

# Creativity: The Millennial Gamelan

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## ABSTRACT

The millennial generation is a reformer relay generation from the previous generation, which bring so many changes to be more creative and innovative mindset. This study has a background by an anticipatory attitude towards the millennial generation's interest in traditional gamelan music therefore it still exists in present even though it's bumped with the incoming of foreign culture. The concept or underlying this study is the theory of creativity. Whereas the study method that used is a literature study. Afterwards the purpose of this study is to describe the creativity of the millennial generation in playing gamelan through a touch of collaborative creativity that can increase the enthusiasm of the millennial generation in recognizing gamelan art. As for the procedures that carried out in this study are literature (articles, journals about creativity) and documentation via YouTube. The results of the study obtained from this research are being able to produce a new contemporary masterpiece through collaboration and creativity so that it can be able to align gending (traditional) music with contemporary musical genres that are in accordance with the color of music loved by the millennial generation so that they can go as time goes by.

**Keywords:** Millennial generation, Gamelan, Creativity.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The rapid developments nowadays that occur in the industrial revolution era are able to affect developments in various aspects of human life. These things certainly also have an impact on the presence of advanced technology that increasing, as of it can support all changes that occur significantly and can change the order of life that is more advanced. The direction of progress in question is a manifestation of the current of modernization which is a process of transformation of change in a more increasing direction in various human lives [1]. Thus, it becomes a challenge for the millennial generation at nowadays because the millennial generation is considered a relay of reformers from the previous generation that gives a new nuance to a creative and innovative thinking as an answer of the challenges faced in this modernization era. The millennial generation is the generation born in the early 1980s-2000s [2].

The millennial generation's attempt to an answer all these challenges is to balance the advanced of technology that continues to develop and be able to compete in maintaining or creating something new to the existing global scale rhythms quickly, precisely, practically and briefly. In addition, it is necessary to be aware of the positive and negative impacts of this

technological sophistication. [3] The positive impact of technology is that could make humans to find information and interaction easier, while the negative impact makes humans behave selfishly, instantaneously, and reduces interaction with the surrounding environment. Referring to these influences, it shows how easy it is for foreign cultures to get in to Indonesia which affects the mindset of the millennial generation so that it can be feared that it would be cause the faded of existing cultural values and also seem to reduce the values of togetherness starting to be eroded as well. We should be able to maintain the cultural values created in the community today even though the conditions of the times are different. We all know that there are 7 elements of culture: language, knowledge system, social organization, living equipment system, living livelihood system, religious system, and art [4].

One of the existing art forms is regional music which in each region has different characteristics, so it certain to realize the cultural diversity that exists in Indonesia and we should protect and preserve it. Traditional art that is full of local wisdom values is able to show the identity of a nation. Local wisdom consists of two words, namely wisdom (wisdom) and local (local). The meaning is local is sectional, while wisdom

is prudence [5]. One of the example of local wisdom form is gamelan art.

Gamelan is a form of musical ensemble that is played together as an instrument game that becomes an unified whole from the sound produced by highlighting metallophones, xylophones, drums, and gongs [6]. In addition, there is also an understanding that gamelan music is a form of music that is played in groups where each player or musician has a task of sounding a gamelan instrument in an orderly and easy listened, so that the player or gamelan musician doesn't only learn how to play it technically, but also learns how to play it. With understanding the meanings that contained in the gamelan musical instrument [7]. We should be proud that Indonesia has a wide variety of gamelan, including Sundanese gamelan, Javanese gamelan, Balinese gamelan, and Minang gamelan which certainly have their own characteristics, like from the elements of the scale, the technique of playing, the voice color of the tone and the form of the gamelan.

Basically the art of learning gamelan, whether learning Javanese gamelan, Sundanese gamelan, Balinese gamelan, and Minang gamelan, turns out to have the essence of togetherness values and the same responsibility in character building which is also the same for musicians according to their respective roles in holding their instruments. Especially in learning Sundanese gamelan art methodologically that teaches the value of cooperation, sharing roles, and training to keeping away from ego when playing the instrument in order to achieve the expected harmony and maintain the value of one idea [8].

During the ongoing learning process, it's very necessary to have high responsiveness between teachers or trainers on learning objects, especially the millennial generation, that must be able to read or be responsive to the learning models, methods, and learning strategies provided. It means that there must be the emergence of new ideas or ideas that are raised either from teachers or trainers or the millennial generation as learning objects or actors who are ultimately expected to be learning subjects. Thus, it appears that there is creativity in it by not closing the possibility of working innovation. Creativity is an ability that expected to produce or create something new [9].

Based on the existing problems, a research question arises: How to anticipate the millennial generation's interest in traditional gamelan music nowadays. The purpose of this research is to increase the enthusiasm of the millennial generation in traditional gamelan music through a touch of creativity.

## 2. RESEARCH METHODS

This study used a literature study method. Literature study is a series of activities related to the method of collecting library data, reading and taking notes and managing research materials. Researchers chose the literature study method in research because researchers didn't have to conduct research directly in the field or even meet with resource persons considering the COVID-19 pandemic situation that imposed PPKM as if the data obtained by researchers was only through library and document sources.

Researchers also collect data from scientific articles, journals, and YouTube resources. The participants that the researchers used in this study, for example, were the Sambasunda group, Gending Sari Junior Karawang, and the videos on YouTube which could be categorized into the millennial generation, then enthusiastic in practicing which in the end could bear to a new work patterns and works that innovative and creative.

From collecting data, both from articles, journals, and social media such as YouTube and Instagram, answering the problems that exist in the research can be obtained so that they can be used as materials or delivery materials in the learning process applied to the millennial generation by researchers.

## 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the data collection that has been obtained, at least there's a reference in appreciating a form of performance presentation or gamelan art performance that has contemporary nuances. In terms of creativity, which can be seen from the display related to the millennial generation as participants, it's so accurate on target because the first purpose of this research is that this research method in literature is able to penetrate a high level of creativity in the reality of the work that is realized as the end of a masterpiece. authentic and beautiful. The work that has been created is an original form of work with a touch of style that is contemporary and still has a high aesthetic element. From the opinions of art experts about creativity, the emergence of creativity can directly influence the souls of the millennial generation to dare to try to explore their potential while keeping the stiff in their hearts so that they can exist in a work. Exploring the self-potential of the millennial generation means as an effort to generate the new ideas conceptually afterwards there is a development through the work process until it ends in a form or design or work according to the level of expression of the young soul in creativity. The creativity here means an activity to produce or create something new [10].

So, it is very appropriate if the current conditions require the millennial generation to show their work in

the world of tradition, especially in gamelan art. Internal self-motivation is really needed and also supported by external motivation from the trainer, fellow participants, and the surrounding environment.

Creativity is an accumulation of the 4 P's, namely Personal (Person), Process (Process), Push and Support (Press), and Product (Product) [11]. Personal (Person) means creativity that focuses on the individual or creative person. Each individual or person as a participant is able to show their own talents and the uniqueness of the whole personality in interaction with the environment. The process of involving participants during creativity that takes place or is carried out that focuses on the thinking process as if unique or creative ideas emerge which are considered as abilities that reflect fluency, flexibility (flexibility), and originality in thinking and are able to elaborate (develop, enrich, analyze) to the idea that more innovative and varied direction (thinking divergence). Encouragement or support (Press) internally in the form of the urge and desire to create creatively based on imagination and fantasy. Product is a creative work that focuses on what is produced by individuals, whether it is something new (original) or an innovative elaboration of combinations of new and existing combinations.

According to the 4 P's by people who is very creative, especially with a multit talented soulful, it's certain that the creation or artwork produced is a masterpiece that has high aesthetic value and perfect creativity. Likewise, with the millennial generation in responding to current conditions which are still wrapped in the value of local wisdom of gamelan art in order to remain sustainable. These things certainly don't keep away itself from the surroundings of existing gamelan art, but the millennial generation has a desire to familiarize themselves by knowing, trying, learning, displaying and finally being able to create a work.

From observations on YouTube that researchers have done, the appreciation of the appearance of the Sambasunda group which is a form of collaboration between Sundanese gamelan music and diatonic music produces a new packaging that is attractive and can inspire the millennial generation to see it. In addition to creating a new work, the Sambasunda group also creates a harmonious arrangement as if it's suitable as a form of public consumption. Sambasunda's works on YouTube include KPJ, Es Lilin, Pantun, Konde Rogan, Hariring Kuring, Harepan and others. In addition, another group such as Gending Sari Junior Karawang also creates collaborations with Sundanese gamelan music with diatonic instruments. The creation of harmonization between the forms of ethnic music and Western music is able to give a beautiful feel to the work presented.



**Figure 1** Harepan – Sambasunda on Youtube.



**Figure 2** Rakitan Sora – Gending Sari Junior Karawang on Youtube.

From those two groups (figure 1 and 2), it's clear that the existence of the millennial form of gamelan is has been seen because the harmonization is created from the collaboration between ethnic and diatonic music which is packaged in a more dynamic, creative, and modern impression, but still feels the essence of ethnic wisdom. A good mix of musical instruments or instruments used and those who play them are also considered by the younger generation and there is also the influence of a sense of enthusiasm, high idealism, a love for art, and the current conditions. The musical instruments used are saron, bonang, drums, suling, violin, bass, guitar, and drums.

The creative attempt shown is seen through a touch of collaboration in playing instruments that are mixed and matched in such a way as to produce a tone that is in harmony with more exclusive innovation style as if a modern impression can be seen, but the greatness of the sound of the ethnic instrument (pentatonic) is still felt. The characteristics of creativity include the following:

- 1) Have an extensive and deep curiosity;
- 2) Have high imagination power;
- 3) Always give ideas or suggestions on a problem;
- 4) Seeing a problem from various points of view;
- 5) Be original in the expression of ideas and in problem solving.

With the ability of creativity which has existed, it's a certain by giving a new color in every work that is created. The totality of touch with all the of heart and taste that starts from ideas or concept that are processed or worked on through an original process and elaborated in various and full of innovations, then supported by diatonic music and the sophistication of existing technology as illustrations as if to create an attractive combination or collaboration as an illustration as a final work.

It's the obligation of the millennial generation to maintain the existence of gamelan as a tradition and always strive to preserve the essential culture of the nation. As for the gap between the older generation and the millennial generation, from the academic community, artists, the younger generation, art sympathizers, art communities, art studios, it have to be in harmony with the vision and mission of local wisdom of gamelan art nowadays. Meanwhile, the reality of the standardized traditions that framed the ancients have to be willing to provide space for the millennial generation to be more open to aesthetic renewal efforts according to the current developments.

This is certainly closely related to the context of the dominance of creativity that exists at this time in fact able to answer our concerns about the existence of traditional gamelan art which may be drowned, but basically the reality on the fact actually bear to high ideas and innovations so as to realize the form of works of art full of collaboration arrangements of ethnic music and Western music.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

The conclusion of this research is Millennial Gamelan is a form of presenting a harmonious collaboration between gamelan (ethnic music) and diatonic music which packaged or worked on by the younger generation creatively and innovatively thus it looks modern and more beautiful today. The arrangement of the musical compositions is clearly conceptualized and gets a touch of maximum creativity.

That everything accompanied by a high desire for innovative creativity in the millennial generation towards gamelan art is able to create its own charm as if it can produce beautiful and amazing masterpieces and always maintain the existence of traditional gamelan art although the influence of outside cultures that could influenced. One way to do this influenced is by playing collaborative games in presenting attractive works that are more contemporary in nature and it's appropriate that there is an obligation for the millennial generation to always maintain the preservation and local wisdom or essence that is owned according to the characteristics of

the gamelan art. This is the demeanor of the millennial generation that must always be owned and always embedded in the heart.

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