes, towards the development of a new method book designed for beginner flute players in Malaysia. The new book also includes traditional tunes from other Asian countries, well-known traditional tunes from various countries around the world, as well as beautiful melodies from the traditional Western classical repertoire.

Bio

Karen Lonsdale holds a Bachelor of Music and a Graduate Diploma of Music from the Queensland Conservatorium of Music, Australia, a Meisterklassendiplom from the Hochschule für Musik in Munich, Germany, and a Doctor of Musical Arts from Griffith University, Australia. She has presented research papers in the USA, Australia, Thailand, and Malaysia. She performed extensively as an orchestral flautist in Australia before taking up her current position as Senior Lecturer at the Faculty of Music and Performing Arts, Sultan Idris Education University, Malaysia.

Affendi Ramli is Head of Music and Music Education at the Faculty of Music and Performing Arts, Sultan Idris Education University, Malaysia. He was formerly the Orchestra Manager of Radio Television Malaysia (RTM). He has presented research papers and his compositions at conferences in Singapore, Malaysia, and France. His research interests are music technology, composition, arranging, performance and electro-acoustic music.