Lecture and Workshop on Philippine Music - 2

by LaVerne David C. de la Peña, PhD

Hosted by UH Manoa Center for Philippine Studies in cooperation with the East-West Center.

Date/Venue: February 13, 2024, Moore Hall 319 (Tokioka Room) 315, 3:00-5:00 pm

Abstract:
It is reasonable to surmise that the youth culture in the Philippines emerged in the 20th century. The kabataang Pinoy (Filipino youth) evolved as a distinct cultural group during the American colonial period (1898-1946), coinciding with urbanization and the secularization of education. During this period, the youth gained autonomy, distancing themselves from parental control and developing their own cultural identity. They began to form a conscious, imagined identity, create unique expressive forms and symbols, and establish their own cultural spaces.

In this presentation, I will examine the trends in Philippine popular music from 1900 to 2000 that align with the preferences of the youth demographic. The exploration will encompass artists from Katy de la Cruz (“Balut”), Bobby Gonzales (“Hahabol-habol”), and Nora Aunor (“Pearly Shells”), to the Juan de la Cruz Band (“Ang Himig Natin”), Hotdog (“Ikaw ang Miss Universe ng Buhay Ko”), and Francis M (“Mga Kababayan Ko”). Additionally, the analysis will navigate through diverse subcultures, including the urban gangs and clubs of the 50s, the jeprox and bakya crowd of the 70s, and the burgis and tibak of the 80s and 90s, all of which constitute the varied audiences of popular music.

UH Manoa Music Department

Date/Venue: February 17, 2024 (Time and Room - TBA)

This hands-on workshop introduces the various bamboo instruments of Northern Philippines including the pateteg (xylophone blade), patang-ug (quill shaped bamboo percussion), the tongatong (stamping tubes) and the saggeypo (panpipes). Participants will have the opportunity to learn various rhythms such as tinagitag, ginalupak and tininglayan.

About the Lecturer:
Dr. de la Peña has been serving as the Director of the University of the Philippines Center for Ethnomusicology since 2016. He earned his Ph.D. in Ethnomusicology from the University of Hawai'i at Manoa as a distinguished degree fellow of the East-West Center. Dr. de la Peña has conducted extensive field research in the Northern Philippines and the southern part of Luzon island, contributing significantly to the scholarly discourse on this subject with the publication of several book chapters.

Possessing both a bachelor’s and master’s degree in composition, Dr. de la Peña is a versatile artist who occasionally presents new works across various media. Notable among his artistic contributions is the theater piece titled “Putri Anak, Isang Bagong Komedya,” which garnered critical acclaim.

In recognition of his outstanding academic and artistic accomplishments, the University of the Philippines bestowed upon him the official rank of UP Artist II in 2018. Furthermore, Dr. de la Peña served as the Dean of the UP College of Music from 2017 to 2023, demonstrating his commitment to leadership and academic excellence within the university.