



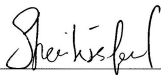
INTERPRETATION APPROACHES TOWARDS
DELIVERING EXPRESSIVE MUSICAL PERFORMANCES
(CASE STUDY IN UTM SHAH ALAM)

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DECLARATION OF AUTHENTICITY

I, undersigned, Leonardo Sheik Isabel Bin Sultan, declare that this dissertation is my original work, gathered and utilized especially to fulfill the purposes and objectives of this study, and has not been previously submitted to any other university for a higher degree. I also declare that the publications cited in this work have been personally consulted.



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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to discuss the approaches of interpretation used by students in their performance. To be more in depth, this study aims to investigate the relationship of imagination and expression in delivering performances as well to find out problems faced by students towards delivering expressive musical performances. This research is conducted by interviewing students and lecturers from Uitm Shah Alam . The methodology for this full study involves 9 questions that were specifically focused on imaginations and expressions as well other interpretation approaches. Besides that, this study also implies on jazz idiom, transcription of a recording by two different performances of the same piece will be analyzed and discussed regarding its rearrangement, articulation, harmony and other fundamentals that shows its applied in a jazz idiom. Which will be part of the findings in this study.

Table of Contents

No	Title	Page
1	Cover Page	
2	Declaration of Authenticity	
3	Abstract	
4	Acknowledgement	
5	Definition of Terminology	
6	CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION	
	1.1 Background of the study	1
	1.2 Statement of the problem	3
	1.3 Objective of the study	5
	1.4 Research Question of the study	5
	1.5 Significance of the study	6
	1.6 Scope of the study	6
7	CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW	
	2.1 Interpretation	7
	2.2 Musical Expressions	8
	2.3 Imaginations	13
	2.4 Tone Color	14
	2.5 Transcription	15
8	CHAPTER 3: METHODOLOGY	
	3.1 Research Design	17
	3.2 Sample of the Study	17

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Music is an art form that uses sound as the medium of integrating arts and human. Music is universal. It could be defined as one of the ways in which we communicate with each other. It could also be considered as one of the mediums in expressing our own feelings, emotions, moods and stories. "It is at the very essence of our humanity", (Hallam, 2011, pg.202).

Music is powerful and can literally affect our thoughts and feelings. "Music varies between individuals, groups, and cultures, but the main direction is to express the musical feelings", (Bohlman, 2002, pg.4). According to Raffman (1991), the concept of musical 'feeling' may extend to more distinctive qualities, such as "feelings of tautness, peacefulness, and restfulness". There are two different perspectives in dealing with musical feelings which is; from the view of the listeners and the performer themselves. Every person has their own way of interpreting a piece.

Musical performances, as an interpretive activity, it has to be understood by performers on the material that he/she choose to interpret. Art music in Malaysia has been increasing slowly, we could see achievements in our music industries day by day and it is good to know that many people have started to understand and appreciate music in Malaysia. The matter now, what percent of performers are delivering good quality performances? Do they know how to interpret a piece? Do they perform as a musician who has performance aesthetic? These are the kinds of questions that performer's must bear in mind if they are keen to go deeper in performance values.