The Performing Arts of Bali  
Course Syllabus for OLLI, Fall 2016, September 26-October 31  
Lisa Gold, PhD  

Mondays from 1-3pm  

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Course Description  
In this course we delve into the rich world of Balinese performing arts – an integration of music (gamelan), dance, and theater - and its significance to those who make and appreciate it. We will view performance as a conveyor of meaning in Bali, and gamelan as an aesthetically complex, energetic music. Through analysis of videos, films, recordings, readings, lecture-demonstrations and workshops in music, dance and shadow theater, we will examine forms of Balinese dance, theater and ritual in relation to historical and contemporary Balinese world view. We will consider the interplay between Balinese performing arts and contemporary Indonesia and the rest of the world.  

The term gamelan refers to bronze and bamboo ensembles found throughout Java and Bali in diverse forms. This course will include one hands-on performance workshop on the Department of Music’s beautiful Balinese gamelan Semar Pagulingan, taught by me (Lisa Gold) with a renowned Balinese musician, I Dewa Putu Berata. Students will experience playing interlocking parts, exciting rhythms, and learn first-hand about Balinese ways of thinking about musical time, melody, texture, and timbre. Additionally, we will present one lecture-demonstration on Balinese music and dance, featuring Dewa Putu Berata and the Balinese dancer, Emiko Saraswati Susilo.  

Readings: There is one required textbook (available at the ASUC store and online through Amazon and other websites): my book Music in Bali: Experiencing Music, Expressing Culture. (2005, Oxford University Press). This book comes with a CD that you must have while reading. Additional readings are accessible on the course website and in a course reader. Additionally there are other readings, listening selections, and video examples on reserve in the Music Library.
Course Calendar

Sept. 26  Introduction: Ethnomusicology, Southeast Asian History, Balinese Music in Context

Read and Listen: *Music in Bali* Preface and Chapter 1

Oct. 3  Balinese Music in Context: Simultaneous Soundings in the *Odalan* (temple ceremony)

Read and Listen: *Music in Bali* Chapters 2 & 3

Oct. 10  **Class meets today in the UCB Dept of Music Gamelan room – Room 255 Morrison Hall: upstairs continue straight ahead through glass doors.**

Music Workshop & Lecture-Demonstration. The first part of class today will be a hands-on workshop where students learn to play interlocking parts on the Balinese *gamelan* (Lisa Gold and I Dewa Putu Berata). The second half of class will be a lecture-demonstration of the layers of sound in the music and the relationship between music, dance, and theater.

   Areas covered: distinctions between male, female, and androgynous dance styles, strong and refined character types, cueing and flexibility, drumming, classical and contemporary dance styles, and masked dance theater.

Read and Listen: *Music in Bali* Chapters 4 & 5


Read: TBD

Oct. 31  Course Conclusions; Contemporary Balinese music, dance, and *wayang.*