



MINISTRY OF CULTURE
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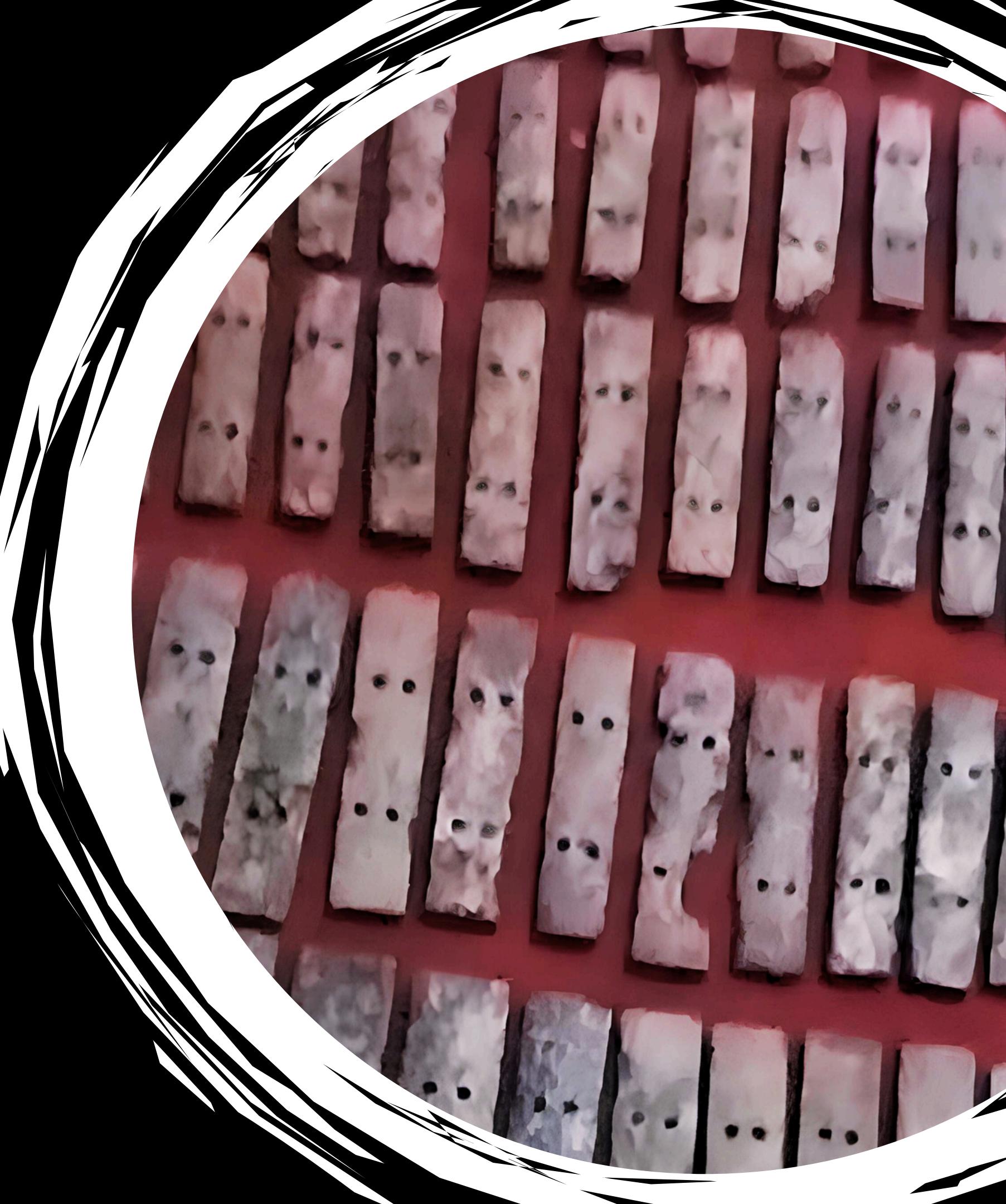


GAMELAN SELONDING AS A SOURCE OF AESTHETIC INSPIRATION AND IDENTITY FOR YOUNG BALI ARTISTS

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HISTORY, FORM AND FUNCTION OF GAMELAN SELONDING

8 centuries of Selonding gamelan

The Selonding gamelan has been recorded in inscriptions written during the reign of King Jayapangus (1103 Caka), such as the Campaga Inscription, the Bugbug Inscription, the Landih B. – Nongan Inscription, the Buwahan Inscription, the Bulian Inscription, and the Jagaraga Inscription, which mention the term *selunding wsi*.

Gamelan Selonding is sacred in large ceremonial rituals, emphasizing the communal identity of the community, making it a medium connecting humans with the transcendental dimension.

Selonding is now a source of aesthetic inspiration that gives birth to innovative works, both in the realm of performance and the creation of new music and new gamelan

The Transformation of Gamelan Selonding from Socio-Religious to Modern Culture

Social and cultural changes occur in the era of modernization and globalization

Artists' aesthetic reinterpretation of the potential of Selonding gamelan to be developed as a creative medium.

The Influence of Globalization, the Tourism Industry and as a representation of strengthening Balinese Cultural Identity in the Global Era



Inventory of Creative Compositions and New Gamelan

- In 1988, I Nyoman Windha created a musical composition entitled Bali Aga using the Gamelan Selonding medium combined with vocals and several other instruments
- In 1988, I Komang Astita composed a piece entitled Ubit Ning Selonding, which was inspired by various playing techniques in the Selonding gamelan, including gegebug ngerejeg, nerompong, sekati, and rereongan. This composition represents an in-depth exploration of musicality and performance techniques, resulting in a new musical structure that diverges from earlier traditional patterns



Advanced....

- In 2024, Agus Andi Pastika et al. created several compositions that refer to neo-selonding.
- Inspired by the Selonding gamelan, I Dewa Gde Darmayasa created a new ensemble called Salukat in 1991. This gamelan differs organologically from the Selonding gamelan.
- Inspired by the Selonding gamelan, I Wayan Arik Wirawan created the Pesel gamelan in 2013, which combines elements of the Selonding gamelan and the Smar Pagulingan gamelan.
- The Diatonic Selonding Gamelan, created in 2022, represents a development of the musical scale intended to expand the scope of artistic creativity





Reinterpretation of Tradition

Reinterpretation enables cultural traditions to sustain their relevance in contemporary contexts while preserving their historical foundations.

The reinterpretation of Selonding does not diminish its original meaning; instead, it introduces new dimensions that broaden its social and artistic functions.

Transformation within the framework of revitalization ensures that the Selonding gamelan remains an integral aspect of Balinese cultural life, while simultaneously serving as a symbol of cultural identity that is both adaptive and relevant within the global artistic and cultural sphere.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, Selonding gamelan plays a vital role in Balinese society today. While maintaining its sacred function within the Bali Aga community, it has also transformed into an aesthetic medium that inspires new artistic expression. This dual role underscores Selonding's enduring significance as both a marker of cultural identity and a vibrant source of creativity for future generations.





THANK YOU