

# STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES THROUGH ARTS & CULTURAL PRACTICES

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## ABSTRACTS

# SHANGHAI JAZZ MUSIC FROM 1930 TO 1949

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Jazz music emerged in Shanghai, China between the late 1920s and early 1930s. This paper documented and analysed Shanghai jazz music that was recorded from 1930 to 1949. Shanghai jazz music recorded and performed within this period was selected through stratified random sampling technique. All samples were then analysed in terms of melody, harmony, rhythm and form. The results showed that Western diatonic scale was apparent in the melodies instead of Chinese pentatonic scale; primary chords were prevalent with minimal use of secondary chords in the harmony; the "oom-pah" rhythm in duple meter was most widely utilized; and the musical form evolved from the earlier through-composed song form to the later "AABA" form. In conclusion, this research characterised Shanghai jazz music recorded between the 1930 and 1949. It served to elevate the identity of this music and to prompt further research into Shanghai jazz music spanning from 1950s till present time.

**Keywords:** Shanghai; jazz music; music analysis; music identity

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