

EDITORIAL

Words from the past, music from the present, and hopes for the future are all presented in this edition of *Balungan*. Through the years, many people have submitted articles and interviews that never appeared in print. We take this opportunity to bring some those contributions to light: **Elaine Barkin's** 1990 interview and report on **Komang Astita's** residency at UCLA in 1995, and an extensive compendium of gambang cengkok compiled by **Carter Scholz** in the early 90s.

As happens with the passage of time, the gamelan community has lost many good friends and teachers in recent years. **Nancy Cooper** gives us an interview of one of the most popular and at the same time unique Javanese *pesindhen*, **Nyi Tjondroloekito** (1922–1997). *Rag for Deena*, by **Barbara Benary**, was dedicated to **Deena Burton** (1948–2005), an artist and scholar active in Indonesian arts in New York City. New music in Indonesia lost a great champion in **Harry Roesli**, a dedicated composer and activist based in Bandung but well known throughout the nation. Many will miss the American composer and gamelan enthusiast **Lou Harrison** (1917–2003). This issue includes a previously unpublished score, and the documentation of the gamelan Harrison and partner **William Colvig** (1917–2000) built at Mills College in California.

Two previously unpublished Indonesian composers have scores here. The composition by **Slamet Sjukur** is entirely vocal; a sort of “mouth-gamelan.” **Michael Asmara's** piece for piano is also quite theatrical.

The most recent information is in **Andrew McGraw's** discussion and transcriptions of *Trimbat* by **Ida Bagus Made Widnyana**, drawn from Andy's just-completed dissertation on new music in Bali. Also new to many readers will be the English version of **Rahayu Supanggah's** important theoretical article on the Javanese musical concept *gatra*, as well as the complete notes for his self-produced CD *Homage to Tradition*.

Looking to the future, this issue marks the debut of the electronic version of *Balungan*. Articles appear at www.gamelan.org/balungan, with some additions.

I appreciate the support shown by several libraries to continue a print edition; an exclusive monograph will be included in each annual issue. OTOH, www.gamelan.org serves an ever-growing cyber-community of gamelan players, scholars, and others involved in Indonesian arts and their international counterparts.

jody diamond
hanover, nh
7/7/2005

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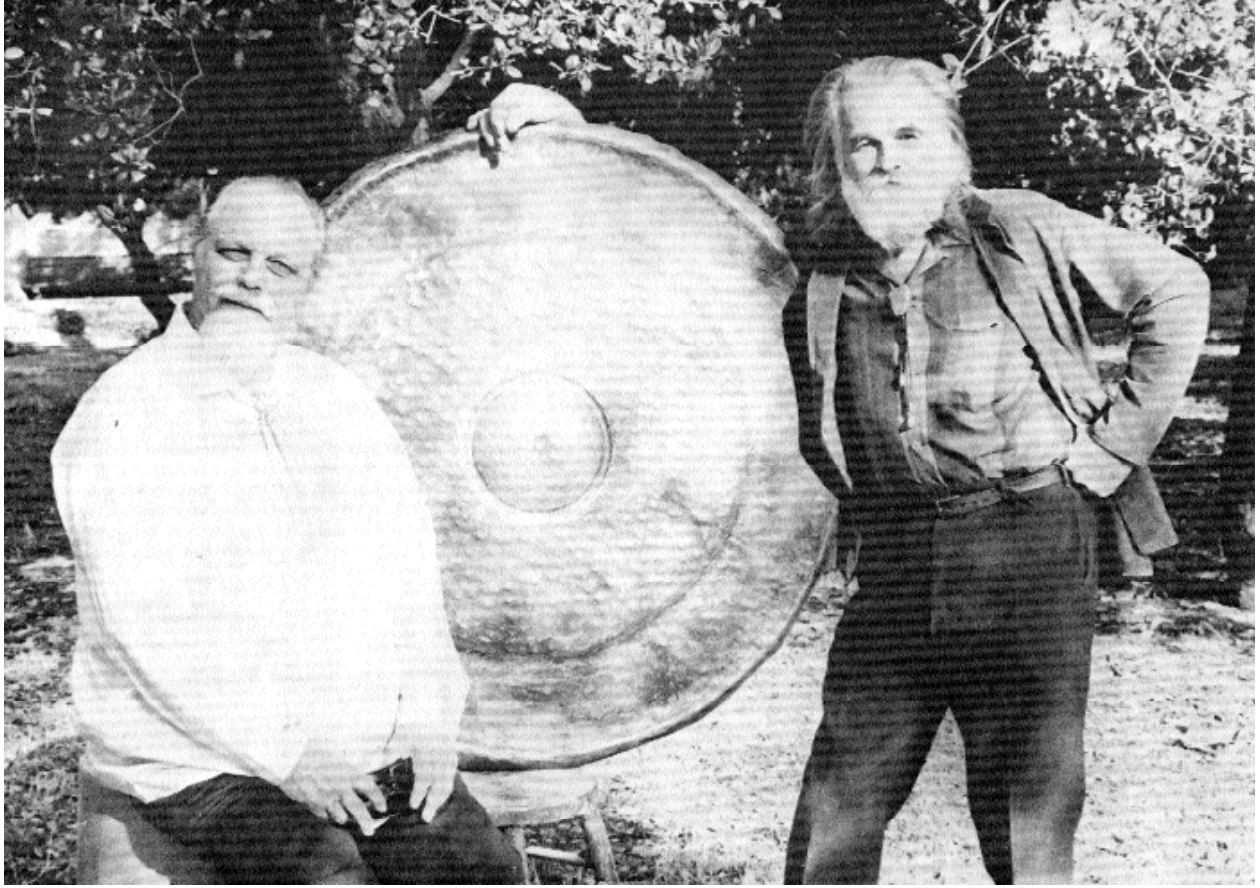
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Deena Burton
1948 – 2005



1951 – 2005



Lou Harrison
1917 - 2003

William Colvig
1917 - 2000