GAMELAN TUNAS MEKAR PRESENTS

MUSIC & DANCE OF BALI

Experience the beauty of Balinese performing arts

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Gamelan Tunas Mekar
A Community Orchestra Performing New and Traditional Music & Dance of Bali, Indonesia

About Gamelan Tunas Mekar

Based in Denver, Colorado, USA, Gamelan Tunas Mekar is a community orchestra under the direction of Balinese composer and Artist-in-Residence I Made Lasmawan.

Since 1988, Tunas Mekar has presented the indigenous music of the island of Bali at music festivals, schools, private events, local venues, specially produced concerts, and by special invitation both internationally and nationally.

Modeled after typical village groups found throughout Bali, and learning by traditional methods, Tunas Mekar provides American audiences the rare opportunity to experience one of the world’s most beautiful and sophisticated performing arts.

Tunas Mekar performances include the use of one or more of the four sets of instruments owned by the ensemble: the small, mobile gamelan angklung, which is traditionally used in Bali for temple ceremonies; the larger, fiery gong semaradana, which was created relatively recently in Bali for secular performances; the traditional ceng-ceng kopyak, a set of hand-held cymbals and drums; and the joged bumbung, which is comprised of bamboo resonators lying horizontally and tied to bamboo frames.

About Balinese Gamelan

Balinese gamelan music is highly rhythmic, utilizing various gongs, drums and metallophones (bronze bars, suspended over bamboo resonators, that are struck with wooden mallets) encased in ornate hand-carved jackfruit wood. The Sanskrit root of the word gamelan means “to hammer,” and it is truly powerful and exciting to hear 20 people “hammer” heavy bronze bars in synchronized rhythms, accompanied by the sweet sound of bamboo flutes over a foundation provided by large gongs.

About Our Set

Our Candi Bentar (stage set) was designed, hand-built and hand-painted by Balinese artist I Made Sumayasa. Pak Sumayasa is an accomplished artist in the traditional Balinese style. His work is sought out by gallery owners and collectors throughout Bali and the US. Sumayasa has shown his paintings in the 2004 Artists of Hawaii juried exhibition at the Honolulu Academy of Arts and at the Gallery On The Pali.

To learn more and for a complete history of Tunas Mekar, visit www.TunasMekar.org
Photos

I Made Lasmawan, Artist-in-Residence, and Ni Ketut Marni
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Guest Balinese dancer Ni Ketut Marni performing *Oleg Tambulilingan* with Gamelan Tunas Mekar

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Gamelan Tunas Mekar performing using the *gong semaradana* instruments at the King Center, Denver, Colorado

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Guest dancer I Putu Tangkas Hiranmayena performing *Jauk* with Gamelan Tunas Mekar

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Gamelan Tunas Mekar performing using the *gamelan angklung* instruments.
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Close-up of the *gamelan angklung* instruments.
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Gamelan Tunas Mekar performs “Teruna Jaya” (Victorious Youth) with Balinese dancer Ni Ketut Marni, April 11, 2013. Click to watch: https://youtu.be/so0wWyZ36tQ

Performance Fees
Performance fees typically range from $750 - $1500 depending on the length of the performance, the number of performers required, travel and the number of dances presented. Contact us to discuss your budget and performance needs. We are willing to work with you!

Press & Booking Contact
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