

INDONESIA

Bali

Gamelan & Kecak



CD-5579

Opening Parade, Bali Arts Festival
Gending Kebyar Kosalya Arini · Sekar Sungsang
Lagu Kodok (Frog Song) · Gending Sekar Gadung
Tabuh Teluh · Sulendro
Kecak · Baris

Recorded in Bali by
David Lewiston

For Bali's musicians, this is a time of great change. While the island's conservatory is producing well-rounded artists, it is also part of a contemporary dilemma. For as young musicians are exposed to a broad professional training, they become aware of fresh possibilities. In the search for original expression, many of the accepted conventions that characterized the traditional music are diluted. Bali's most popular ensemble is still the large *gamelan gong*, consisting of 25-30 musicians. The principal melody instruments are metallophones, xylophone-like instruments with bronze keys. Sets of small tuned gong kettles provide melodic ornaments, while the penetrating bass tones of great gongs punctuate larger phrases. Clashing cymbals add to the overall glitter. A flute or stringed instrument sweetens the melody. The entire structure is supported by two drummers, who create the crucial rhythmic underpinning.

FROM THE ORIGINAL LINER NOTE (1989)



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