Musicians' Creativity in Developing Songs from the '90s to the Present Context (Case Study of Band Diffunex and Ruang Putih)

Ekklesia Yomuda[1]*

SMA Sejahtera Prigen[1]*

Article Info	ABSTRACT
Corresponding Author: Ekklesia Yomuda E-mail: f*avioekklesia55@gmail.com*	This study explores how musicians innovate in creating songs that combine elements of the '90s and current trends through in-depth interviews with the DiffunexBangil Band and the Ruang Putih Gempol Band. Using qualitative research methods, the results show the musicians incorporate new elements into their music while still maintaining the '90s vibe, creating a synergy between nostalgia and innovation. Factors driving this creativity include the influence of popular culture, evolving music technology, and the desire to remain relevant in the ever-changing music industry. The aim of this research is to provide new insights into how musicians adapt and innovate in an ever-changing context, and how they use their creativity to bridge the gap between the past and the present. the results of this study describe the information obtained from various sources focusing on (1) The formof creativity of today's musicians in translating '90s music elements into their works, (2) The challenges faced by musicians in trying to incorporate the '90s vibe into contemporary music, (3) How musicians use their creativity in preserving the essence of '90s music while remaining relevant in the modern music industry. **Keywords:** Musician's Creativity, Songs, the '90s, Current Context

INTRODUCTION

Classical and non-classical music are terms that are often used in everyday musical life, but their meaning is not yet clear. In the beginning there was no such thing as classical music or classical style. According to the Indonesian Encyclopedia, it is explained that classic means a work from the past that has high and scientific value and has a level of beauty that will not fade over time. In the world of music, classical terminology is often associated with musical traditions in the Western world with the use of instruments that refer to Western traditions. In the history of music, the word classical refers to a specific period marked by the death of Johan Sebastian Bach (1750) and the end of the Baroque era (Prasetyo, 2020; Supriyadi, 2019).

Music is something that is loved by many people in the world, including Indonesia. The existence of music is integrated in people's lives and has an important role that is difficult

Musician's Creativity in Developing Songs from the '90s to the Present Context (Case Study of Band Diffunex and Ruang Putih) –
Ekklesia Yomuda

61

to separate from some parts of society. Since ancient times, music has been an effective means of expressing the soul, carrying out religious rituals, entertainment, economic means, and can also be a means of conveying messages in communicating in society (Lestari, 2019).

Entertainment music is the most popular music among modern society today. In general, the creativity of musical entertainment is limited by people's tastes. From an economic perspective, music entertainment is a form of industry. The success of an entertainment music show is determined by its sales promotion. In order to achieve success, music entertainment managers need to understand current market tastes. The characteristics of entertainment music refer to the diatonic system originating from the West, while local characteristics are generally dominated by linguistic aspects (Muttaqin, 2008; Wahyuningsih & Sos, 2015). However, in traditional society there is also entertainment music which refers to traditional music idioms (Maula & Anggoro, 2024; Mutaqin & Kustap, 2007).

The main aim of this research is to understand the creative process used by musicians today in adapting and developing songs from the '90s era which includes the techniques, tools and approaches used. By understanding how today's musicians adapt '90s songs, this research can help identify trends and patterns in contemporary music. This research can provide valuable insight for the music industry into how past trends can be combined with today's music to create interesting and relevant sounds. The results of this research can be a source of inspiration for young musicians who want to learn how to combine elements from the music of the '90s into the work of today's musicians.

METHOD

Qualitative research is research that intends to understand phenomena about what is experienced by research subjects, for example behavior, perceptions, motivations, actions, holistically, and by means of descriptions in the form of words and language, in a special natural context and by utilizing various natural methods (Ibrahim et al., 2023; Moeloeng, 2018). Qualitative research is research that is used to investigate, discover, describe and explain the qualities or characteristics of social influences that cannot be explained, measured or depicted through a quantitative approach (Anggito & Setiawan, 2018). According to (Sugiyono, 2019) Qualitative research method is a research method based on the philosophy of post positivism, used to research the conditions of natural objects, (as opposed to experiments) where the researcher is the key instrument, sampling of data sources is carried out purposively and snowballing, the collection technique uses triangulation (triangulation). combined), data analysis is inductive or qualitative, and the results of qualitative research emphasize meaning rather than generalization (Duryadi, 2021).

In this research, the method used is qualitative research. Qualitative research is used to deepen understanding of how musicians cultivate their creativity in adapting and developing songs from the '90s into today's context. Data was collected through in-depth interviews with several bands, namely the Diffunex band and the Ruang Putih band. Participatory observation in the creative process of making songs, as well as documentation studies in the form of song lyrics. Data analysis was carried out using content analysis techniques to understand the meaning and message conveyed in the song. It is hoped that

Musician's Creativity in Developing Songs from the '90s to the Present Context (Case Study of Band Diffunex and Ruang Putih) –
Ekklesia Yomuda

62

the results of this research will provide a deeper understanding of musicians' creative processes and how they interpret and adapt the nuances of the '90s into today's context.

Music Definitions

The history of the development of music cannot be separated from the development of human culture. This is because music is a product of human culture alongside science, architecture, language and literature, and so on. According to Banoe (2003: 288), music comes from the word muse, which is one of the gods in ancient Greek mythology for the branches of art and science; god of arts and sciences. Apart from that, he also believes that music is a branch of art that discusses and organizes various sounds into patterns that can be understood and understood by humans. Meanwhile, according to Jamalus (1988: 1), music is a work of art in the form of sound in the form of a song or composition that expresses the thoughts and feelings of the creator through the main elements of music, namely rhythm, melody, harmony, and the form or structure of songs and expressions as a unity. Sylado (1983: 12) further said that music is a time to be heard. Music is a living form of time, which is a collection of illusions and sounds. Music that contains a series of soulful tones will be able to move the hearts of the listeners.From this opinion, it can be said that music is anything that is related to sound and has elements of rhythm, melody and harmony which create something beautiful and can be enjoyed through the listener's senses. It can be concluded that music is an art that arises from human feelings or thoughts as an expression of self-expression, which is processed into harmonious tones or sounds. If music is interpreted as a simple expression of the mood of the soul or a literal response to events from the composer's personal self, sufficient information or references are needed so that we can draw a direct connection between his life and his work (Ii & Teori, 2018)

Creativity Definitions

Creativity is a potential that every human being has and is not received from outside the individual. The creativity that humans have is born with the birth of that human. Since birth, individuals have shown a tendency to actualize themselves. In this life, creativity is very important, because creativity is a very meaningful ability in the process of human life. It must be admitted that it is difficult to determine one operational definition of creativity, because creativity is a plural and multidimensional concept, so many experts have put forward definitions of creativity. The different definitions of creativity put forward by experts are complementary definitions. Meanwhile, skills are the degree of consistent success in achieving a goal efficiently and effectively. A person's skills are reflected in their ability to complete certain movement tasks. The quality will be seen from the extent to which the person is able to carry out the given task with a certain level of success. The higher the success in carrying out the movement task, the better the person's skills. According to Conny R Semiawan (2009: 44) creativity is the modification of something that already exists into a new concept. In other words, there are two old concepts combined into a new concept. According to Utami Munandar (2009: 12), creativity is: The result of interactions between individuals and their environment, the ability to create new combinations, based on data, information, or elements that already exist or are previously known, namely all the

Musician's Creativity in Developing Songs from the '90s to the Present Context (Case Study of Band Diffunex and Ruang Putih)

Ekklesia Yomuda

experience and knowledge that has been created. acquired by a person throughout his life, whether in the school environment, family or from the community. Several techniques to stimulate creativity according to Nursito (1999: 34):

1. Active reading.
2. Likes to do research.
3. Actively appreciative
4. Love the value of art.
5. Respective of developments.
6. Produced a number of works.
7. Can provide examples of things that other people need.

Some of the explanations above can be stated that creativity is essentially a person's ability to give birth to something new, either in the form of an idea or real work, either in the form of new work or a combination of things that already exist, all of which are relatively different from what already exists. Previously (Darmawan, 2012).

Characteristics of Creativity According to Experts

According to the Diagnostic Guidelines for Student Potential (Ministry of National Education 2004: 19) in Nurhayati (2011: 10), the characteristics of creativity include:

1. Shows extraordinary curiosity.
2. Create a variety and number of ideas to solve problems.
3. Often offers unique and clever responses.
4. Dare to take risks.
5. Like to try.
6. Sensitive to the beauty and aesthetic aspects of the environment.

According to Conny R Semiawan (2009: 136) the characteristics of creativity are:

1. Dare to take risks.
2. Play a positive role, think creatively.
3. Formulate and define the problem.
4. Growth and development overcomes problems.
5. Tolerance for double problems (ambiguity).
6. Respect each other and the surrounding environment.

According to Utami Munandar (2009: 10) the characteristics of creativity can be divided into two, namely cognitive characteristics (aptitude) and non-cognitive characteristics (non-aptitude). The cognitive characteristics (aptitude) of creativity consist of originality, flexibility, fluency and elaborativeness. Meanwhile, non-cognitive characteristics of creativity include motivation, personality and creative attitudes. Creativity, including both cognitive and non-cognitive characteristics, is an important potential to be cultivated and developed.(Darmawan, 2012).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Musician's Creativity in Developing Songs from the '90s to the Present Context (Case Study of Band Diffunex and Ruang Putih) –
Ekklesia Yomuda

64

Musician's Creativity in Developing Songs from the '90s to the Present Context (Case Study of Band Diffunex and Ruang Putih)

Ekklesia Yomuda

Forms of Creativity for Today's Musicians in Translating Elements of '90s Music into Works

Researchers are looking for information regarding the creative forms of today's musicians in translating elements of '90s music into works in the city of Bangil and Gempol sub-district, with the sources being all members of the bands Diffunex and Ruang Putih. One of the Diffunex band members, namely Diffunex band guitarist Rizal Gani, said about the creativity of today's musicians in translating elements of '90s music into works, namely:

*"The forms of creativity for today's musicians can vary depending on each musician's preferences and musical style. We can take '90s music arrangements and then combine them with current music genres such as grooves which are currently trending in today's music world."*The following are several forms of creativity that can be used by today's musicians:

A. Reinterpretation of Melody and Arrangement

Musicians can reinterpret the melodies and arrangements of '90s songs by giving them a fresher and more contemporary touch. This can be done by changing the rhythm, harmony, or structure of the song to create a more modern feel. Melody and arrangement reinterpretation is the process of changing the melody and musical structure of an existing song or musical composition again.

B. Use of the Latest Music Technology

Today's musicians can utilize the latest music technology such as synthesizers, drum machines, or music production software to create more modern sounds and effects in songs with elements of '90s music. Using modern technology can produce unique and experimental sounds.

C. Collaboration with Other Musicians

Today's musicians can collaborate with other musicians who have different musical styles, including active '90s musicians or young musicians with influences from '90s music. This collaboration could result in an interesting combination of elements of '90s music and today's music styles.

Figure 1. Interview Process with All Diffunex Bangil Band Members

Musician's Creativity in Developing Songs from the '90s to the Present Context (Case Study of Band Diffunex and Ruang Putih) –
Ekklesia Yomuda

65

Challenges Musicians Face in Trying to Integrate '90s Feels into Contemporary Music

Researchers are looking for information regarding the challenges faced by musicians in trying to combine '90s nuances into contemporary music in Bangil, with the source being the drummer for the band Diffunex named Yusakh Rizky Roufaldi. Here's the explanation:

"There are many challenges that musicians face when combining the nuances of '90s music with today's music. We have to be smart and really understand what classical music is and what contemporary music is. Because if we can't understand both, we will have difficulty creating songs by combining classical music and contemporary music."

Trying to incorporate a '90s feel into contemporary music can present some challenges for musicians. The following is a deeper explanation from the drummer for the band Diffunex Bangil named Yusakh Rizky Roufaldi regarding some of the challenges that may be faced:

1. Maintaining a Balance Between Classic and Modern

Blending '90s vibes with contemporary music requires the right balance of classic and modern elements. Musicians need to ensure that songs retain the appeal and authenticity of '90s music while keeping up with the trends and needs of today's music market. It is important for musicians to have a deep understanding of the characteristics of classical and modern music. Classical music tends to have more complex structures and harmonies, while modern music tends to be more experimental and follows current trends. With this understanding, musicians can create the right balance between these two elements.

2. Addressing Listener Expectations

Listeners have different expectations regarding '90s music and contemporary music. Combining the two can bring out different hopes and expectations from listeners. Musicians need to consider listeners' preferences and find the right balance in meeting their expectations while still providing uniqueness and authenticity in their work.

3. Competing with Other Contemporary Music

Contemporary music has many variations and fierce competition. Musicians need to find ways to differentiate themselves from other musicians who are also trying to mix '90s vibes with contemporary music. Musicians need to find uniqueness and distinction in their approach to capture the attention of listeners. Here are several ways to face competition in the world of contemporary music: 1) Aligning with the Latest Trends. 2) Building Networks and Connections. 3) Have Good Production Quality. 4) Promote Yourself Effectively. 5) Develop a Strong Identity and Branding.

*Musician's Creativity in Developing Songs from the '90s to the Present Context (Case Study of Band Diffunex and Ruang Putih) – **Ekklesia Yomuda***

66

Figure 2. Interview Process with Diffunex Bangil Band Drummer

How Musicians Use Their Creativity to Preserve the Essence of '90s Music Remains Relevant in the Modern Music Industry

Researchers are looking for information regarding how musicians use their creativity to preserve the essence of '90s music and remain relevant in the modern music industry in Gempol sub-district with the source being the vocalist of the band Ruang Putih named Cantika Tri Islami. Here's the explanation:

"There are many ways we can preserve the essence of the '90s and remain relevant in today's modern music industry, namely by digging deeper into '90s songs. We can see from the lyrics that they have many meanings and contain deep poetry. "We can combine this with today's music, namely with the arrangements used by today's musicians."

Researchers also obtained additional information from Muhammad Rizky Maulana, guitarist for the band Ruang Putih regarding how musicians use their creativity to preserve the essence of '90s music and remain relevant in the modern music industry in the following ways:

1. Creating Relevant Lyrics

Musicians can use their creativity to create lyrics that are relevant to today, while still maintaining the essence of '90s music. Musicians can describe the experiences and feelings of today's generation by using a lyric writing style typical of '90s music. By creating relevant lyrics, musicians can keep the essence of '90s music relevant in the modern music industry.

2. Creating an Acoustic Version or Remix

Musicians can use their creativity to create acoustic versions or remixes of famous '90s songs. by changing the arrangement and musical approach, musicians can put a fresh spin on the songs and make them relevant to contemporary music. Acoustic versions or remixes can provide a different feel but still maintain the essence and authenticity of '90s songs. Here are several ways to create an acoustic version or remix:

    a. Creating songs that will be created with acoustic versions or remixes.
    b. Change Music Arrangement.
    c. Focus On Vocals.
    d. Experiment with Structure and Tempo.
    e. Maintain Production Quality.
    f. Exploration and Experimentation.

3. Exploring Classical Instruments

Musicians can use their creativity to explore classic instruments often used in '90s music, such as electric guitar, drums, or keyboards. Musicians can combine the sounds of these classic instruments with modern musical elements such as synthesizers or sampling to create unique and interesting sounds. By combining classical instruments with modern music technology, musicians can maintain the essence of modern music.

Musician's Creativity in Developing Songs from the '90s to the Present Context (Case Study of Band Diffunex and Ruang Putih) –
Ekklesia Yomuda

67

Figure 3. Interview Process with the Vocalist of the Ruang Putih Band

CONCLUSION

In the era of contemporary music that continues to develop, musicians face the challenge of maintaining the relevance and uniqueness of their music. through the use of creativity, musicians can develop songs with a '90s feel into today's context in interesting and innovative ways. Musicians adopt influences and inspiration from '90s music, changing musical arrangements, exploring classic instruments, and using modern production techniques to create a unique and relevant sound. Due to the limitations of researchers, the suggestion that researchers give is that researchers need to investigate the latest contemporary music trends and find out how musicians combine the nuances of the '90s into current trends. and finally by analyzing listeners' responses to songs with a '90s feel that were developed in the current context. Thus, this scientific paper can provide valuable insight for musicians, music producers and music lovers in understanding and appreciating development of music that is relevant to contemporary music trends

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

REFERENCES

Anggito, A., & Setiawan, J. (2018). *Metodologi penelitian kualitatif*. CV Jejak (Jejak Publisher).

Darmawan, D. (2012). Hakekat Kreativitas. *Journal Universitas Negeri Yogyakarta*, *53*(9), 17.

Duryadi. (2021). *Metoda Penelitian Ilmiah*. 32–40.

Ibrahim, M. B., Sari, F. P., Kharisma, L. P. I., Kertati, I., Artawan, P., Sudipa, I. G. I., Simanihuruk,

Musician's Creativity in Developing Songs from the '90s to the Present Context (Case Study of Band Diffunex and Ruang Putih) –
Ekklesia Yomuda

68

P., Rusmayadi, G., Nursanty, E., & Lolang, E. (2023). *METODE PENELITIAN BERBAGAI BIDANG KEILMUAN (Panduan & Referensi)*. PT. Sonpedia Publishing Indonesia.

Ii, B. A. B., & Teori, A. D. (2018). Gambus. *Benezit Dictionary of Artists*, 17–33. https://doi.org/10.1093/benz/9780199773787.article.b00070337

Lestari, N. D. (2019). Proses Produksi dalam Industri Musik Independen di Indonesia. *Jurnal Komunikasi*, *10*(2), 161–168. https://doi.org/10.31294/jkom.v10i2.6207

Maula, D., & Anggoro, R. R. M. K. M. (2024). IMPLEMENTASI MATA PELAJARAN SIMULASI DIGITAL MENGGUNAKAN SIBELIUS DI JURUSAN SENI MUSIK KLASIK SMKN 12 SURABAYA: Danin Maula*, Raden Roro Maha Kalyana Mitta Anggoro. *JPGENUS: Jurnal Pendidikan Generasi Nusantara*, *2*(1), 72–86.

Moeloeng, L. J. (2018). *Metodologi Penelitian Kualitatif, Edisi revisi; Cetakan ketiga puluh delapan*. Bandung.

Mutaqin, M., & Kustap. (2007). Seni Musik Klasik untuk Sekolah Menengah Kejuruan. In *Departemen Pendidikan Nasional* (Vol. 53, Issue 9).

Muttaqin, M. (2008). Seni Musik Klasik. *Jakarta: Direktorat Pembinaan Sekolah Menengah Kejuruan, Departemen Pendidikan Nasional*, *134*.

Prasetyo, N. (2020). *Anak, Kreativitas Dan Seninya (Musik)*. Deepublish.

Sugiyono. (2019). *Metode Penelitian Kuantitaif Kualitatif* (1st ed.). Alfabeta.

Supriyadi, S. (2019). Nilai Estetis Musik dalam Rentang Sejarah Musik Barat. *Tonika: Jurnal Penelitian Dan Pengkajian Seni*, *2*(1), 1–18.

Wahyuningsih, S., & Sos, S. (2015). *Komunikasi visual*. Madura: UTM Press.

Musician's Creativity in Developing Songs from the '90s to the Present Context (Case Study of Band Diffunex and Ruang Putih) –
Ekklesia Yomuda

69