

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

There are ways for artisans to express their work. One of the ways is playing music. Musicians write songs to communicate their feelings. Most musicians play an instrument and they play it every day. Therefore it is important for musicians to know their deepest passion, whether they want to be a composer or a contemporary player. Jazz also has its characteristics such as swing notes, blue notes, improvisation, and polyrhythms. The foundation of jazz is deeply connected to the history of African American people (Samboedi, 1989).

Nowadays, Jazz is widely spread around the world. It becomes an international, national, regional, even local music cultures which bring special style from their own regions as in Indonesia. A lot of Indonesian people are not familiar with jazz music. Although, in fact there are several eras of jazz in Indonesia, but there is no specific detail on how and when jazz music was brought here in Indonesia. According to Samboedi (1989), it is obvious that the Dutch brought classical and jazz music to Indonesia. In their free time, the Dutch often listened to the radio and gramophone which aired classic music and jazz music, they also dance when they heard these kind of music. When they dance, the band will play orchestra songs for them and some of them even form a band just for fun (Samboedi, 1989).

This research attempts to expand Semarang musicians' knowledge about the importance of defining the identity of Jazz musician according to Timothy Rice's theory. This research is needed because information on Semarang Jazz community has not been researched formally. The writer's own experience in joining the Jazz community in Semarang does not give any advantage for him in terms of information on Jazz Ngisoringin community musician identity in Semarang based on Timothy Rice's theory. Lack of information on defining identity of Jazz Ngisoringin community musicians in Semarang inspires the writer to write about *Defining Semarang jazz musician identities in Jazz Ngisoringin*. Jazz Ngisoringin is taken as the object of study because it is a well-known and the longest established Jazz community in Semarang that consists of Semarang Jazz musicians. By studying Jazz Ngisoringin, the writer wants to dig more the information on the identity of Jazz musician in Semarang as a Jazz musicians based on Timothy Rice's theory.

The Jazz community is established to ensure that Semarang musician has a place to express their feelings and emotion through playing music. Musicians need a place to express their emotion, skills, and of course their enthusiasm. It is well connected to the state of identity, that later on will be discussed according to Timothy Rice's theory. An in-depth literature review is needed to acquire information on Jazz Ngisoringin. Finally, a conceptual research framework is proposed in accordance with the literature review. The framework suggests two problem formulations to be answered later on. Online search services such as Google Search, Google Scholar are utilized to find related literature. Keywords such as "Jazz

Ngisoringin”, “Jazz Music” , “Identity”, are used for searching related materials. Thesis works, newspaper articles, journal research, and other relevant sources are found accordingly and reviewed.

1.2 Field of the Study

In this research, the field of the study is literature and it is focused on Jazz music as the product of creating Identity.

1.3 Scope of the Study

In this study, the writer would like to focus on identity within Timothy Rice’s theory, especially on Jazz Ngisoringin community performers. Starting from the reasons Jazz Ngisoringin performers choose to be jazz musicians and the identities that Jazz Ngisoringin community performers bear in their musical career based on Timothy Rice’s theory.

1.4 Problem Formulation

There are two problem formulations which assist the writer to do the research:

1. Why do Jazz Ngisoringin community performers decide to be ‘Jazz Musicians’?
2. What identity do Jazz Ngisoringin community performers bear in their musical career?

1.5 Objectives of the study

This study has two objectives:

1. To find out the reasons Jazz Ngisoringin community performers choose to be ‘Jazz Musicians’.
2. To find out the identity that Jazz Ngisoringin community performers bear in their musical career.

1.6 Significance of the Study

The writer is expected to help and provide knowledge on Semarang jazz musician regarding the reasons of Jazz Ngisoringin performers choose to be ‘Jazz Musician’ and to find out the identity that Jazz Ngisoringin community performers possess based on Timothy Rice’s theory. The writer hopes the research will attract other writers to study identity of Jazz Musician in Indonesia and their elements more deeply.

1.7 Definition of Terms

1. Jazz

Jazz is defined as a music genre born from black American art form. For some experts, Jazz is a kind of a genre in music, whereas others says that that Jazz is the rhythm that the musician made (John F. Szwed, 2008).

2. Jazz Ngisoringin

Jazz Ngisoringin is define as a community of heterogeneous people that consist of Semarang jazz musicians who gather to play Jazz music within community and Semarang area.

3. **Ethnomusicology**

Is a study in which the scholar attempts to see music in its proper relationship to culture and to employ it in "the investigation of theoretical problems that arise out of the analysis of human custom" (Rhodes, 1956).

4. **Identity**

In recent literature, identity is understood as both multiple and fragmented. Rather than consisting of one essentialist self with unchanging qualities, 'we possess multiple selves (gendered, racialized, ethnicized, nationalized, and so forth) whose expression is contingent on particular contexts and specific performances of the self in those contexts'. (Evans, 2016)

