Music and Art in Conflict Transformation: A Review

Arild Bergh
Department of Sociology and Philosophy, University of Exeter

John Sloboda
Oxford Research Group

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Abstract
Since the early 1990s there has been an increase in the use of music and arts within a conflict transformation context. In this paper the developments in this field is discussed and the current status and challenges of the field are examined within the context of this issue's theme of the arts and conflict transformation/peace building.

Author Biographies

Arild Bergh, Department of Sociology and Philosophy, University of Exeter
Arild Bergh has recently completed a PhD on the topic of music and conflict transformation at the University of Exeter, with fieldwork in Norway and Sudan. He is editor of the journal Music and Arts in Action. He has previously worked as a music journalist and researched and written on topics ranging from immigrant music in Europe to cassette music culture and underground music in communist countries.

Published and in press work includes "From wind-up to iPod: techno-cultures of listening"; with Tia DeNora (The Cambridge Companion to Recorded Music, 2009), "Emotions in motion: Transforming conflict and music." in Irène Deliège and Jane Davidson (eds), Music and the Mind: Investigating the functions and processes of music (Oxford University Press, forthcoming) and “Forever and ever: Mobile music in the life of young teens.” with Tia DeNora and Maia Bergh in Gopinath and Stanyek (eds), Handbook of Mobile Music and Sound Studies (Oxford University Press, forthcoming).

John Sloboda, Oxford Research Group
John Sloboda, FBA, is Emeritus Professor at Keele and Visiting Research Fellow at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama, London. He is also Consultant and Director of Oxford Research Group’s Recording Casualties in Armed Conflict programme and chairs its International Advisory Group, and he is Honorary Professor in the School of Politics and International Relations at Royal Holloway, University of London. He is co-director of the Iraq Body Count project. He is author of over 150 publications. His books include "The Musical Mind"; "Psychology for Musicians"; (with Patrik N Juslin) "Handbook of Music and Emotion"; (with Hamit Dardagan and others) "A Dossier of Civilian Casualties in Iraq"; and (with Chris Abbott and Paul Rogers) "Beyond Terror: the Truth About the Real Threats to Our World";
and conflict transformation as it has emerged over the past 20 years, space consideration prohibits an in-depth review of each contribution. It is important to realise that the use of music or art in conflict transformation contexts is not a new innovation. In the Philippines for example, the Buwaya Kalingga People established peace pacts that were cemented through feasts which included peace pact specific songs (Prudente 1984). However, in recent years there has been an increase in the use of the arts by non-governmental organisations (NGOs) who are increasingly involved in local and