Inscription

Kolintang

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Performing Arts

Province
North Sulawesi



Kolintang is a typical musical instrument from Minahasa (North Sulawesi) made from wood (that is rather light but quite dense and has fibers with parallel lines form) such as kayu telur, bandaran, wenang, kakinik etc., it can make a long sound and reach high and low notes. The word kolintang comes from the imitative expression of the sound: tong (low tone), ting (high tone) and tang (middle tone). In the past, Minahasa people invited to play kolintang by saying "let's (play) Tong, Ting, Tang" with term "Maimo Kumolintang" thus, kolintang emerged from the habit.

At first Kolintang only consisted of a few pieces of wood that were placed in a row on the two feet of the player sitting on the ground, with both legs stretched straight ahead. Over time, the players' feet were replaced with two banana logs, or sometimes they were replaced with ropes like Arumba (instrument) from West Java. Meanwhile, the use of resonator began since Prince Diponegoro (from Java) brought gamelan and xylophone to Minahasa in 1830, and influenced the kolintang.

The practice of kolintang is closely related to the traditional beliefs of the Minahasa people, such as ritual ceremonies related to the worship of ancestor spirits. Thus, the arrival of Christianity in Minahasa detracted the practice of kolintang and even almost disappeared for around 100 years. After World War II, kolintang was revived and pioneered by Nelwan Katuuk (who arranged the tones of kolintang according to the universal musical tones).

In the beginning, kolintang only had one melody with a diatonic tone arrangement (with a pitch distance of 2 octaves) and was accompanied by string instruments such as guitar, ukulele and string bass. In 1954, the diatonic instrument have developed with 21/2 octave. In 1960, it had reached 31/2 octaves with a tone of 1 cruis, naturel, and 1 mole. The basic tone is still limited to 3 chords (naturel, 1 mol, 1 cruis) with a range of 4 v. octaves and from F to C. Kolintang music have been developing the quality of the instruments and the expansion of the pitch range, it is shown in the shape of the resonator box (to improve the sound), as well as the appearance. Currently, kolintang has reached 6 octaves with full chromaticity.

Kolintang equipment is as follows: B-Bas = Loway, C-Cello = Cello, T-Tenor 1 = Karua - Tenor 2 = Karua rua A-Alto 1 = Uner - Alto 2 = Uner rua U-Ukulele = Katelu M-Melody 1 = Ina esa - Melody 2 = Ina rua - Melody 3 = Ina taweng.

The melody can be adapted to melody of a guitar, violin, xylophone or vibraphone. To lengthen the sound, it must be held by vibrating the beaters (commonly there are two beaters, one for playing basic melodies, the other for the singer's melodies (for a duet or trio, it will use three beaters). . If there are 2 melodies, they can be used together to make stronger sound, in order to balance the accompaniment instruments. Kolintang can be played by hitting the same note but with a different octave, or one can play melody of the song while the other is improvised. The cello, along with the melody, can be compared to a piano; the right hand on the piano is replaced by a melody, the left hand on the piano is replaced by a cello. The left hand on the cello holds the no. I functions as bass, while the right hand functions as accompaniment (beaters no.2 and no.3). That is why this tool is often referred to as contra bass. If it is played on the cello function in a keroncong orchestra, it will be easier to use only with two beaters, because the functions of the no.2 and no.3 beaters already exist in the tenor and alto.

- Tenor I don Alto I, the six bats can be compared to the six strings of a guitar.
- Alto II don Banjo as Ukulele and "choke" in the keroncong orchestra.
- Alto III (Ukulele) in kulintang is a "cymbaf; because of its high pitch, an alto III beater would be better if it was not made of rubber as long as it was played smoothly, so it doesn't cover up the sound of the melody (see instructions for using bass and contra melody)
- Tenor II (guitar) is the same as tenor I, use to strengthen the low pitched accompaniment.
- Bass, this tool is the biggest and produces the lowest sound.

Complete lineup (9 players):

- Melody, center front
- · Bass, rear left
- Cello, is placed behind the right and other instruments (depending on the width of the stage (2 or 3 rows) and the function of the instrument (as Tenor or Alto).

Kolintang music is currently developing, and is very well known in Minahasa and even throughout Indonesia and abroad. Kolintang is played at joyous events such as celebration for provinces, districts, municipalities to sub-district levels, parties, thanksgiving, welcoming guests and so on.

Approved By WBTB admin On 01-01-2013



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Menu

Home page (?)
About (?tentang)
Recording (?pencatatan)
Determination (?penetapan)
ICH UNESCO (?ichunesco)
Contact (?kontak)

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