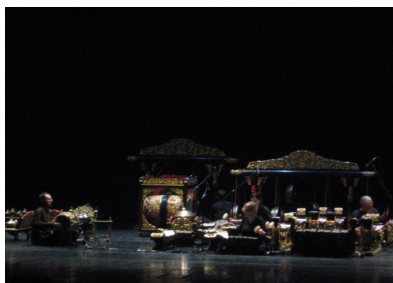


In November 2014, the director of the UCD Gamelan Orchestra, Dr. Peter Moran, led a delegation of five musicians to perform at the Yogyakarta International Performing Arts Festival, in what would be the first concert in Indonesia of all Irish gamelan compositions. Members of the Irish delegation included UCD PhD candidate John Millar, and ethnomusicologist and Head of UCD School of Music, Dr. Jaime Jones.

## Irish Gamelan Music in Java



The quintet on stage at the Yogyakarta International Performing Arts Festival

During the recent Dublin visit of the Sultan of Yogyakarta, Hamengkubuwono X, in September 2014, the Yogyakarta Cultural Office invited Dr. Moran to bring a small ensemble of musicians to Java to perform a concert of original Irish gamelan compositions at the Yogyakarta International Performing Arts Festival in November. The concert programme featured several of Dr. Moran's own compositions, including his recent work *Embat*, which had been performed in Dublin during the sultan's visit, and two further works which had been commissioned previously by gamelan orchestras in the UK, *Sailendra* and *Bonang Quartet No. 1*. The programme also featured new works by Irish

composers Grant Davidson Ford and Kian Geiselbrechtinger, written especially for the occasion.

The quintet's performance at the festival was a success and was met with very positive reactions. New collaborations with other artists from the festival are already in the pipeline. It is expected that the quintet will give the first Dublin performance of the programme in the National Concert Hall in April. This concert will be presented in collaboration with the Java-based Spanish shadow-puppet artist Clementina Kura-Kura.



Flowers from the audience



Meeting Gusti Yuda and his wife in the Yogyakarta Palace

Representatives of the Yogyakarta Cultural Office had come out to see the performance, and later, the quintet met with Gusti Yuda, the sultan's brother, to discuss plans for future cooperation between our two cities.

## Meeting Yogyakarta's Cultural Community

In the same week, another of Dr. Moran's compositions, *Trio Scordatura*, for violin, viola and cello, was performed at a separate event, the Yogyakarta Contemporary Music Festival (YCMF). Dr. Moran was present for the rehearsals and the performance of the work at the Indonesian Institute for the Arts. This festival was another valuable opportunity to meet a wide range of creative artists and build international cultural connections between our educational institutions.



Dr. Moran (left) performing in the wayang kulit at Sono Budoyo

The Irish quintet also met with local artists and instrument builders, acquiring new instruments and equipment to bring back for the UCD Gamelan Orchestra. Dr. Moran met with local musicians whom he had worked with previously while living in Yogya the previous summer, and he had the opportunity to join in a local *wayang kulit* performance (Javanese shadow-puppet play) in the Sono Budoyo museum.

## Meeting the Palace Musicians

After the *wayang kulit*, the quintet met with Pak Maryono, Pak Santyo and Pak Supriyanto, whom they had worked with closely during their Dublin visit with the sultan in September. On their final morning in Yogya, the Irish group went to visit the palace grounds, where they came across a rehearsal in progress, with the full ensemble of musicians who had performed in Dublin. A friendly surprise reunion - and a private performance in the palace as the royal gamelan musicians rehearsed their programme - was a perfect way to round off the trip.



*Tea with Pak Maryono, Pak Santyo and Pak Supriyanto*