EXAMPLE OF A REVIEW

**Sa’ Unine String Orchestra**

Right after the beginning of the first song flew, I got my heart wrenched. In a good way. It’s Maladi’s *Di Bawah Sinar Bulan Purnama*. The peaceful, breezy song made me feel like everything went in sepia tones.

At first I thought Sa’ Unine was something French. But then I realized it’s actually *sak muni-munine* (Javanese, translated: random sounds). A very humble name for such a brilliant string orchestra. Assembled in 1992, this Jogjakarta-based group have been doing concerts all around the world and become a part of some of Indonesia’s best orchestras.

Sa’ Unine is conducted by Oni Krisnerwinto and consisted of violin, viola, cello, contra bass, and a set of choir. In the CD that I’ve been listening to, they packed eleven arrangements:

1. Di Bawah Sinar Bulan Purnama (composed by Maladi)
2. Sapu Lidi (composed by Sukamto)
3. Ilir-ilir (composed by Sunan Kalijaga)
4. Paris Barantai (composed by H. Anang Ardiansyah)
5. Belaian Sayang (composed by Bing Slamet)
6. Padang Bulan (a Javanese folk song)
7. Kambanglah Bungo Parautan (composed by Sofyan Naan)
8. Stamboel Lagoe Manis
9. Cublak-cublak Suweng (a Javanese folk song)
10. Medley Sulawesi – Anging Mamiri & O ina ni keke
11. Dolanan Pizzicato – Gundul-gundul Pacul, Jaranan, Cublak-cublak Suweng

Arrangements 1, 3, 5, and 8 are my favorites. Really soothing and calming. With easy flow of music and a lot of violin sounds. But Paris Barantai is more upbeat and gives off a film feeling of someone running in an endless prairie.

I read in some articles that the members of Sa’ Unine never wears tuxedos and gowns when they perform, only *lurik*; the peasant clothing from Jogja. Make them, inspite of the genre of music they play, very subtle and down-to-earth. Everyone would love listening to them and get immersed in the nostalgic sense of their arrangements.

Their tagline, ‘masa lalu selalu aktual’ (the past is always new), really fits the message they spread through their music. Everyone who have heard of the songs since long time ago will enjoy the time-travelling in their minds and the new listeners will surely enjoy the vintage touch.

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