

Utilizing Minangkabau “Gandang Tambua” Traditional Music Repertoire in Engineering the New Genre of Ensemble and Outdoor Music “Gong Tambur Madi”

MAHDI BAHAR

Department of Gamelan Music Art, Faculty of Performing Art, Indonesia Institute of the Arts Padang Panjang, Indonesia
email: bahar.mahdi@yahoo.com

Gandang tambua merupakan salah satu ansambel musik tradisional Indonesia, khususnya di Minangkabau, Sumatra Barat. Alat musik ini biasanya dimainkan di tempat terbuka pada waktu ada upacara-upacara dan kegiatan-kegiatan tradisional. Alat musik ini perlu dimodifikasi supaya menjadi alat musik yang modern atas dasar beberapa alat music dengan nada-nadanya diatur secara horisontal maupun vertikal. Di samping itu, ada beberapa alat baru yang perlu dilengkapi supaya untuk membentuk suatu ansambel yang disebut Gong Tambur Madi. Ansambel ini bisa berfungsi sebagai ungkapan musik yang berdasarkan estetika lokal Indonesia sehingga akan menjadi estetika global yang sekarang ini diperlukan di mana-mana, khususnya di Indonesia.

Gandang tambua is one of the Indonesian traditional music (esp. Minangkabau – West Sumatera) ensembles. It is primarily used in traditional activities and custom ceremonies performed out-door by their communities. The musical genre is potential to be improved become a new musical ensemble built based on several musical instruments and the arrangements of their tones horizontally and vertically. In addition, there are some new instruments to be completed in order to become a musical system and an ensemble. The ensemble is called *Gong Tambur Madi*. The ensemble can function as a musical expression based on the Indonesian local aesthetics, so that it becomes a global aesthetic commonly needed right now everywhere, especially in Indonesia.

Key words: *gandang tambua*, improved, ensemble, out-door music, aesthetics.

Out-door music (is a music arranged and performed, primarily, in open out door, used for a parade or a procession) is a part of important aspects for supporting any activities, especially in ceremonial or procession and parade in daily life. Right now, we rarely see the activities without musical ensemble in modern life, let alone in traditional one. Ideally, for the problems, we ought to have musical performance stocks, ready to use, either in the quality or quantity aspects, to fulfill the demands. As we know, there is only one musical ensemble well-known and used massively in society, especially in Indonesia even in all over the world, namely, marching-band. The

genre of this musical concept is originally from the European culture. March (music), musical composition designed to stimulate and organize the movements of large groups of people; particularly soldiers. The rhythmic beat, therefore, has always been most important and strongly accented in all marches. In early military marches, drums playing prescribed rhythms for different paces were the principal instruments; they were frequently accompanied by fifes and occasionally by trumpets. By the middle of the 17th century the drums lost their prominence, as the character of the march became ceremonial as well as military. Marches