## UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION, WINNEBA

# CONTEMPORARY ART SONGS FOR DIFFERENT GHANAIAN LANGUAGES WITH ANNOTATION ON VOCAL ANDRAGOGY FOR TERTIARY STUDENTS



A Dissertation in the Department of Music Education, School of Creative

Arts, submitted to the School of Graduate Studies in partial fulfilment

of the requirements for the award of the degree of

Doctor of Philosophy

(Music)

in the University of Education, Winneba

OCTOBER, 2023

## **DECLARATION**

## **Student's Declaration**

I, GODFRED SACKEY, declare that this thesis, with the exception of quotations and
references contained in published works which have all been identified and duly
acknowledged, is entirely my own original work, and it has not been submitted, either
in part or whole, for another degree elsewhere.
Signature:
Date:
Supervisors' Declaration
We hereby declare that the preparation and presentation of this work was supervised in
accordance with the guidelines for supervision of thesis as laid down by the University
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## **DEDICATION**

To my lovely wife, Mrs. Doris Kweiba Sackey



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#### **ABSTRACT**

Ghanaian art music compositions in over the years, have been predominantly choralchorus due to the proliferation of choirs. Significantly, there have been few choral-solo compositions and instrumental forms in the Ghanaian sociocultural context. In fact, with regards to art song compositions, only few Ghanaian composers have attempted to explore in that direction. The dissertation therefore explored, established and created art songs in diverse Ghanaian sociocultural contexts, utilising various indigenous resources in terms of sonic materials and languages. The study sought to establish a creative model for composing contemporary or current art songs which are characteristically Ghanaian, and to the large extent, African; Koñadá, to give directions to modern art music composers and creative ethnomusicologists to create such works intended for educational purposes and or for a wide audience. Through bibliographic, discographic, creative ethnomusicology and creative designs, data were collected using observation and document analyses. Thirty (30) folk tunes were collected purposely from three indigenous musical ensembles: Simpa Dentsefo Asafo Company, Osimpam Impe cultural troupe and Nyame YE Odo fishing canoe, all in Winneba. Eight (8) Ghanaian languages were also selected purposely from various ethnolinguistic traditions of Ghana such as Akan, Guan, Ewe, Ga-Dangbe, Dagaaba, Dagomba, Kassena, and Frafra to aid the creation of the musical artefact. Significantly, these data were critically examined to sift out elements such as lineal and vertical sonorities, rhythms, textures, forms and compositional techniques, fused them with Western musical elements to create twenty (20) contemporary Ghanaian art songs. Of course, various annotations were also explored to aid effective facilitations in higher education. It is concluded, however, that the novelty created is an explicit symbiosis of African and Western musical idioms without losing both musical identities. It is, therefore, envisaged that art music composers and creative ethnomusicologists commence to use the creative model to augment the repertoire of African art song compositions whilst music departments of various tertiary institutions adopt the musical artefacts to aid the effective teaching and learning processes of African art choral music.

#### CHAPTER ONE

#### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the Study

Africa over the years has experienced diversified musical practices, ranging from indigenous folk tunes to Western art compositions, and to the integration of elements from two or more cultures in novel creative products. Of course, the massive contributions of early iconic composers and scholar-composers have led to the progressive evolution of musical practices in Africa. For instance, in Ghana, Amu and his contemporaries spent years experimenting and exploring the use of traditional indigenous musical and linguistic devices, such as the rigid adherence of melodies to the contour of spoken texts of Ghanaian tone languages, proverbs and other philosophical pronouncements to improve the poetic contents of song texts and the concept of Ghanaian art music in general. A mention can also be made of the contributions of Phillips, Bankole and Akin Euba in Nigeria with regards to the development of African Art music.

Undoubtedly, one of the musical artefacts that emerged out of the evolution of musical practices in Africa, and Ghana for that matter is the art song. Although it is a Western musical concept of the nineteenth century for solo voice and piano, it has been situated in the framework of creative ethnomusicology and interculturalism respectively by African scholar-composers for the same purpose. Forney and Machlis (2007) indicated that "composers wrote song cycles that unified a group of songs by poem or theme. The poetry of the art song otherwise known as lied used themes of love and nature; the favored poets, Goethe and Heine" (p. 326). In corroboration with the above assertion, Kamien (2011) emphasized that, "the art song is a composition

for solo voice and piano. Here, the accompaniment is an integral part of the composer's concept, and it serves as an interpretive partner to the voice" (p. 215).

Clearly, Amu's 'three solo songs' published in 1961 (cited in Agawu, 1984) and Sankudwom (Nketia, 1999) can be described as art songs in the tradition of lieder. The composite text (both spoken and sung) of such creative products is a poem with a storyline that describes the various socio-cultural events of the environments of the respective composers. For instance, Amu's Bonwire Kentewene, a four-stanza strophic song with spoken interludes best describes the craft of basket weaving at Bonwire, a village in the Ashanti region of Ghana. In fact, the art of weaving provides a premise for the cultivation of pictorial effects in the music. Nketia's Sankudwom on the other hand is written for solo voice and piano set to Asante Twi text. The nineteen art songs show how Nketia made a conscious effort to assimilate traditional modes of expression in Akan music and language so that he could explore them in his literary and musical compositions. In their creative products, Amu and Nketia explicitly made use of language and music such that both the performer and the audience could better comprehend and appreciate the interplay of the resource materials used in the art songs.

It is rather unfortunate, however, that less attention has been given to the composition of art songs due to the rigorous choral-chorus life in African societies as a result of the proliferation of church choirs and other choral groups. It is generally common to see the choral medium as an ideal vehicle for participation and transmission of cultural and religious values in societal life and this probably accounts for the numerous attention composers have given to choral compositions in Africa. It is imperative also to state that choral music performance in Ghana has been exuberant and ubiquitous.

From the rural communities through the districts, regions and the capital cities, churches and schools, work places and the radio stations, Ghana is full of choral music performances. There are as many church choirs as well as youth choirs, institutional and industrial choirs who are engaged in the performance of the choral musical genre (Acquah, 2018; Acquah, 2016; Amuah, 2013). I am intrinsically and extrinsically motivated as a modern creative ethnomusicologist to see the concept of art song as a fertile ground to intensify the move made by scholar-composers such as Acquah (2018) and Mereku (2011) to change the status quo of art music compositions in Ghana, and Africa as a whole. The study was therefore, focused on using the musical elements of *Asafo*, *Impe* and *Apofondwom*, and texts from different Ghanaian languages as source materials to create a novel composition of contemporary or current art songs with annotations on vocal andragogy for tertiary students to encourage solo performances.

Undeniably, Ghana is a multilingual country with diversified spoken indigenous languages such as Akan, Dagaare, Dagbani, Ewe, Dangme, Ga, Effutu, Nzema, Gonja, Kasem and others depending upon the various linguistic traditions. The study of indigenous languages of a country is very significant in the developmental growth of that country. In view of that, Ghanaian languages such as Fante, Nzema, Twi, Ga, Dangme, Gonja, Kasem, Dagbani, Gurene, Dagaare, Ewe and Sisala are presently studied as elective subjects in Ghanaian Senior High Schools. The choice of language to study is dependent on the geographical location. Thus, the choice of language being studied in a given senior high school depends on the dominant tribe within which the school is located. At the University level, however, these Ghanaian languages are offered as programmes of study at University of Education, Winneba, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, University of Ghana and the

University of Cape Coast (Nyamekye & Baffour-Koduah, 2021). As part of the indigenization process of art music in Ghana, early Ghanaian composers explored the various Ghanaian languages, experimenting on the speech surrogate and rhythmic inflections of the texts. Of course, these and other indigenous musical elements were incorporated into their compositions in order to produce a model that will be a representation of Ghanaian Arts Music (Amuah, 2012). It is therefore appropriate for me as a Ghanaian creative ethnomusicologist to explore the judicious use of the different Ghanaian languages as the texts of my art songs in order to identify myself with my compositions, and better situate them in the framework of Ghanaian art music.

Furthermore, the effective methods and principles used in the teaching and learning of voice solo compositions are paramount with respect to higher education. Ordinarily, the traditional pedagogic methods for singing require the student to do as they are told, often without an explanation or a thorough understanding of why a student is being instructed in a particular manner or style (Riggs, 2006). However, andragogic processes seek to encourage active learning and empower the student to increase a sense of self-efficacy (Chan, 2010). Obviously, the tertiary student is equipped with the requisite knowledge and skills to be independent in his or her daily life activities. In the performing arts, however, performers are trained to perform individually, and in groups. The focus is mostly on the individual performer's interrelationship with other performers in a creative performance. Desta and Gugssa (2022) emphasized that "the term andragogy is the art and science of helping adults learn" (p.1). Hence, vocal andragogy may primarily be elucidated as the techniques, methods and resources used in adult vocal teaching and learning processes to achieve good results. Importantly,

these methods and techniques for adult education are considered most effective for one-on-one teaching and learning process.

#### 1.2 Statement of the Problem

Without any form of equivocation, art music in Ghana has evolved over the years with immense contributions from prominent composers who predominantly concentrated more on choral-chorus compositions due to the proliferation of choirs. It is evidently clear in the creative products of these prominent composers that choral-chorus life in Ghana has been very vibrant and ubiquitous, even though few of them have also contributed to the compositions of solo works. A mention can be made of composers such as Ephraim Amu, Robert Danso, Kwabena Nketia, Atta Annan Mensah and Newlove Annan who have written compositions for voice solo and piano accompaniment. Out of their compositions, Amu's 'three solo songs' published in 1961 and Nketia (1999)'s Sankudwom have received mammoth performances from various performers nationwide including academic institutions.

As a creative ethnomusicologist and music analyst, a thorough analysis I did on Nketia (1999) has revealed some gaps in his creative product that needed to be filled. First of all, Nketia (1999) is a collection of nineteen art songs composed between 1942 and 1961, and was published as *Sankudwom* in 1999. Surprisingly, all the nineteen compositions were composed in the vocal range of tenor, and set to Asante *Twi* text. The implication is that the performance of his compositions would chiefly be limited to Akan performers who are either in the vocal range of tenor or an octave higher of tenor. As stated earlier, Ghana is undoubtedly a multilingual country with diversified languages. The exploration of these different languages in our creative products would effectively and efficiently represent us as Ghanaians. Again, it is

imperative to state that Nketia gave an extensive exegesis of his composition by providing the interpretation of the song-text, and explaining the compositional process and the context in which his art songs were composed. However, the methods and techniques that would aid the effective teaching and learning process of his creative products were left out.

Furthermore, the concept of the indigenization of art music in Ghana underpinned with syncretism, interculturalism and creative ethnomusicology has aided the exploration of various indigenous Ghanaian traditional tunes by composers. Composers have mainly used the musical elements of specific traditional tunes fused with Western musical elements in their creative products. For instance, Adebiyi (2015) utilised the musical elements of Apatampa of Cape Coast whilst Ghunney (2015) worked on Asafo of Winneba. Oduro (2015) on the other hand explored the elements of Adowa in his Adoclassique. Although the theories of interculturalism and creative ethnomusicology support creative products with elements from two or more cultures, it is evidently clear in the aforementioned works and other scholarly works such as Amoah (2020) and Amoah (2021) that composers have limited their resources to one Ghanaian indigenous musical type fused with Western elements. It is upon these facts that the dissertation seeks to produce an original composition of contemporary Ghanaian art songs for a variety of Ghanaian language Arts in the framework of a newly developed creative model that attempt to extend the vocal ranges of the SATB (soprano, alto, tenor and bass) voice parts as well as introducing relevant technical exercises that meet international examination repertoire standards and constitute a substantial contribution to musical knowledge. The pieces are envisaged to exhibit evidence of musical imagination, creative ability and mastery of compositional techniques.

### 1.3 Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this creative ethnomusicology study is to compose contemporary Ghanaian art songs for a variety of human voices in different Ghanaian language arts (praxis) and add a write-up of a substantial annotation that give comments, explanations and the composer's interpretations of the creative works to guide scholars and teachers, students, performers and listeners.

## 1.4 Objectives of the Study

The study sought to;

- i. examine selected musical elements and indigenous resources as tools for creating contemporary Ghanaian art songs.
- ii. create musical libretti using selected Ghanaian languages apart from the Asante Twi.
- iii. develop a creative model for composing contemporary Ghanaian art songs.
- iv. compose a novelty of contemporary Ghanaian art songs using the creative model.
- v. write annotations on the novelty for vocal andragogy for tertiary students.

#### 1.5 Research Questions

The following research questions were formulated to guide the study:

- i. What musical elements and indigenous resources can be used as tools for creating contemporary Ghanaian art songs?
- ii. What musical libretti can be created using selected Ghanaian languages apart from the *Asante Twi*?
- iii. What creative model can be developed to guide the composition of contemporary Ghanaian art songs?
- iv. What novelty of contemporary Ghanaian art songs can be created using the creative model?

v. What annotations can be written on the novelty for vocal andragogy for tertiary students?

#### 1.6 Significance of the Study

It is imperative to state that this dissertation will give a clearer insight into the selected indigenous musical genres in general, and more especially, how their musical elements can be used in creating a novelty of art songs. Specifically, the study will give a detailed elucidation on the compositional techniques and styles of melody organization with texts, and the piano accompaniment as situated in the framework of African Pianism. Of course, this will be guided by a newly developed creative model, adding up to knowledge, and then giving room for further academic debate.

More significantly, the study will be a learning material for the voice units of the various departments of music and or music education of Universities and Colleges of Education across the globe, and also, be a compositional guide and a model for other research composers who are intrinsically motivated by the compositional style to creatively follow in similar direction. Apparently, the added write-up of significant annotation on vocal andragogy that gives commentaries and interpretations of the composer's compositional thoughts of his creative works is a guide for music educators and scholars, composers, students as well as performers in their musical endeavours.

Furthermore, both African and Western art music performers will better comprehend and appreciate the compositions for effective rehearsals and performances. This is so because the compositions (art songs) explicitly exhibit various elements of African and Western music such as melodic and rhythmic motifs, themes, phrases, coupled with compositional techniques and styles to better situate them in the framework of

thematic interculturalism. It is evidential in the arts songs (compositions) that some musical elements such as modes, rhythm and meter, parallelism and pandiatonicism that are common to both African traditional music and Western twentieth century music were fused in the novel products for better comprehension and appreciation.

Lastly, the study is a fertile ground for music analysts in academia to expand research in musical analysis, which in effect, will unravel the composer's compositional styles and techniques, melodic and rhythmic themes, and harmonic vocabulary for further discourses.

#### 1.7 Delimitation

The study focused on creating art songs within the context of the African by using indigenous musical resources from Asafo, Impe and Apofondwom. These indigenous musical resources were available at three different settings; Kofi Ano, the residence of the late Dr. Alex Quaison-Sackey and Eyipey mpoano, all at Winneba in the central region of Ghana. Kofi Ano is the headquarters of the Simpa Dentsefo Asafo company, located at Church hill street along the Aboadze beach at Winneba whilst the residence of the late Doctor Alex Quaison-Sackey is the rehearsal grounds of the Osimpam Impe cultural troupe located along the Oman Gyan Blankson street around the south campus of the University of Education, Winneba. The Eyipey mpoano on the other hand is the beach along the stretch of Oyibi road in Winneba. The musical libretti were series of created stories drawn from the narratives and themes of selected folktales as well as folk tunes of the major ethnolinguistic traditions of Ghana. The stories, originally written in the English language were translated into eight Ghanaian languages such as Ga, Ewe, Dagbani, Kasem, Fante, Effutu, Gurune and Dagaare by

the help of six (6) sampled lecturers of the faculty of Ghanaian languages education of the University of Education, Winneba, and my research assistant.

#### 1.8 Definition of Terms

Definition of terms is a vital subdivision of the introductory chapter of the research report, which brings to bare the semantics and measure of concepts whose meanings are not obvious in the context of the study. Bandele (2004) emphasized that operational definition of terms allows the researcher to give meaning to a construct, concept or term by specifying the activities or operations to measure it. In this study however, some terms that may seem confusing to the reader are appropriately defined below.

Aboakyer Traditional annual festival of the Effutu of Winneba

Adã Osé Jubilant procession of the Asafo Company

Apatampa A graceful recreational dance performed by the people

of the central region of Ghana

Apofondwom Fisherfolk music of the Akan and other tribes along the

coast of Ghana

Adanse The ancestral home of the Sackey's and allied families

in Winneba

Adzeba Graceful traditional music performed by the female

wing of the Effutu Asafo Companies

Asafo A military and socio-political institution of the

traditional system of the Akan and other tribes in

Ghana

**Bakatue** Traditional annual festival of the people of Elmina

**Choral-chorus** A vocal music written for soprano, alto, tenor and bass

(SATB)

**Dentsewo** A member of the *Dentsefo Asafo* Company

Ebusuapanyin The head of the extended family system of the Akan

and other tribes in Ghana

Esikama The principal deity of the Simpa Dentsefo Asafo

Envi to Aggressive Asafo music in compound duple time

Evipey mpoano A male beach along the coast of Winneba

Jama A recreational music and dance along the Ghanaian

coastal belts

Kofi Ano The headquarters of the Simpa Dentsefo Asafo

Company in Winneba

Kaako banto prama One of the male families of Simpa Dentsefo Asafo

Company responsible for the composition and leading

of Asafo songs.

**Ketekete** A ritual music and dance of the *Effutu* of Winneba

Nana Ayirebi-Acquah V The successor of Nana Ayirebi-Acquah IV (paramount

chief of the Effutu traditional area).

Nana Otoo III A sub chief in the Effutu traditional area

Nenyi Odonsu Akumbea- Head of the Tumpa Anona Royal Family of Winneba

Sam

Nyame ye odo fishing A fishing company at the shores of Winneba

canoe

Osimpam Impe cultural An organized group of men and women in Winneba

*troupe* who perform the Ompe recreational dance

Owombir A gracefully moderate Asafo music in compound duple

time

**Impe** A graceful recreational dance of the *Effutu* which is

similar to the *Apatampa* of the *Fante* 

Penkye A community in Winneba, believed to be the first

settlers

**Petufo** The senior division of the Simpa Dentsefo Asafo

Company of Winneba

**Prama** The male ancestral house in *Effutu* 

**Safohen** The captain of an Asafo company

Safohen Kojo Gyankuma A deceased captain of the Senya Beraku Dentsifo Asafo

company.

Simpa Dentsefo Asafo The second established traditional military wing of the

Company Effutu of Winneba.

Simpa Tuafo Asafo The first established traditional military wing in the

Company Effutu of Winneba.

**Supi** The commandant of an *Asafo* company.

Tumpa Anona Royal The custodians of the Effutu black stool created by

family Nenyi Ayirebi after the Katamanso war in 1826.

## 1.9 Organisation of the Study

The research report consists of seven chapters. Chapter one begins with the introduction and explanation of the background of the study, the statement of the problem, purpose of the study, objectives, research questions, significance of the study, delimitation and definition of terms. Chapter two is the presentation of the related literature review, which includes the theoretical underpinnings and review of

related topical issues in the work whilst chapter three is the methodology. Chapter four is the presentation of the corpus of the indigenous resources collected for the creation of the work whilst chapter five is the musical score of the novelty created. Chapter six is the presentation of the analysis of the original creative work and finally chapter seven is the summary that highlights the major findings of the research. It includes conclusions, recommendations and suggestions for further research. Following chapter seven are the references and appendices.



#### **CHAPTER TWO**

#### REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

#### 2.0 Overview

This chapter is a review of related studies and contributions on composition of art songs, the use of indigenous materials in such compositions as well as the andragogical studies of voice solo for tertiary students. The basis for the research was to create contemporary art songs in the context of the Ghanaian cultural practices to encourage voice solo performances, which have been overshadowed by chorus performances due to the proliferation of choral groups. The inspiration of this novelty was from the compositions of early Ghanaian art music composers such Ephraim Amu and Joseph Hansen Kwabena Nketia who made a pragmatic attempt to indigenize art music in Ghana, hence, the description of Ghanaian art music as the symbiosis of traditional African music and Western art music (Dor, 2005). The chapter therefore provides a comprehensive insight into the thoughts of authorities in the field of musical composition and other related fields which covers significant theoretical frameworks underpinning the study, sources of music materials, use of indigenous source materials, compositional elements, creative processes, and techniques that could be utilized to create contemporary Ghanaian art songs. Machi and McEvoy (2009) defined literature review as "a written document that presents a logically argued case founded on a comprehensive understanding of the current state of knowledge about a topic of study" (p. 4). The review of literature in this study also covered the use of different Ghanaian languages as texts for the novel creative product and the exploration of vocal andragogical studies for tertiary students. Reviewing literature for the study revealed how facets of the topic under study connected to the cognate fields in music composition. It however, begins with the Theoretical framework.

#### 2.1 Theoretical Frameworks

The theoretical framework is constituted by the specific viewpoint, which a researcher uses to explore, interpret or explain events or behaviour of the subjects or events he or she is studying. It is the theories expressed by experts in the field into which one plans to research, and draws upon to provide a theoretical support for the data analysis and interpretation of results. Theoretical frameworks can also provide maps of the current state of knowledge about a problematic phenomenon being studied and offer evidence-based explanations for why a particular problem is connected to a particular phenomenon (Hughes, Davis & Imenda, 2019; Imenda, 2014: Kivunja, 2018). In this study, however, three theoretical underpinnings informed the development of the creative model for the novel creative product; interculturalism, African pianism and creative thinking in music.

#### 2.1.1 Interculturalism

Interculturalism refers to the integration of elements from two or more cultures. In order to understand the theory, Kimberlin and Euba (1995) suggested three levels of intercultural activities:

Thematic intercultural activity, in which the composer of the music belongs to one of the cultures from which the elements are derived; Domicile intercultural activity, in which the composer, writing in an idiom acquired from a culture other than his own, is involved in an intercultural activity, even though the music that he produces is not necessarily intercultural. A good example of this second category would be an African composer employing European formal structures such as sonata allegro, binary or concerto forms in his music; and the

third category is at the performance level. In this situation, the performer and the music are from two different cultures. A good illustration would be the performance of Western art music by a Japanese, Chinese, or African musicians. (as cited in Sadoh, 2004)

Imperatively, it is only through the utilisation of African material sources that we can enrich our music and contribute to the preservation of our cultural heritage that can be appreciated worldwide. Of course, for any music called African, there must necessarily be the consideration of dance, language and rhythm elements of African origin (Acquah, 2018; Agbenyega, 2015). It is only prudent to identify ourselves with our compositions as African art music composers, hence, the inclusion of our indigenous musical elements in our compositions for better appreciation and assimilation by our patrons worldwide. Compositional works such as Amoah (2021) and Sackey (2015) explicitly elucidate interculturalism in practical terms. These two Ghanaian composers utilised source materials from their respective cultures and combined them with Western musical elements and techniques. For instance, Amoah (2021) adapted folk tunes of Larteh, and fused them with Western musical elements for the piano whilst Sackey (2015) created a novelty out of the indigenous Ebibindwom of three syncretic churches in Winneba and the Western musical resources. The two compositional works were duly supported with the first category of intercultural activity, in which the composers belonged to one of the cultures from which the elements of the composition were derived.

Also, in this study, musical elements and other source materials such as texts were appropriately selected from both the African and the Western cultures. It could be explained in this case, thus, the composer who hailed from the African culture could only explore the first category of the interculturalism theory to support the creation of

the novel creative product. Significantly, my intention of combining musical elements of *Asafo*, *Ompe* and *Apofondwom* with Western musical elements and compositional techniques for the creation of the contemporary Ghanaian art songs was evidently clear in all the twenty art songs for different Ghanaian languages. Each of the compositions explicitly exhibits the interplay of musical elements from two divergent and distinct cultures in a novel creative product.

#### 2.1.2 African Pianism

African pianism refers to a style of piano music which derives its characteristic idiom from the procedures of African percussion music as exemplified in bell patterns, drumming, xylophones and mbira music. The theory describes the approach of composition that combines African elements and western elements for the piano. The piano, being partially a percussive instrument, possesses latent African characteristics. Techniques in the performance of xylophones, thumb pianos, plucked lutes, drum chimes, for which Africans are noted, and the polyrhythmic methods of African instrumental music in general would form a good basis for an African pianistic style. African pianism is one of the remarkable techniques created for the purpose of developing, sustaining, and propagating the African creative identity in the world of art music. The conceptual view of African pianism as a creative approach has been explained from different philosophical perspectives by diverse scholars, who generally agree that, it is a compositional technique which captures the rhythms of African indigenous musical instruments on the European piano. The import of using a musical instrument of European origin as a tool for representing the figurative image of African idioms stands as the bedrock in the creation of the terminology "African pianism"; as established by Euba in the 1960s (Agawu. 1995; Boamah, 2012; Bolaji, 2022; Bolaji, 2019; Euba, 1967: Nketia, 1974; Omojola, 2001; Onyeji, 2008).

In this study however, more emphasis was placed on how both the voice and the piano would be characterized by the melodic, harmonic and rhythmic motifs of songs and instrumentations of the selected indigenous ensembles. More specifically, the African pianism theory supported the composition of the piano accompaniment which was characteristically percussive. Imperatively, the piano accompaniment of my contemporary Ghanaian art songs largely combined rhythmic elements of the instrumental setup of Asafo,  $Omp\varepsilon$  and Apofondwom with western compositional techniques and elements. Apart from relying principally on the rhythmic motifs of the varied instrumentations, melodic and harmonic themes of the Asafo,  $Omp\varepsilon$  and Apofondwom indigenous songs were also adapted for the piano.

## 2.1.3 Creative thinking in Music

To some large extent, people do things musically out of their creative imagination and exploration. It satisfies their intrinsic desire to produce and manipulate sounds, and eventually organize them into structures. Webster (1990) described creative thinking as a dynamic process:

Creative thinking is a dynamic process of alternation between divergent (imaginative) and convergent (factual) thinking, moving in stages over time, enabled by certain skills (both innate and learned), and by certain conditions, all resulting in a final product which is new for the creator. (p. 22)

Based on the above definition, Webster presents a conceptual model for creative thinking in music. Though not a comprehensive illustration, it aids us in thinking and speculating about how creative thinking in music might occur. Webster's model is based on the works of several philosophers, psychologists, musicians and writers who

have investigated creative thinking in music extensively with children using the products of musical improvisation, analysis, and composition as the focus. It is always appropriate for a creative person to actively engage the mind in a cognitive process in order to come out with a novel creative product. I therefore found Webster's model of creative thinking process in music suitable to aid my creative process for the creative product. The figure below is an illustration of Webster's model of creative thinking process in music.

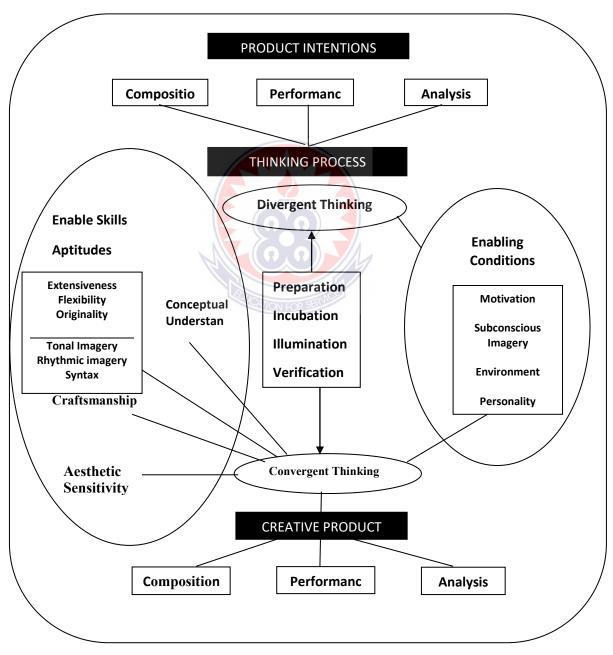


Figure 1: Peter Webster's model of creative thinking (Spruce 1996, p. 90)

Figure 1 above explicitly shows the three sections of Webster's model as Product Intentions, Thinking Process, and Creative Product. Webster (1990) summarized his model and stated:

At the outset of the creative thinking, the product intentions including composition, performance, and analysis represent the final product of creation. With the intention established, the creator therefore must rely on a set of enabling 'skills' (such as musical aptitudes, conceptual aesthetic sensitivity) understanding, craftsmanship, and 'conditions' (such as motivation, subconscious imagery, environment, and personality) which are interconnected to both 'divergent' and 'convergent' thinking that allow the thinking process to occur. Thinking process in the central core indicates movement, in stages, between divergent and convergent thinking which involve time to play with ideas (preparation), time to have away from the tasks (incubation), and time to work in structured ways through the ideas (verification) after solutions have presented themselves (illumination). After effective experimentation of the thinking process is hence, the creative product. (pp. 23-24)

Making reference to Webster's model, "the contemporary Ghanaian art songs" is considered both the 'product intention' and the 'creative product' of the creator. I therefore relied on a set of 'enabling skills' such as musical aptitudes, conceptual understanding, craftsmanship, and aesthetic sensitivity, and 'enabling conditions' such as motivation, subconscious imagery, environment, and personality to achieve my goal of creating the novel creative product. Both the enabling skills and conditions were interconnected to both 'divergent' and 'convergent' thinking, which allowed the thinking process to occur. I went through series of stages during the thinking process phase such as preparation, incubation, illumination and verification. The 'creative product' was ultimately accomplished after the above-mentioned stages had been duly experimented.

#### 2.2 Melodic Elements

Melody is primarily a succession of a single pitches in rhythm conceived as a meaningful whole built around a stable set of pitch intervals. According to Forney and Machlis (2007), "it is a succession of single pitches that we perceive as a recognizable whole; it is generally seen as that element in music that appeals most unswervingly to the audience" (p. 12). Elements of melody may include the following;

- a) Pitch: Oxenham (2012) defined pitch as "the perceptual correlate of the periodicity or repetition rate of an acoustic waveform" (p. 32). In other words, it is basically the relative highness and lowness of a sound.
- b) Rhythm: It is primarily the arrangement of long and short sounds and silences in music. One researcher emphasized that "rhythm is thus reduced to a skeletal frame, a simple pattern of attacks, something that can be represented entirely by clapping, for instance" (Kaminsky, 2014, p. 47).
- c) Tonality: Gutiéreez (2006) opined that "tonality is primarily used to denote a system of relationships between a series of pitches (forming melodies and harmonies) having a tonic, or a central pitch class, as its most important (or stable) element" (p. 16).
- d) Form: Hamilton (2006) defined form as "a way of describing the structure or shape of a piece of music i.e., the way it has been constructed from various smaller sections" (p. 1).
- e) Texture: It is the overall quality of a sound of a piece, indicated by the number of voices in the music and by the relationship between them. Melis (2009) emphasized that, "texture in music indicates the articulation of the sound thickness, that is, the configuration of the sound space in the vertical sense" (p. 10).

- f) Dynamics: It is the level of intensity and articulation of certain notes in a composition. Forney et al (2007) emphasized that "dynamics denote the volume (degree of loudness or softness) at which music is played" (p. 33).
- g) Timbre (Tone colour): It is the quality of a sound made by a particular voice or musical instrument. The American National Standards Institute (1973) defined timbre as "that attribute of auditory sensation in terms of which listener can judge that of two sounds, similarly presented and having the same loudness and pitch, are dissimilar" (Letowski, 1992, p. 20).
- h) Text: In simple terms, it is the words or lyrics set to music. It is actually required in vocal music for a better understanding and appreciation. In an attempt to describe what a text is, Aleshinskaya (2013) highlighted that "text is a product of social activity, a result of interaction of social practices and social agents" (p. 431).

The elements discussed above are largely considered as the essential components of melody, and that they form the basis of choral music, whether solo or chorus. In this study, however, the focus was on the voice solo even though the piano played a supporting role. A voice solo in this instance meant that the emphasis was on series of melodic themes rather that harmonic progressions. Imperatively, each composition of the contemporary Ghanaian art song was creatively weaved with melodic elements such as pitch, rhythm, tonality, form, texture, dynamics, timbre and text for better comprehension and appreciation. The discussion of melodic elements in this chapter exposes the reader to the nitty gritty of the individual art songs in terms of clues regarding some analytical parameters for further discourse.

## 2.3 Indigenous African Musical Elements as Source Materials

Music performance in the African setting has always been contextualized in a communal activity, exhibiting some socio-cultural elements (which may include cultural values, heritage, knowledge and experience) of a specific ethnographic location. It is imperative to assert that those who get together in such communal activities generally belong to the same ethnic or linguistic group. Of course, such activities serve as means of social control among the citizens that stamps out communal vices and foster communal unity (Nketia, 1984; Nnamani, 2014; Teffera, 2006). Sunkett (1993) also emphasized that this cultural heritage is "developed through personal experience, communication, and community consensus. As a result, anyone born and raised within a culture will, on at least a very elemental level, develop an ability to function within the aesthetic parameters of that society" (p. 11). Acquah (2013) on the other hand asserted that "one of the most outstanding aspect of a people's culture, which identifies them, is their music. Particularly, in a multilingual African society like Ghana, the mention of a particular ensemble shows the identity of the group" (p. 22). Some of these musical types include Asafo, Adenkum, Adowa, Adzewa,  $Omp\varepsilon$  and many others.

Indigenous African music usually has vital qualities that make it exceptional among the other musical genres. For instance, Agawu (1995) described the African rhythm as complex, and stated:

African rhythms are complex, that Africans are essentially rhythmic people, and that Africans are different from us – from Euro-Americans. The literature above discloses the most common characteristic feature of African music as rhythm. While Western music is characterized by its melodic construction, virtually all traditional African music is rhythmic in nature. Nevertheless, most melodies of African music are

dependent on the arrangement of tones or sounds from the spoken language. (p.380)

In addition to the above assertion, it is obviously clear that the percussiveness of indigenous African music does not give much room for melodic importance. This is to say that; the dominance of the percussion instruments affects African music more rhythmically than being melodic. Therefore, by Western standards, African music is characteristically complex, and it is often polyrhythmic and polyphonic. Nketia (1974) emphasized on the rhythmic nature of African music and opined:

The melodic and polyphonic forms utilized in African music derive their dynamic qualities from the rhythmic framework within which sound materials are organized. African traditions are more uniform in their choice and use of rhythms and rhythmic structures that they are in their selection and use of pitch systems. Since African music is predisposed towards percussion and percussive textures, there is an understandable emphasis on rhythm, for rhythmic interest often compensates for the absence of melody or the lack of melodic sophistication. The music of an instrument with a range of only two or three tones may be effective or aesthetically satisfying to its performers and their audience if it has sufficient rhythmic interest. (p.125)

In as much as the percussiveness of the African music does not give much room for melodic importance as suggested by the above assertion, we cannot be oblivious of the fact that the melodic themes of the indigenous African music serve as the underpinning driving force. In an attempt to describe the melodic characteristics of the indigenous African music, Kazarow (1993) emphasized that "melodically, traditional African music is identified by the shape, some selected interval sequences, sharp initial ascents followed by slow descent, and the relation to the contour of the speech tones of the texts" (pp. 19-21)

Furthermore, the texture of an indigenous African music is predominantly in the form of monophony, polyphony, heterophony, melodic ostinato, overtones of instruments whilst the harmonic progressions are in the form of parallel thirds, fourths, fifths and sixths. Most traditional African songs are in the strophic form though some are through-composed. The vocal timbre used in most traditional African music is characterized by a resonant and a fuzzy, "buzzing" tone. Also, ornamental devices such as the glissando, use of falsetto, ululation, and vocal bend and dip, are employed. Depending on the differences in language contour, a particular scale is adopted in the compositions of the indigenous African music. According to Saunders and LoBamijoko (1985), "four identifiable scales are found in African music which are tetratonic, pentatonic, hexatonic, and heptatonic, and these progressions create different modes in African music as they do in Western music" (p.57).

Apart from the characteristic features associated with African music as pointed out earlier by Nketia and other scholars, compositional techniques such as call-and response, repetition and imitation are generally employed in indigenous African music. Agawu (1995) gave more insight on repetition, and stated:

Order emanates from repetition, and [it] is from doing the "same thing" over and over again that the Northern Ewe finds meaning in life. Ritual orders both "life" and "art". Repetition gives Northern Ewes assurance of the known and the familiar, enables them to take stock of what has been achieved, and provides forum for creative interpretation and reinterpretation of culture. (as cited in Agordoh, 2004, p. 110)

Amuah (2012) on the other hand opined that "in the traditional setup, music making has been primarily call and response but confined to solo against two parts in either thirds or sixths" (p.120).

The study focused on utilising the indigenous resources of three selected traditional musical types namely, Asafo,  $Omp\varepsilon$  and Apofondwom to better situate the concept of art song in a Ghanaian context. By so doing, elements of these traditional musical types were fused together with Western musical elements to achieve the purpose of the study.

## 2.3.1 Asafo

Over the years, some scholars have made an attempt to explain the concept of *Asafo* in similar perspective. For instance, Aggrey (1978) described it as "a group of people or a band which come together to work towards a particular vision or a specific objective. It is the military wing of our traditional society that seeks the interest of a particular state" (p. 1).

Turkson (1982) also gave a vivid elucidation on *Asafo* in terms of its functions, and stated:

Asafo functions in a number of ways: political, military, social and religious. As a political unit of the society, it maintains its right to enstool and destool a chief. In its social role, members of the institution organize themselves into search parties when a member is lost in the forest or drowned at sea; they also undertake communal labour to improve the community. They have been known to construct public places of convenience, schools, clinics, churches, buildings, recreation centres and other amenities. The prime objective of asafo in the past was the defence of the society, of the aged, in firm and property. Among the Fantis and especially the Effutus this was the main objective thus it was the strong and the able-bodied of the society who actively participated in its deliberations. (p. 4)

Acquah (2013) on the other hand corroborated with the above assertion and emphasized that "asafo was formerly a warrior association that defended the town against aggression of the local enemies, incursion by her neighbours as well as the human and material resources in times of trouble or war" (p. 31). Unlike Cape Coast and Mankessim that have seven and five *Asafo* companies, Winneba has two; *Tuafo* No. 1 and *Dentsefo* No. 2. The Asafo system at Winneba is very distinct from other systems. According to Ackom (2005), "each *asafo* company in Winneba is divided into three main divisions and each division is sub divided into three sections namely, seniors, intermediates and juniors" (p. 31).

## 2.3.2 *Ompe*

It is a general knowledge in Winneba that indigenous music generally is a gift from the gods and ancestors basically given to specific *prama*(s) (ancestral male house(s). In actual fact, this belief has given to these male house(s) some level of authority to monopolize the composition and performance of indigenous musical types in Winneba. To support this assertion, Ebeli (2013) opined that, "*mpe* music of Winneba is performed by a recognized group, but community members who are familiar with the music and dance normally join the performance during social events in the community" (p. 2).

 $\mathcal{I}mp\varepsilon$  as a graceful recreational musical type, is mostly performed by the Effutu of Winneba. Ebeli (2011) gave two contrasting accounts on the origin of  $\mathcal{I}mp\varepsilon$ , and stated:

Later, when there was no other equally entertaining musical group in the community, as the two *asafo* groups were military bands that performed on occasions only, the elders entreated the youth to organize themselves and revive the group. This did not go down well with the youth who retorted, "Nnye hom na hom se hom mmpe yi?" (Are you not the ones who rejected it?) This phrase, with the focus on *Impe* forms the basis for the name of the group. Another version of its origin alleges that one day, during one of the celebrations of the *Aboakyer* festival, a hunter went to a very thick forest to hunt. Suddenly, he heard some music and drumming in the forest. The music moved him so much that he traced it but could not find it. He later sat down on a stone and started to imitate the drum patterns of the music by tapping his thighs. When he came home, he taught the males the drum patterns of the music and the females danced accordingly. (p. 39)

### 2.3.3 Apofondwom

As part of folk songs, *Apofondwom* is in the context of fishing and its related activities, and it inexorably reveals the uniqueness of the people through spreading of traditional wisdom, conveying the history of the people as well as educating the people about their identity. Bronner (2002) emphasized that "a folk song is a lyric poem with melody which originated anonymously among the unlettered folk in times past and which remained in currency for a considerable time, as a rule for centuries" (p.32). Folk songs can therefore be viewed as songs of the folks who did not go through any formal education. In spite of their inability to read or write, these folks could compose lyrical poems set to melodies to express emotions, thoughts or ideas shared by the community. It is imperative to state that these folk songs have been handed down to generations upon generations through oral tradition. This tradition of transmission is likely to change the text of the songs with time. According to Wells (1950), "the original text may be lost while sometimes, they may be freshly created by successive singers as they make their own versions to give it a new spirit" (as cited in Acquah, 2018, p.25).

In an attempt to throw more light on the functions of folk songs, Cohen (2012) stated:

A folk song sometimes acts as social critique and serves as a vehicle for social regulation. They can also be used to extol positive virtues such as hard work, modesty, moderation and self-discipline. Folk music has been passed down from generation to generation. (p.23)

Significantly, the use of indigenous African musical elements in this study provided the basis for symbiotic compositions made up of African and Western musical elements and techniques that exhibited percussive concepts in Ghanaian traditional musical practices. Specifically, more emphasis was laid upon polyrhythmic thoughts of indigenous materials though such elements as repetition, call and response, recitative intonation and others were effectively utilised to create contemporary Ghanaian art songs. As a modern creative ethnomusicologist, it is my interest to explore diverse indigenous resources to augment knowledge in research-based compositions.

## 2.4 Using Ghanaian Languages as Sources for Musical Texts

Language is one of the various media through which every culture expresses its concepts about the environment. It is a vehicle for the expressions of thoughts from which the concepts concerning the environment are formed by the individual. The use of language is a subject of global significance. It is through language that we develop our thoughts, shape our experiences, explore our customs, structure our communities, construct our laws, articulate our values and give expression to our hopes and ideas. In Ghana, for instance, there are diversified languages to express one's culture and environment. The Ghana Statistical Service, in their 2000 census report indicated that Ghana, like most countries in Africa is a multi-ethnic, multi-religious and

multicultural society. The major groups are the Akan, the Mole Dagbani, the Ewe, the Ga-Adangbe, the Guan, the Gurma, the Grusi and the Mande-Busanga (Asante & Gyimah-Boadi, 2004; Ngman-Wara, 2005; Tackie-Ofosu, Mahama, Dosoo, Kumador & Toku, 2015).

It is generally asserted that Ghana is a multilingual nation. This is due to the presence of the multitude of heritage languages spoken across the length and breadth of the country. Majority of these local languages are spoken indigenously in Ghana only. Indigenous languages play an important role in transmitting cultures, values and traditional knowledge (Owu-Ewie, 2017; Yekple & Sibdow, 2021). It is estimated that there are between fifty (50) to eighty (80) different indigenous languages in Ghana, and eleven out of which are government sponsored, and are also supported by the Bureau of Ghana Languages. The government sponsored indigenous languages in Ghana include Twi, Fante, Nzema, Ewe, Ga, Dangme, Dagbanli, Dagaare, Gonja, Kasem, and Gurunne (Owusu-Ansah & Torto, 2013; Twumasi, 2021). Unquestionably, these government sponsored languages are generally viewed as languages of the major ethnolinguistic traditions of Ghana. It also means that some other Ghanaian languages such as *Ahanta*, *Effutu*, *Kyerepon*, *Leteh* and others are categorised as the minority.

In this study, however, seven (7) government sponsored languages such as *Fante*, *Ewe*, *Ga*, *Dagbanli*, *Dagaare*, *Kasem* and *Gurune* were selected as a fair representation of both the southern and northern sectors of Ghana because they are widely known. One (1) Ghanaian language of the minority category, namely, *Effutu*, was also selected as a representation of the less known languages in Ghana. *Effutu* is spoken in Winneba, a coastal town in the central region of Ghana, and some other

surrounding villages. *Effutu* is considered by Ethnologues as a dialect of *Awutu*, along with *Awutu* and Senya. Thus, the language name is *Awutu*, with three dialects, namely *Awutu*, *Effutu* and *Senya*. *Awutu* is classified as a South-Guan language belonging to the Kwa branch of the Niger-Congo family of languages. Of all the dialects, the *Effutu* variety could be described as being threatened. Although Winneba is the main town identified with the *Effutu* variety, a close observation reveals that only a fraction of the Winneba population actually speaks the language. The dominant language in Winneba is the *Fante* dialect of Akan, which happens to be geographically adjacent to *Effutu*, and is also spoken as a second language by the *Effutu* speakers (Ansah, Agyeman & Adjei, 2022; Eberhard, Gary & Fennig, 2019).

One essential component of vocal music is the text otherwise known as words. Imperatively, the text exposes the audience to the thoughts of the composer in terms of syntax and semantics. In this study, however, I judiciously made use of texts developed from eight Ghanaian languages to effectively communicate diverse messages in divergent contexts. Of course, without the texts, audiences who are, themselves, oblivious of the principles of sonic elements would not comprehend the messages I intended to put across sonically. Significantly, vocal music requires texts for better comprehension and appreciation. Obviously, Ghana is a multilingual country, therefore, it was only appropriate that I used texts from different languages to represent the multilingualism of the Ghanaian culture.

## 2.5 Organisation of Meaningful Sounds with Tonal Texts

It is believed that a tonal word has direct relationship with sounds because its meaning is dependent on the intonation involved in the spoken word. Fromkin (1978) threw more light on the subject, and explained:

In most widely-spoken tonal language, tones are distinguished by their distinctive shape, known as contour, with each tone having a different internal pattern of rising and falling pitch. Many words especially those that are monosyllabic, are differentiated solely by tone. In multisyllabic word each syllable often carries its own tone. (as cited in Amuah, 2016, p. 14)

Acquah and Amuah (2014) emphasized that, "undoubtedly, the meaning of a word in the *Fante* language depends on the composition of the word as well as the intonation involved in the speech" (p. 120). It is also imperative to assert that some *Fante* words have the same vowels and consonants but have different meanings depending on the tone and the context. For instance, a word such as *papa* has three different meanings depending on the tonal inflection and the context in which it is used; papa (father), papa (good deeds) and papa (fan). The arrows on top of the words indicate the high and low tones in the words (Acquah & Sackey, 2021).

Again, song text as one of the sources for understanding human behaviour is an integral part of vocal music, even though it may differ from the text for normal discourse. Significantly, we may talk about poetic devices, proverbs, philosophies among others as aspects of song text which must be well stated melodically to call for understanding, and to get the message of a particular song very well. Of course, most music in Africa share similarities in structure and tonal effects such as glides, scoops, shouts, screams, ululation, panegyrics determined by linguistic considerations that are reflected in music which may be spoken or sung (Agordoh, 2002; Ofosu, 2001; Okafor, 1999).

Nketia (1975) elucidated the concept of organising sounds with text in the context of the African, and stated:

The most far-reaching influence is exerted by the verbal text to which Songs are set. African traditions deliberately treat songs as though they were speech utterance. There are societies in which solo poetic recitations both spoken and sung have become social institutions. The use of rapid delivery of texts, explosive sounds or special interjections, vocal grunts, and the whisper is not uncommon. (as cited in Ofosu & Ofosu, 2020, p. 231)

Indisputably, the consideration for the organisation of meaningful sounds with tonal texts is largely the tonal and rhythmic inflections of the texts. In African art music compositions, however, the concept of melody goes beyond just the sequence of pitches. For instance, when Ephraim Amu was asked whether or not the words came first when writing his songs, He replied thus, it was his practice to work out both words and tune together since the melodic line has to follow the natural intonations of the words (Acquah, Annan & Sackey, 2022; Turkson, 1995). In as much as Amu would work out both words and tune together, it is also appropriate to get the words first, work out the tonal and rhythmic inflections, and then set them to a melody accordingly. Getting the melody first before adding the texts would be difficult because the texts would have to be forced on tones that do not match with the natural intonations of the texts.

## 2.6 Creativity in Music Composition

Many researchers over the years have had the basic opinion that creativity engrosses the making of a new and suitable product. For instance, Hennessey & Amabile (2010) emphasized that "creativity involves the development of a novel product, idea, or problem solution that is of value to the individual and/or the larger social group" (p. 172). In corroboration with the above assertion, Amabile and Pillemer (2012) stated

that "by the early 1960's, the field seemed to converge around a definition of creativity as the production of novel, appropriate ideas or works" (p. 3).

In an attempt to explain what a composition is, Arnold (1996) asserted:

Composition is both an activity of composing and the results of that activity. It involves a process of construction, a creative putting together, a working out, and carrying through of an initial conception or inspiration; a process of creating a new piece of music. (as cited in Sackey, 2017, p. 24)

Obviously, music composition is rather a cognitive process since the composer must engage in some mental processes to be able to come out with a creative product (composition) which is both authentic and novel. To support this assertion, Willgoss (2018) opined:

Creativity in or of art music could be most obviously seen to emanate from the mind of the composer as the source that then gives rise to a form of notation, such as a score. All other creativities might then be considered derivative upon that source. If so, subsequent creativities would be largely subservient to what the composer's initial prescriptions call for. (p. 11)

Furthermore, Sternberg's investment theory of creativity discusses six distinct resources which are interrelated and also serve as the fundamental basis of comprehending the nature of creativity. They include;

a. Intellectual skills: This is the individual's ability to mentally revolt from the normal ways of doing things. In order to give an in-depth elucidation of the concept, Sternberg (1985) suggested three intellectual skills that are predominantly significant:

The synthetic skill to see problems in new ways and to escape the bounds of conventional thinking, the analytic skill to recognize which of one's ideas are worth pursuing and which are not, and the practical –

contextual skill to know how to persuade others of, or to sell other people on the value of one's ideas. These principles serve as a model for evaluating one's intellectual skills. The levels of intellectual skills are highly individualistic. (as cited in Sternberg, 2006, p. 88)

- b. Knowledge: This is the acquisition of information on a field of study. It is very important to have acquaintance of a field in order to improve upon it. On the other hand, the acquisition of information can make a person dogmatic, restricting his or her creative skill and eventually making him or her think 'in the box'. This is to assert that knowledge can be both advantageous and disadvantageous. Knowledge is itself complete, but what a person knows depend upon justification. This, in turn, is dependent upon our ability to accept and agree to things around (Agarwal, 2017).
- c. Thinking styles: These are the ideal traditions with which one's creative skills are utilized. It requires one's mental processes to decide on how to use his or her creative skill in a new dimension. In view of this, Sternberg (1997) asserted that, "with regard to thinking styles, a legislative style is particularly important for creativity" (as cited in Sternberg, 2006, p. 89).
- d. Personality: Simply put, the traits of a person define his or her personality. Sternberg and Lubart (1995) specified that, "willingness to overcome obstacles, willingness to take sensible risks, willingness to tolerate ambiguity, and self-efficacy are attributes of a creative person" (as cited in Sternberg, 2006, p. 89). A creative person must think unconventionally so that he or she can stand out.
- e. Motivation: This is one's impetus for accomplishment. Motivation is affected by both internal and external factors. A person's intuition hugely encourages creativity.

  Amabile (1983) suggested that, "intrinsic motivation is very important for creative

work, and that people rarely do truly creative work in an area unless they really love what they are doing and focus on the work rather than the potential rewards" (as cited in Sternberg, 2006, p.89).

f. Environment: This is the setting of the creative product. An environment should be more conducive for creative works. Without an encouraging and rewarding environment, one can lose creative skills, though he or she has all the requisite internal resources for creative works. It is generally believed that the environment shapes the character of the individuals belonging to it (Anyaogu, 2016).

## 2.7 Andragogical Studies in Vocal Music

Andragogy is specific to adult learning, developed on the premise that adults have distinct learning needs and preferences compared to children. Simply put, it is the process of facilitating adult learning. Principles of andragogy indicate that adults possess prior knowledge and experiences that can be drawn upon in learning situations, desire learning situations that are meaningful, and they want to immediately apply what they have learnt to solve problems or address needs. Importantly, this approach requires input from the learner, open communication between the learner and teacher, and classroom activities involving active practice (Bale & Dudney, 2000; Cooper & Henschke, 2004; Livingston & Cumming-Clay, 2023; Mencle, 2010).

Researchers have argued that adult learning had to be self-driven. Rather than having teacher-centric education, adult learning should be centered on the students, teaching them the power of self-motivated learning. Apparently, andragogy has not achieved a significant impact in our part of the world because facilitators still apply the traditional pedagogical approaches; in other words, they teach adults as if they were

children. It is however expedient for the twenty-first century facilitator to review his or her teaching approaches since adult learners are different from child learners. In fact, discussing interpersonal and intrapersonal aspects of an individual level of understanding requires our awareness of how adults learn as an individual and as member of a developing community and organisation (Akintolu & Letseka, 2021; Graham, 2017; Maddalena, 2015).

Undoubtedly, tertiary students are considered active learners who need the appropriate guidance from facilitators to excel in their course of study, in spite of their levels of proficiency. Of course, training the voice as an instrument in a higher education is a specialised area for a specialised facilitator who understands the levels of proficiency of learners across different levels of education and learning environments. In fact, voice teachers are specialized performers and scholars who, ironically, possess qualities such as pedagogue, psychologist, clinician, coach, instructor, researcher, phonetician, and conservator of artistic aesthetics. These qualities of the voice teacher, without doubt, have informed the way they approach performance curriculum and create instructional models or methods for their facilitations. Tertiary voice instructors could be responsible for teaching all the technical, practical, and andragogic knowledge and skills to help their students become as vocally flexible as possible so that they can achieve a level of versatility that will elevate their artistry (Hardison & Sonchaeng, 2005; Latta, 2012; McLean, 2021).

Furthermore, it is imperative to state that vocal facilitators over the years, have developed various vocal techniques and exercises for different category of performers. For instance, Gebhardt (2016) indicated various vocal techniques such as

the Kenneth Phillips approach, Frederick Swanson approach, Duncan McKenzie approach, Irvin Cooper approach and the Robert Edwin approach for the adolescent whilst Eniko (2021) discussed how voice technique fits with solfège practice, the importance of the vocal model, and repertoire choices, focusing on the Kodály concept in the early childhood years. In adult learning, however, diverse vocal techniques and approaches have been developed by scholars based on the levels of proficiency. Mention can be made of the Bel canto technique which is characterized by purity of tone, register equalization, legato phrasing, and effortless virtuosity displayed by agility in florid passages. The performance of different emotions and styles with this singing technique mostly relies on different languages. In as much as the Bel canto technique helps us to achieve a balanced approach to singing, the choral classroom students, however, have diverse singing abilities and qualities such as breathy aspirate tone, pressed constricted speech quality, bright, dark, quiet, loud, and nasalized timbre in singing. Some students may have prior vocal experience whilst others may not. The onus, therefore, lies on the voice teacher to guide his or her students to explore the various vocal techniques and the entirety of sounds the vocal mechanism produces. Apart from the Bel canto technique, there are other vocal technique resources such as the somatic voicework, lieder and fauré melodies for diction concept and voice athlete that students can explore (Graber, 2020; Harper, 1996; McLean, 2021; Stephenson, 2013; Winnie, 2014).

It is an undisputable fact that effective teaching is effective results. That is, the effectiveness of the teaching process should be seen in the learning process as well. Whether or not the result is effective is also dependent upon the type of teaching strategies which provide delivery mode of teaching in accordance with the learning process and needs of students. In this study, I made judicious use of diversified

teaching strategies to achieve effective teaching and learning goals in order to meet the diverse needs of students in higher education. For instance, relevant technical exercises that meet international examination repertoire standards and constitute a substantial contribution to musical knowledge were introduced. Explicitly, a write-up of a substantial annotation that give comments on strategic rehearsal procedures to aid the teaching and learning of the contemporary Ghanaian art songs in a higher institution was provided to guide both the facilitator and the student.

#### 2.8 Creative Model of Koñadá

The review of related literature pulled out the creative model of *Kɔñadá* which may eventually become a framework to guide composers who wish to direct their compositions towards the creation of contemporary Ghanaian art songs.

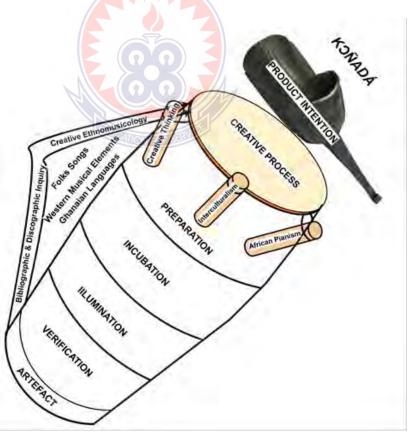


Figure 2: Koñadá Creative Model by G. Sackey (2023)

The title of the creative model, Kɔñadá, is an Effutu word which literally means 'drum music'. It was carved from the concept of percussive music as a major activity in the selected indigenous musical ensembles, providing rhythmic motifs as source materials for the creation of the contemporary Ghanaian art songs. The product intention represented by the dawurnta (double gong) is the musical artefact which becomes a reality through the various compositional stages of the creative process; preparation, incubation, illumination and verification. At the compositional stage, folk songs, Western musical elements as well as Ghanaian languages were selected utilising the bibliographic and discographic inquiry, and creative ethnomusicology designs. Of course, these were supported by three theories (creative thinking in music, interculturalism and African pianism) represented by the pegs of the drum, which combine Western compositional styles and instrumentation with that of the indigenous modes and instrumentation in order to come out with the creative product. After the effective experimentation of the Kɔñadá creative model is hence, the musical artifact (contemporary Ghanaian art songs).

## 2.9 Summary of the Chapter

In summary, the review of literature revealed relevant topical issues and thoughts of authorities regarding the use of indigenous source materials, and the utilization of compositional elements and techniques to create contemporary intercultural compositions as well as the exploration of andragogical studies for effective facilitations in higher education. Imperatively, the chapter covered significant theories that underpinned the study, out of which a framework of creative model was developed to create contemporary Ghanaian art songs.

#### **CHAPTER THREE**

#### **METHODOLOGY**

#### 3.0 Overview

This section is the procedural clues with regards to data gathering, analysis as well as other creative resources for the novelty. It includes the research paradigm, research design, creative design, population, sample, sampling techniques, research instruments, research tools, data collection procedure and the analytical methods.

## 3.1 Research Paradigm

The pragmatism under the qualitative research paradigm was effectively used as the philosophical underpinning to direct the processes of the research in a more practical manner in order to properly situate the work within its ontological, epistemological and methodological perspectives. It is imperative however, to assert that researches are mostly hinged on philosophical frameworks to determine the most appropriate methodologies suitable for the study. These philosophical underpinnings may be described as the ways of comprehension of the world reality, and the investigations of the functions of such realities. Significantly, they serve as the lens by which the researcher can view and comprehend the reality (Rehman & Alharthi, 2016; Shek & Wu, 2018).

As a research paradigm, pragmatism orients itself toward solving practical problems in the real world. It primarily denotes the practicalities of just getting on and doing what the situation demands. Pragmatism emerged as a method of inquiry for more practical-minded researchers who believe that reality is not static but changes at every turn of events through action; the way to practically change existence. Action, which is a pragmatic process of doing something, characteristically, to solve a problem is a

very pivotal component of pragmatism (Creswell & Clark 2011; Goldkuhl 2012; Kaushik & Walsh, 2019; Maxcy 2003; Morgan 2014; Rorty 2000; Simpson, 2018).

Consequently, the study was approached from the viewpoint of creative ethnomusicology, which Euba indicated that it involves the process of incorporating research-derived musical materials (of oral musical traditions) into notation-based compositions. The expression, creative ethnomusicology, though coined by Akin Euba, is conceptually evocative of the folk-inspired compositions of European composers such as Bela Bartok, Moussorgsky, Kodaly, and many more. In this concept, composers produce music in which resources derived from traditional and folk music are combined with Western compositional techniques and musical elements (Acquah, Annan & Sackey, 2022; Adjei, 2015). In my research, however, I resulted to the gathering of indigenous resources, specifically from Asafo, Ompe and Apofondwom, and utilizing them into the novel creative product. Subsequently, the study employed the qualitative research relating to the collection of data that was limited to sounds and texts. Apparently, the divergent collection of data allied with the qualitative research aided the creative product made up of praxis and exegesis respectively.

## 3.2 Research Design

The research complimentarily utilised both creative ethnomusicology (Euba, 1993) and bibliographic, and discographic inquiry (Acquah, 2022) designs to guide the collection of data. Imperatively, the creative ethnomusicology design became necessary to strategically guide the collection of all primary data (musical artefacts) of the selected ensembles from the field. Creative ethnomusicology begins with the gathering of field data and ends with its application into creative large-scale

compositions. Obviously, African composers around the globe have over the years produced music utilising traditional and folk tunes as source materials and combining them with Western musical elements and compositional techniques. One African composer whose work exemplifies creative ethnomusicology is Kwabena Nketia. His style is based on pre-twentieth century Western practice, and dissonance is almost totally absent from his music. The harmonic idiom of Nketia shows a peculiar Ghanaian progression, although derived from Western chords. Nketia, like Bela Bartok, has successfully translated the results of his research into an original creative idiom and a study of his music will provide an insight into the processes that lead from analysis back to synthesis (Acquah, Annan & Sackey, 2022; Acquah & Sackey, 2021; Annan, Sackey & Acquah, 2022; Lwanga, 2013; Euba, 1993).

In an attempt to summarize the descriptions of bibliographic and discographic inquiries, Acquah (2022) accentuated that "bibliographic inquiry conceptualizes explorations and compilations from books and other written materials containing the right source of information for the research whilst discographic inquiry analyses and adapts such data from recorded sounds from gadgets for storing musical sounds" (p. 6). Significantly, the choice of research designs for the study was based on the nature of the artistic research. In fact, the designs were more appropriate and very relevant to music composition inquiry that combines praxis and exegesis in the context of pragmatism in qualitative research since they were efficiently used to collect data from published books as well as audio and video recordings containing traditional dances and musical performances for realistic practical-based research. (Acquah, 2022; Asenahabi, 2019).

#### 3.3 Creative Phase

This phase involved the establishment of the musical themes and resources that were used in the novel creative product. With the underpinning creative model, twenty art songs were composed for voice soli with piano accompaniments. The voice soli were made up of five (5) soprano soli, five (5) alto soli, five (5) tenor soli and five (5) bass soli. This was explicitly done with the piano accompaniment to make room for all four basic vocal ranges. It is imperative, however, to state that the five (5) bass soli had wider vocal rages to also cater for the baritone and the basso profundo voices respectively. The creative phase also covered the arrangement of texts into musical libretto, and establishing the plots for the composition. Cizkszentmihalyi (1996) defined creativity as "any act, idea, or product that changes an existing domain, or that transforms an existing domain into a new one" (p. 28).

Sternberg (2003) corroborated with Cizkszentmihalyi that creativity is the ability to produce novel, high-quality, task-appropriate product. What we call creative depends on the perspective. First, it is useful to distinguish between music generation and creative models, in which the former aims to generate instances within a given, predefined setting or style, and the latter focuses on the modeling of the phenomenon of creativity itself. Within the latter, attempts to explicate creativity commonly require properties of the outcome to go beyond mere generation and replication, such as novelty, originality, discovery, something unexpected, and sometimes innovative. Hence, creativity can be quantified as the number of divergent thoughts a participant elicits in a controlled environment to arrive at convergent ideas to produce a product which is both authentic and novel. Contextually, the creative product (musical composition) is not only conceived as an intellectual operation or as a praxis guided by more primordial needs but also understood as a social fact, a necessity, and a

mirror of the relationship between society and the creative person (Ford, Bryan-Kinns & Nash, 2021; Rohrmeier, 2022; Schiavio & Mathias Benedek, 2020).

## 3.4 Population

The population of the research encompassed the sonic elements from indigenous traditional musical ensembles in Winneba such as Simpa Tuafo Asafo Company, Simpa Dentsefo Asafo Company, Osimpam Impe cultural troupe, Odobikese Impe cultural troupe, Simpa Tuafo Adzeba group, Simpa Dentsefo Adzeba group, Asem atô kusi fishing canoe and Nyame ye Ido fishing canoe of Eyipey (all in Winneba). The population also included sonic elements from song sheets, books, Youtube and compact discs of selected Ghanaian art song compositions such as Nketia's Sankundwom, Amu's The three solos, Atta Annan Mensah's Da tuu and Newlove Annan's Onipa wo nse hwee. Again, the total population covered eight ethnolinguistic traditions in Ghana, namely, Akan, Guan, Ewe, Ga-Dangbe, Dagaaba, Dagomba, Kassena, and Frafra, as well as lecturers of the faculty of Ghanaian languages education, University of Education, Winneba located at Ajumako in the central region of Ghana.

Population primarily consists of all the units which have variable characteristics on which the findings of research can be applied. Lodico, Spaulding and Voegtle (2006) maintained that "it is the larger group to which the researcher would like the results of a study to be generalizable" (p. 13). A proper definition or specification of the population is critical because it guides others in appraising the credibility of the sample, sampling technique(s) and outcomes of the research. In fact, the population is properly defined so that there is no uncertainty as to whether or not a given unit belongs to the population. The proper definition of the population also determines the

eligibility of individuals for the study. In the case of bibliographic and discographic inquiries, it is the explored elements from the song sheets and books or the compact discs, as the case may be, that will be appropriate for the composition of the artefact. In this regard, population, as in human participants will not be applicable in these designs (Acquah, 2022; Asiamah, Mensah & Oteng-Abayie, 2017).

Importantly, the population of interest for a study is comprised of the individuals, dyads, groups, organizations, or other entities one seeks to understand and to whom or to which the study results may be generalized or transferred and is the principal group about which the research is concerned. Populations create boundaries for the scope of a study and provide environmental and context cues for the reader. Such boundaries place natural delimitations upon the research to afford the researcher the proper focus so as not to present a one-size-fits-all set of results. The definition of boundaries also allows the researcher to clearly identify subpopulations, such as the target population, sampling frame, and sample, and to ensure alignment between these groups within the research. Clear definitions of boundaries and other considerations are essential to describing each respective group. It is incumbent upon the researchers to define the boundaries used in their study to avoid compelling the reader to assume a definition; otherwise, the incorrect definition – and, therefore, the incorrect population – may be presumed by the reader (Casteel & Canyon, 2021; Salkind, 2010).

#### 3.5 Sample

The Simpa Dentsefo Asafo Company, Osimpam Impe cultural troupe and Nyame ye odo fishing canoe, all in Winneba in the central region of Ghana; Sankundwom (Nketia, 1999); and Fante, Effutu, Ewe, Ga, Dagaare, Dangbanli, Kasem and Gurune languages were sampled for the study. Importantly, the indigenous traditional musical

ensembles were sampled for the indigenous sonic elements whilst *Sankundwom* was sampled to guide my musical artefacts (contemporary Ghanaian art songs). The eight Ghanaian languages (*Fante*, *Effutu*, *Ewe*, *Ga*, *Dagaare*, *Dangbanli*, *Kasem* and *Gurune*) on the other hand were sampled to develop the musical libretti for the musical artefacts.

Sample primarily refers to the set of units selected to represent the population of interest. Determining an adequate sample size in qualitative research is ultimately a matter of judgement and experience in evaluating the quality of the information collected against the uses to which it will be put, the particular research method and sampling strategy employed, and the research product intended. (Casteel & Bridier, 2021; Gill, 2020).

## 3.6 Sampling Techniques

The study utilised two main sampling techniques; convenient sampling and purposive sampling respectively. The convenience sampling technique was used to select the main location and some settings within the location for the study because of its accessibility whilst the purposive sampling technique was strategically used to select musical ensembles and musical scores which gave much significant data that was relevant to the objectives of the study. In an attempt to explain convenience sampling, Etikan (2016) asserted:

It is a type of nonprobability or nonrandom sampling where members of the target population that meet certain practical criteria, such as easy accessibility, geographical proximity, availability at a given time, or the willingness to participate are included for the purpose of the study. It is also referred to the researching subjects of the population that are easily accessible to the researcher. Convenience samples are sometimes regarded as 'accidental samples' because elements may be

selected in the sample simply as they just happen to be situated, spatially or administratively, near to where the researcher is conducting the data collection. (p. 2)

In this study, I used the convenience sampling technique to select Winneba as a location, and the settings within Winneba such as *Kofi Ano*, the residence of the late Doctor Alex Quaison-Sackey and *Eyipey mpoano*.

Furthermore, Elder posited that, "purposive sample refers to the selection of units based on personal judgment rather than randomization" (p. 6). Data collection is vital in any scientific research since it is intended to give a better comprehension of a framework of a sort. It is therefore imperious that the selection of sampling technique and respondent(s) be done with sound judgement, especially since no amount of analysis can make up for improper data. Purposive sampling technique, also known as judgment sampling is the deliberate choice of a participant due to the qualities the participant possesses (Etikan, Musa & Alkassim, 2016, p. 2). In order to achieve this, both homogenous and heterogenous sampling methods were utilised to select the Simpa Dentsefo Asafo Company, Osimpam Ompe cultural troupe and Nyame ye odo fishing canoe; Fante, Effutu, Ewe, Ga, Dagaare, Dangbanli, Gurune and Kasem languages based on my personal judgement. The Sankundwom (Nketia, 1999) on the other hand was selected because it stood out as the only current published book of Ghanaian art songs. Specifically, the homogenous sampling method was used to sample the indigenous musical ensemble since they share similar traits in terms of sonic elements. Etikan, Musa and Alkassim, (2016) emphasized that "homogenous sampling focuses on candidates who share similar traits or specific characteristics" (p. 3). It is important to state that my experience with the ensembles over the period had assured me of the quality of data I could get from them, hence, their selection for the study. For instance, both the Owombir and Envi to of the Simpa Dentsefo Asafo

Company share the same time signature, most rhythmic patterns and melodic elements with the  $Dmp\varepsilon$  whilst the  $Nyame\ y\varepsilon\ odo$  fishing canoe shares the same time signature, most rhythmic patterns and melodic elements with the  $Ad\tilde{a}$  osé of the Simpa  $Dentsefo\ Asafo\ Company$ .

Again, I used the heterogenous sampling method to sample eight Ghanaian languages such as Fante, Effutu, Ewe, Ga, Dagaare, Dangbanli, Gurune and Kasem; and one unit head, who is a scholar in each of the selected languages of the faculty of Ghanaian languages education of the University of Education, Winneba. In actual fact, one of the most frequently used purposive sampling methods is the heterogenous sampling otherwise known as the maximum variation sampling. In this method, a wide range of individuals, groups, settings or entities are selected for the inquiry. This allows for multiple perspectives of individuals or entities to be presented that exemplify the complexity of the world (Omona, 2013; Creswell, 2002; Sandelowski, 1995). In this study, eight (8) Ghanaian languages which are integral part of the main ethnolinguistic traditions of Ghana were sampled for the musical libretti whilst six (6) lecturers were sampled six (6) lecturers were selected for the purpose of translating the musical libretti from English language into the sampled Ghanaian languages.

#### 3.7 Research Instruments

Two main research instruments were used in this study for the data collection; observation and document analysis. Research instruments are devices for obtaining information relevant to your research project, and there are many alternatives from which to choose. Simply put, they are devices used by investigators for data collection (Hsu & Sandford, 2010; Wilkinson & Birmingham, 2003) The above-mentioned

instruments were used to collect data because they have been validated by several qualitative researchers over the years, and they had proven reliability.

#### 3.7.1 Observation

Observation as a research instrument was used to collect all the primary data for the study. It became an integral part of my recording processes, since I could not avoid looking on, and listening to what I was recording. Again, as a researcher, I realized that observation would help me to understand and appreciate the sonic elements that I intended to use in my compositions, therefore, I keenly observed and recorded the Asafo, Impe and Apofondwom songs, and instrumental patterns in musical performances at the various events of the three selected ensembles for transcription. Observation involves collecting data using one's senses, especially looking and listening in a systematic and meaningful way in order to describe events, behaviors, and artifacts of a social setting. There are two major types of observations; participant observation and direct observation. Participant observation involves being in the setting under study as both observer and participant whilst the direct observation involves observing without interacting with the objects or people under study in the setting. The quality of the data you are able to collect and your relationship with those who are being observed are affected by how you position yourself within the research setting. Importantly, observation as a scientific method can be carried out in various ways giving the possibility of obtaining specific data about the examined phenomenon (Dźwigol & Barosz, 2020; Kawulich, 2012; Smith & Onwuegbuzie, 2018).

In this study, however, the direct observation was predominantly used as a naturalistic inquiry without influencing the observation process in any way. It is also imperative

to state that in spite of the predominant use of the direct observation, some specific events required my active involvement in the observation process due to my affiliation with the selected musical ensembles. For instance, by virtue of my paternal ancestry in *Effutu*, I am a *Dentsewo* (a member of the *Dentsefo Asafo*), therefore, collecting data with observation at *Kofi Ano* (the headquarters of the *Simpa Dentsefo Asafo* Company) would require my active participation in the process. In a situation like this and the likes, I actively participated in their musical activities, observed and recorded the sonic elements accordingly.

## 3.7.2 Document Analysis

Document analysis is a systematic and rigorous procedure for reviewing of evaluating documents. The content of the document in question could be both printed and electronic. That is, a computer-based and internet-transmitted material. Imperatively, documents containing text such as books, newspaper articles, academic journal articles, and institutional reports are potential sources for qualitative analysis. Also, a document may refer to a wide variety of materials including audio and visual sources, such as photograph, music video, film and music audio. Just like documents consisting of texts, those that consist of audio and visual materials can be sources for qualitative analysis (Bowen, 2009; Flick, 2018; Hagan, 2022; Merriam & Tisdell, 2016; Morgan, 2022; Patton, 2015; Wach, 2013). This instrument was effectively used as to detail texts, sounds and compositional procedures that already exist in published song books and sheets by notable art music composers; and video and audio recordings of traditional performances on compact discs and Youtube.

#### 3.8 Research Tools

I researcher made use of notebooks, pencils and pens, audio-visual recorder, camera, and laptop computer with installed Finale software as tools for the collection of data.

#### 3.9 Data Collection Procedure

It is imperative to state that before the commencement of the data collection, I selected one research assistant, educated and sensitized him on his role in the research. The data collection procedure commenced in December, 2021 with preliminary checks to create the necessary rapport, and obtain permission from the leaders of the three ensembles for the smooth conduction of the research. This gave me the opportunity to arrange for subsequent observations and recordings. For instance, on Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2021, we visited the reining Supi of the Petufo division of the Simpa Dentsefo Asafo Company, Nenyi Odonsu Akumbea-Sam, who doubles as the Ebusuapanyin (family head) of the Tumpa Anona Royal family of Winneba, with a bottle of Schnapp to declare our intensions, and create the necessary rapport. At his residence, at Adanse, in Winneba, around 5:00pm in the evening, the purpose of the research was explained to him and one Safohen who was with him at the time of our visit. Fortunately for me, the Supi was interested in my research, therefore, gave me the assurance of his unflinching support for the study. I also met the leaders of the Osimpam Impe cultural troupe and the Nyame ye ide fishing canoe respectively on 19th and 21st December, 2021 to create the necessary rapport, and obtain permission for subsequent recordings. It was rather on the 24<sup>th</sup> December, 2021 that I visited the headquarters of the Simpa Dentsefo Asafo Company, Kofi Ano, with a bottle of Schnapp to officially introduce myself to the Asafo, declare my intensions and explain the purpose of my research. The necessary ritual was done, and a permission was given to me to begin the collection of data.

I started my data collection at the headquarters of the Simpa Dentsefo Asafo Company, Kofi Ano, on Friday, 31st December, 2021, where I observed and recorded the end of year consultative meeting of the Asafo Company, presided over by Supi Nenyi Odonsu Akumbea-Sam. In attendance were the Dentsefo Priests and Priestesses, Supifo, Safohenfo, and heads and selected members of the various Dentsefo pramas. At the event, I observed and recorded invocative and appellative Asafo songs which were meant to invoke Esikama (the principal deity of the Simpa Dentsefo Asafo) to seek for New Year prospects. It was fascinating to witness how new Asafo songs of appellation and invocation were introduced by the principal deity through the officiating priest during the rituals. It is believed that the Simpa Dentsefo Asafo songs are gifts from the gods given to the paternal family of the Kaako banto prama. It is also important to state that in rare cases, some individuals who are not members of the chosen family are favored by the gods, and are gifted with the compositions of the Asafo songs. Data collection at Kofi Ano focused on utilising the participant observation since I am obliged by custom as a *Dentsewo* to be an active participant of performances at that prama. I also recorded several Asafo songs of the Simpa Dentsefo Asafo Company outside Kofi Ano in different socio-cultural contexts such as funerals and festivals utilising both the direct and participant observations respectively. Some of the events included the funeral of Nana Ayirebi-Acquah V of the Tumpa Anona Royal Family of Winneba from Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2022 at Adanse in Winneba; the funeral of Safohen Kojo Gyankuma on Saturday, 9th April, 2022 at Senya Beraku; and the *Aboakyer* festival of Winneba from Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> May, 2022.

Furthermore, I observed and recorded the *Apofondwom* songs of the *Nyame ye odo* fishing canoe at *Eyipey mpoano*, in Winneba on three different occasions as a direct observer. For instance, on Tuesday, the 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2022, I recorded the mending of fishing nets with music session whilst on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2022 respectively, I recorded the pulling of canoe offshore with music session. In the *Osimpam Ompe* cultural troupe, however, I did all my observations and recordings in the month of February; Specifically, I observed and recorded two rehearsal sessions as a direct observer at the residence of the late Doctor Alex Quaison-Sackey on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> February respectively. Also, on Saturday,12<sup>th</sup> February, 2022, I observed and recorded the songs of the *Osimpam Ompe* cultural troupe as a participant observer at the funeral of the mother of Nana Otoo III of Winneba at *Adanse*. I did my final observation and recording of the *Ompe* songs of the *Osimpam Ompe* cultural troupe on Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2022 at a wedding reception, at Low cost, a community in Winneba as a direct observer.

The document analysis instrument was specifically used to collect sonic materials of Nketia's Sankundwom and traditional musical types such as Asafo, Ompe, and Apofondwom from a song book, Youtube and compact discs. Imperatively, the creation of musical libretti was necessary for the creation of the contemporary Ghanaian art songs since they were meant to be sung. In order to achieve the purpose of creating musical libretti, I collected audio and video recordings of different traditional musical types, festivals and other sociocultural events of the eight selected ethnolinguistic traditions from Youtube and compact discs, as well as books that contained relevant information on the collected traditional musical types. Significantly, these data aided the creation and adaptation of various poems and stories for my musical artefacts as indicated in Acquah (2018) that stories could be

adopted, adapted or created. The musical libretti that were created with the English language were however translated into eight Ghanaian languages such as *Fanti*, *Effutu*, *Ewe*, *Ga*, *Kasem*, *Dagbanli*, *Dagaare* and *Gurune* for the creation of twenty (20) contemporary Ghanaian art songs.

## 3.10 Analytical Methods

Analysis of the novel creative product was done using formal analysis. The researcher adopted this analytical bent to give an in-depth description of some of the common musical features of the *Asafo*, *Impe* and *Apofondwom* music of the selected ensembles that guided the novelty of the researcher's creative product. It is worth noting that the study of structures of a musical composition serves as the premise of formal analysis in music. It is also acknowledged that gestural analysis is, in many ways, formal analysis. Instead of relying only on chordal function, several other variables such as scale, vocal rages, melodic organization, harmony and tonality, nonchord tones, texture, and form are largely considered in formal analysis. The formal analysis uncovers deep relationships between these structures and examines how they dramatize the form, and how they may heighten the expressive quality of the work. In effect, it provides insights into compositional styles (Annan, Acquah & Sackey, 2022; Marvel, 2021; Stanley, 2021).

Also, stories in different socio-cultural contexts were developed into musical libretti by utilising the contextual analysis to identify, sort, organize and interpret the syntax in specific contexts. In contextual analysis, the meaning of research objects and their parts, as well as of information and data about the objects and their parts, are considered to be dependent upon the contexts of the units. Meanings are discerned and delimited in context, in difference to defining meaning of units outside the

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context investigated. Contextual analysis is explorative and interpretive, when it comes to what meaning data has (Svensson, 2021).



#### **CHAPTER FOUR**

#### PRESENTATION OF DATA

#### THE CORPUS

#### 4.0 Preamble

This chapter is the presentation of the corpus, which includes the diverse media that constituted the indigenous resource materials collected for the composition. The data were collected mainly through observation and document analysis. The data principally covered sonic elements of three selected indigenous musical tunes such as *Asafo*, *Ompe* and *Apofondwom*.

#### 4.1 Results of Observation

#### 4.1.1 Musical Resources

Data collected from observation included rhythmic motifs of instrumental set-ups, melodic and harmonic motifs of the folk tunes from three selected indigenous ensembles. The three selected indigenous ensembles included *Simpa Dentsefo Asafo* Company, *Osimpam Ompe* Cultural troupe and *Nyame ye odo* fishing canoe.

## 4.1.1.1 Instrumental Set-up of Simpa Dentsefo Asafo Company

The instrumental set-up of the *Simpa Dentsefo Asafo* Company comprises of three *Asafokyen* to represent the three main divisions of the ensemble, *Dawur* or *Dawurnta* and *Don* (bell) as a symbol of identity. The three divisions of the ensemble include *Petufo*, the senior division, *Etsibafo*, the intermediate division and *Asomfo*, the junior division. The figure below is an illustration of the instrumental set-up of the *Simpa Dentsefo Asafo* Company.



Asafonkyen



Don Dawur

Figure 3:Instrumental set-up of *Simpa Dentsefo* Asafo Company (Courtesy: *Simpa Dentsefo* Asafo Company, Winneba)

# 4.1.1.2 Instrumental Set-up of the Osimpam Impe Cultural troupe

The following are the main instruments used in the *Эmpε* ensemble; *Frikyiwa* (castanet), banana bell, *Nkampor* (bamboo), *Ogyamba* (supporting drum) and *Awaa* 

(master drum). However, in recent times, other instruments have been adopted to spice up the rhythmic flow of performances. Figure 2 below is an illustration of the instrumental set-up of the *Osimpam Этре* Cultural troupe.



Figure 4:Instrumental set-up of *Osimpam Эmpε* Cultural troupe ( Courtesy: *Osimpam Эmpε* Cultural troupe, Winneba)

## 4.1.1.3 Instrumental Set-up of Nyame YE Odo Fishing Canoe

The instrumental set-up of *Apofondwom* includes *Frikyiwa* (castanet), *Dawurnta* (double-headed gong) and *Ajass* (master instrument).

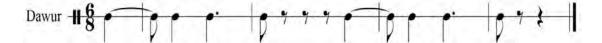


Figure 5:Instrumental set-up of *Nyame ye odo* fishing canoe (Courtesy: *Nyame ye odo* fishing canoe, Winneba)

## 4.1.1.4 Rhythmic Resources

The rhythmic patterns of the instrumental set-up of all the three selected ensembles were adapted. Patterns from both the idiophonic and membranophonic instruments of the set-ups were effectively utilised and adapted for the creation of the contemporary Ghanaian art songs. Significantly, most songs of the ensembles were in either simple duple or compound duple times, therefore, syncopated patterns of individual

instruments in both meters were combined into specific patterns as either principal themes or accompanying themes. It is also important to state however that the rhythmic patterns of some of the instruments are usually in ostinato, as indicated by Anku (2000) that "whether performed individually or shared as a collective experience, the music is nonetheless rigidly controlled by a recurrent rhythm often associated with the role of the bell pattern typical of West and Central African drumming" (p. 1). For instance, the pattern of the *dawur* in the *Owombir* of the *Asafo* is in ostinato as illustrated below.



Example 1: Rhythmic pattern of the Dawur in ostinato

Unlike the *dawur* and other idiophonic instruments that provide recurring rhythmic patterns, others provide different rhythmic patterns, either syncopated or complex. For example, the *Awaa* of the *Dmpe* ensemble provides different rhythmic patterns to indicate specific movements of the *Dmpe* dance movements. Example 2 is an illustration.

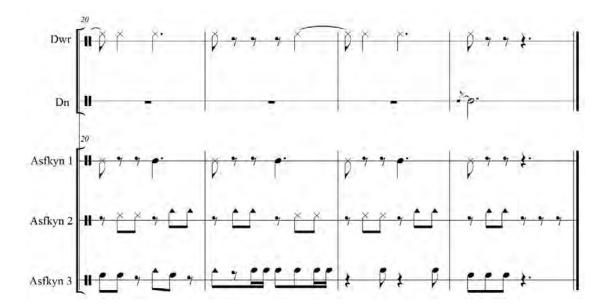


Example 2: Rhythmic pattern of Awaa

Undoubtedly, the rhythmic patterns of the various instrumental set-ups served as a pool of rhythmic motifs from which I adopted and adapted patterns for the creation of the contemporary Ghanaian art songs. They covered simple rhythms, syncopated rhythms, free rhythms and polyrhythmic motifs as a representation of the rhythmic concept of African music in general, and more especially, the three selected ensembles of the study. The following examples are excerpts of rhythmic patterns of

the instrumental set-ups of the three selected indigenous ensembles of the study in different contexts and contents.

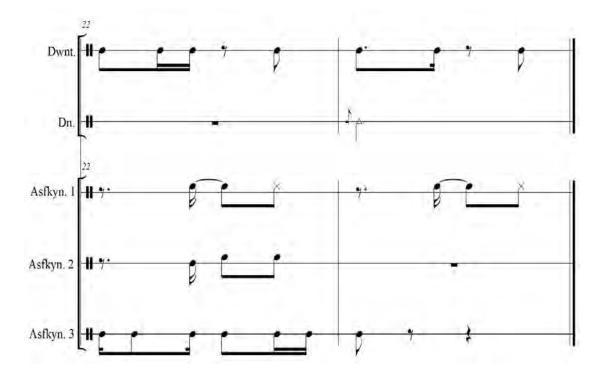




Example 3: Rhythmic pattern of Owombir of the Asafo

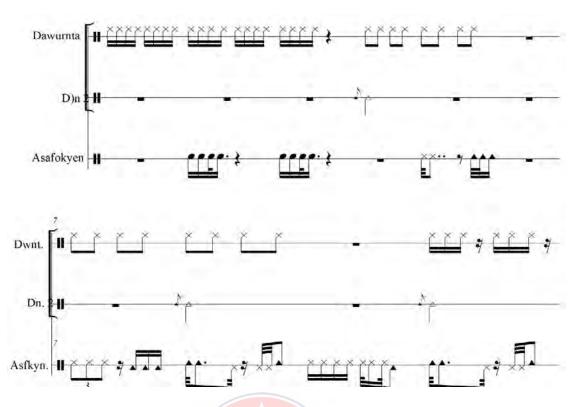






Example 4: Rhythmic pattern of Adã osé of the Asafo

Undoubtedly, the rhythmic patterns above are for the instrumental set-up of the *Simpa Dentsefo Asafo* Company. Significantly, both patterns are for jubilant processions. However, the contents differ. For instance, the former is in a compound duple time while the latter is in a simple duple time. Even though they are both similar characteristically, in their respective time signatures, however, they present different contents in terms of rhythmic themes. Also, there are other contexts such as the aggressive processions and ritual chants where the instrumental set-up produces syncopated polyrhythmic patterns in free time. Mostly, in these instances, the *Dawurnta*, *Don* and one (1) *Asafokven* are used. Example 5 is an illustration.



Example 5: Rhythmic patterns of the Asafo in free time

Again, the *Impe* ensemble has two distinctive rhythmic patterns in compound duple time; while one is gracefully moderato, the other is aggressively allegro. Apart from their contrasting tempos, the rhythmic themes of the various instruments of the set-up also differ. For instance, the pattern of the *nkampor* in the former tempo starts on a strong beat while that of the latter is anacrusic. See Example 6 and 7 respectively for illustrations.



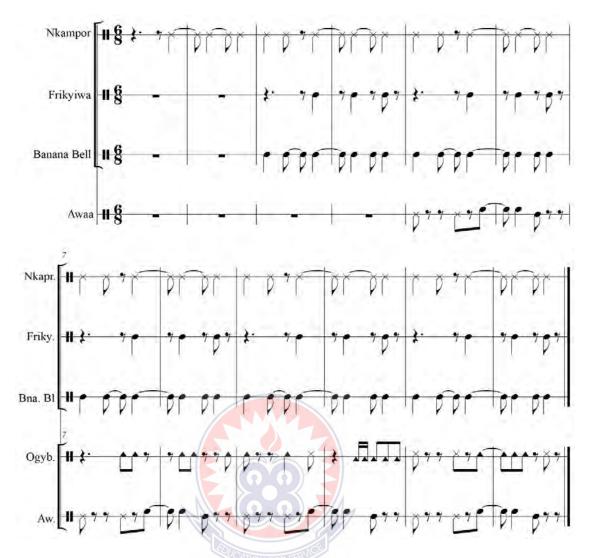
Example 6: Rhythmic pattern of Nkampor in moderato



Example 7: Rhythmic pattern of Nkampor in allegro



Example 8: Rhythmic pattern of the Impe ensemble in moderato



Example 9: Rhythmic pattern of the Impe ensemble in allegro

It is obviously clear that Examples 8 and 9 above explicitly demonstrate the rhythmic patterns of the *Ompe* ensemble in different contexts and contents.

Furthermore, it is imperative to assert that the *Apofondwom* is usually in the simple duple time even though the compound duple time is occasionally utilised. The rhythmic patterns of the instrumental set-up are therefore dependent upon the specific time signature. See Examples 10 and 11 for illustrations.



Example 10: Rhythmic pattern of Apofondwon in simple duple time

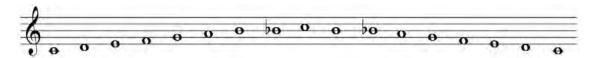


Example 11: Rhythmic pattern of the Apofondwom in compound duple time

# 4.1.1.5 Scale Resources

The scales identified with the three indigenous ensembles included the heptatonic scale, modes and the major scale. The Asafo and Ompe predominantly utilize the

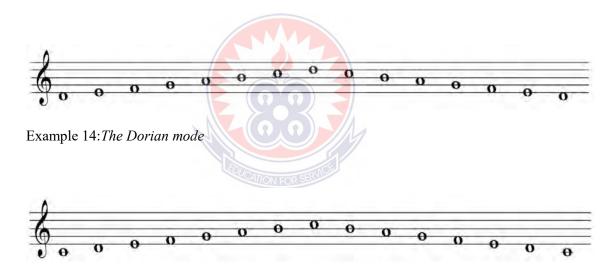
heptatonic scale as well as Phrygian mode, and occasionally used the Dorian mode whilst the *Apofondwom* explored both the heptatonic and major scales respectively. The type of scales used in the ensembles are shown in the examples below.



Example 12: *The Heptatonic scale* 



Example 13: The Phrygian mode



Example 15: The Major scale

# 4.1.1.6 Melodic Resources

The melodies of the Asafo,  $Omp\varepsilon$  and Apofondwom are usually organised with the intervals of seconds, thirds and fourths. Significantly, the use of stepwise motifs is predominant whilst skips and leaps are used intermittently to exhibit specific intervallic structures of the melodies. See the examples below for illustrations.



Example 16: Asafo melodic theme



Example 17: *Эmpε melodic theme* 



Example 18: Apofondwom melodic theme

As indicated in the examples above with circles, the skips and leaps are either a third or a fourth whilst the predominant intervals are seconds. The table below shows the titles of some of the songs from the field whose melodies, harmonies and traditional styles were adapted and used in the work.

Table 1: Song titles of selected folk tunes adapted for the study

S/N	Title of Songs
1	Osee, aye
2	Awer
3	Ntruei

4	Osee, y'aboano
-	, <b>y</b>
5	Akwesi Effrim
6	Meba Enyimnyam
7	Biribi reba
8	Yenam odoto ase
9	Ogya, ogya
10	Obo, obo ee
11	Otanfo
12	Edina Beenya
13	Akoko da buw mu
14	Buee, yere gor
15	Se wore gye a, yenfa mma hon
16	Takwa abodwesε
17	Zamina mina ye reko aba
18	Twooboi
19	Amolika
20	Eheeba

#### 4.1.1.7 Harmonic Resources

The harmonic progressions of the songs of the *Asafo*, *Ompe* and *Apofondwom* are mostly tertian, unison and parallel sixths with sporadic modal progressions. Importantly, the songs are either in two or three-part harmonies, characterized by cantor and chorus sections as shown in the example below.

# APA ESI ATTA



Example 19: Cantor and Chorus

Obviously, there is a harmonic progression of parallel thirds in the Asafo song above, which is common with all other indigenous songs with heptatonic and modal scales.

## 4.1.1.8 Asafo Singing Style Resources

The *Asafo* singing style, which is very common to the Akan and some non-Akan coastal towns of Ghana was adapted and used as a technique in the creation of the contemporary Ghanaian art songs. Apart from the fact that the *Asafo* serves as the

military wing of the community, Sam (2014) observed that, "the group also provides communal entertainment through singing, drumming and dancing, using their ensemble" (p. 20). Specifically, the recitative singing style of the *Asafo* provides the avenue for the cantor to speak the song by using more shorter notes to explicitly exhibit specific musical concepts as illustrated below.

# Asafo singing style Cantor o-wo'e-kum no'a ma'o-bo'n-dwe, Ko-bina'O-ta-bir E-kum no'a ma'o-bo'n-dwe'ε, Ctr. hom-ma yen - ko'o! Ch. E-kum no'a, ma'o-bo'n-dwe'e, Yee - twa'o - bro - nyi ne tsir'e, Ch. twa'o - bro - nyi ne tsir'e, e - kum no'a. ma's - bo'n - dwe'e!

## YEETWA OBRONYI NE TSIR

Example 20: Asafo singing style

#### 4.2 Results of Document Analysis

This instrument was effectively used to collect data made up of as to detail texts, sounds and compositional procedures that already exist in published song books and sheets by notable art music composers; and video and audio recordings of diverse traditional musical types, festivals and other sociocultural events on Youtube and compact discs.

#### 4.2.1 Art song resources

Nketia's Sankundwom (song book) which contained musical scores of nineteen art songs and compositional procedures was duly collected to guide the creation of the contemporary Ghanaian art songs. In his book, Nketia indicated how he made a conscious effort to assimilate traditional modes of expression in Akan music and language that he could explore them in his literary and musical compositions (Nketia, 1999, p. 1). The compositions written for voice and piano holistically followed the tonal and rhythmic inflections of the Akan (Asante) text, and explored the concept of African pianism. This was because of the fact that the Akan language is a tone language, and that in traditional practice, the compositional process involves thinking about text and tune at the same time in order for the tune to reflect the natural intonation of the text. The piano accompaniment was an imitation and exhibition of the rhythmic patterns of the percussive instrument-setup of the Akan music. The excerpt below is an illustration of one of the art songs titled, Mmere nyinaa nse, which literally means, "all times are not equal".

#### MMERE NYINAA NSE





Example 21: An excerpt of an art song

## 4.2.2 Traditional Musical Types Resources

Books and audiovisual recordings of several Ghanaian traditional musical types such as *Bɔbɔɔbɔ*, *Asafo*, *Apofondwom*, *Ompɛ*, *Avihawo*, *Gyil*, *Kpanlogo*, *Lelara* and *Kɔlegɔ* were collected to guide the development of the musical libretti for the creation of the contemporary Ghanaian art songs. For instance, Ebeli (2011), which provided detailed information on the profiles of selected Ghanaian traditional dances, was collected accordingly to aid the creation of two stories namely, *Bɔbɔɔbɔ* and *Kpanlogo*.

#### 4.2.3 Sociocultural Events Resources

Audiovisual recordings of sociocultural events such festivals, funerals, market scenes, communal labour activities and fishing activities were collected to aid the creation of musical libretti. More specifically, the *Aboakyer* and Masquerade festivals of

Winneba, the *Bakatue* festival of Elmina and the *Həməwə* of the *Ga* people; the Mankessim market scene, fishing activities of Winneba and Saltpond respectively as well as other communal labour activities from the northern region of Ghana were collected. Figures 5 and 6 respectively are excerpts of some of the scenes.



Figure 6: A scene from the Winneba Masquerade festival (Image taken by the researcher)



Figure 7: A scene from the Bakatue Festival of Elmina (Image taken by the researcher)

#### 4.2.4 Texts Resources

Various stories and poems were created out of the data collected from indigenous ensembles as well as YouTube, compact discs and books. The stories were developed into musical libretti in the English language, and then translated into eight selected Ghanaian languages such as Fante, Effutu, Ewe, Ga, Dagaare, Kasem, Dagbanli and Gurune. Texts resources included twenty (20) stories and poems of different concepts and languages which aided the compositions of the contemporary Ghanaian art songs. For instance, one of the stories titled, "Simpa Aboabikyire", an Effutu text which literally means "Winneba Deer Hunt" gives a narration of the various events that happened on Friday and Saturday respectively of the Winneba Aboakyer festival. Apparently, the titles of the stories and poems were used as the titles of the twenty

(20) contemporary Ghanaian art songs. The following table shows the titles and literal translations of the created stories and poems.

Table 2: Titles and literal translations of created stories and poems

S/N	Title of Song	Literal Translation
1.	Mankessim gua	Mankessim market
2.	Kaakaamotobi	Masquerade
3.	Ворооро	Bending down
4.	Gamei ji wo	We are Ga people
5.	Gyil	Xylophone
6.	Yenko Akyenfo	Let us go to Saltpond
7.	Nenyi Ayirebi	King Ayirebi
8.	Avihawo	Dirge
9.	Homowo	Hooting At Hunger
10.	Kolego	Sooth sayer
11.	Edina Bakatue	Elmina Lagoon opening
12.	Eyipey Poasé	Eyipey beach
13.	Tata Amu	Father Amu
14.	Kpanlogo	Story telling
15.	Tuma Kpaŋsibu	Work Hard
16.	Oguaa Akoto	Cape Coast crabs
17.	Simpa Aboabikyire	Winneba deer hunt
18.	Dε Menya Mε Doa Dgo o	Had I known is at last
19.	Maŋtsε Ji Bo	You are a king
20.	Lelara	Wars

## 4.3 Summary of the Chapter

The chapter documented the source materials for the novelty, which included rhythmic motifs of instrumental set-ups, melodic and harmonic motifs of the folk tunes from three selected indigenous ensembles as well as other traditional compositional techniques and styles. Explicitly, some of the melodic themes of the selected folk tunes were adapted and used whilst parallel harmonic progressions portraying specific scales and modes were adhered to. Apparently, traditional singing styles used as compositional techniques as well as texts developed from eight Ghanaian languages were also adapted, and appropriately used together with other Western elements and techniques in the novelty.



#### **CHAPTER FIVE**

#### CONTEMPORARY GHANAIAN ART SONGS MUSICAL SCORE

This chapter primarily shows the researcher's exploration of the *Asafo*, *Impe* and *Apofondwom* musical elements fused with Western musical elements and compositional techniques to create twenty (20) intercultural musical artefacts. The musical artefacts which are made up of five (5) soprano soli, five (5) alto soli, five (5) tenor soli and five (5) bass soli explicitly exhibit evidence of musical imagination, creative ability and mastery of compositional techniques. As already stated in chapter four above, the titles of the created stories and poems are the titles of the twenty songs. The table below shows the titles, literal translations, mediums and pages of the twenty contemporary Ghanaian art songs.

Table 3: Table of titles, literal translations, mediums and pages of compositions

S/N	Title of Song	Literal Translation	Medium	Pages
1.	Mankessim gua	Mankessim market	Soprano	83 – 88
2.	Kaakaamotobi	Masquerade	Soprano	89 – 95
3.	Boboobo	Bending down	Soprano	96 – 101
4.	Gamei ji wə	We are Ga people	Soprano	102 – 108
5.	Gyil	Xylophone	Soprano	109 – 114
6.	Yenko Akyenfo	Let us go to Saltpond	Alto	115 – 119
7.	Nenyi Ayirebi	King Ayirebi	Alto	119 – 126
8.	Avihawo	Dirge	Alto	127 – 131
9.	Həməwə	Hooting At Hunger	Alto	132 – 137

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10.	Kəlegə	Sooth sayer	Alto	138 – 143
11.	Edina Bakatue	Elmina Lagoon opening	Tenor	144 – 150
12.	Eyipey Poasé	Eyipey beach	Tenor	151 – 164
13.	Tata Amu	Father Amu	Tenor	165 – 170
14.	Kpanlogo	Story telling	Tenor	171 – 176
15.	Tuma Kpaŋsibu	Work Hard	Tenor	177 – 181
16.	Oguaa Akoto	Cape Coast crabs	Bass	182 - 188
17.	Simpa Aboabikyire	Winneba deer hunt	Bass	189 – 207
18.	Dε Menya Mε Doa Dgo o	Had I known is at last	Bass	208 – 213
19.	Maŋtsɛ Ji Bo	You are a king	Bass	214 – 219
20.	Lelara	Wars	Bass	220 – 226

# MANKESSIM GUA





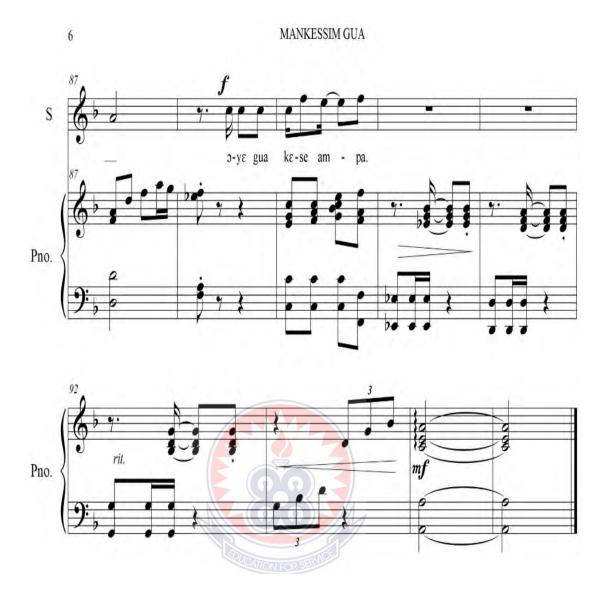
# MANKESSIM GUA





# MANKESSIM GUA





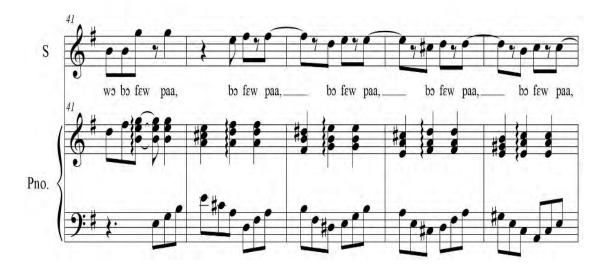


# KAAKAAMOTOBI 2 o-ba Sim - pa'a, i-bo fá a-kwan - kye, a-kwan-kye, kaa - kaa - mo - to - bi'n Pno. S i-bo fá a-kwan - kye, a-kwan-kye; i - bo few pa - pa, i-bo few Pno. i - bo i - fu, i - bo i - fu, i - bo i - fu, pa-pa, Pno.

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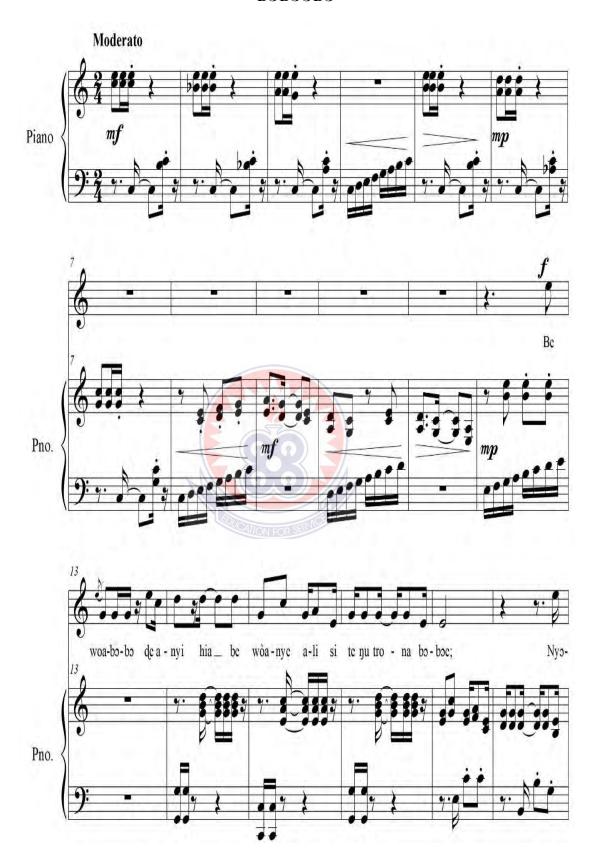








# **CACCACA**





BOBOOBO 3





5 CACCACA Bo - boo - bo, bo - boo - bo, bo-boo-bo, me-lo bo - boo-bo nu-to me-lo Pno. me-loé nu-to! bo - boo-bo nu-to, Bo-boo-bo, bo-boo-bo, mp Pno. bo - boo-bo, bo-boo-bo, me-loé ŋu-to, bo-boo-bo, me-loé ŋu - to,\_ Pno.

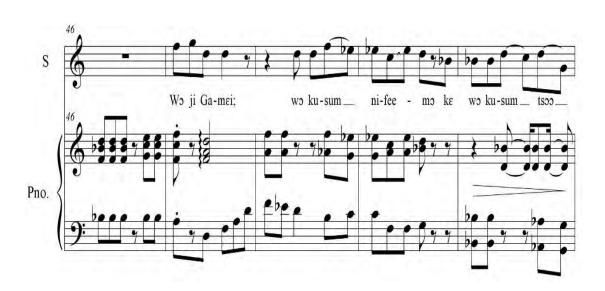
















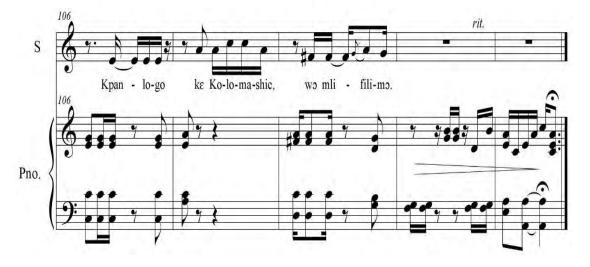












# **GYIL**





GYIL 3 dien bon. dien A see - lo\_ mp Pno. dien dien bon ve-laa nga bε na de ŋknan - koɔ, gan a-ne gyil-bi-e. Pno. ve-laa dien dien na mi ti-re seε - li. bon nga voon Pno.



GYIL 5









### **YENKO AKYENFO**





## ORNAY CANSA





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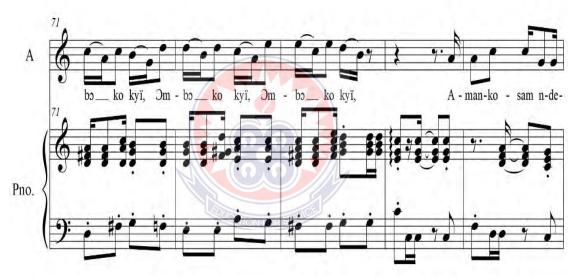




















# **AVIHAWO**

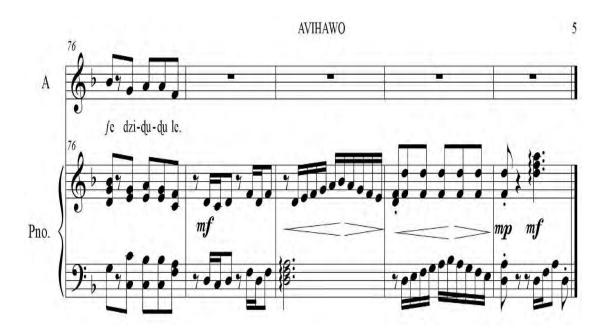


2 AVIHAWO











### **CWOMCH**





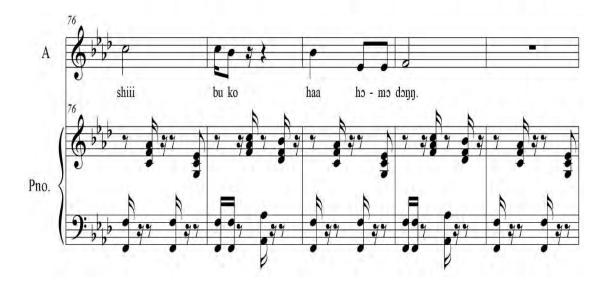
СИСМСН 3 Ηεε! Wo mii nya HO-MO-WO. Pno. Gbi-juro - ye-li ni-yee-Pno. - nii\_ ni ji KPO-KPO-I, wo ke shwaa gbe le no kε haa lε nyon - mo-i Pno.



HOMOWO 5









# **KOLEGO**





KOLEGO 3







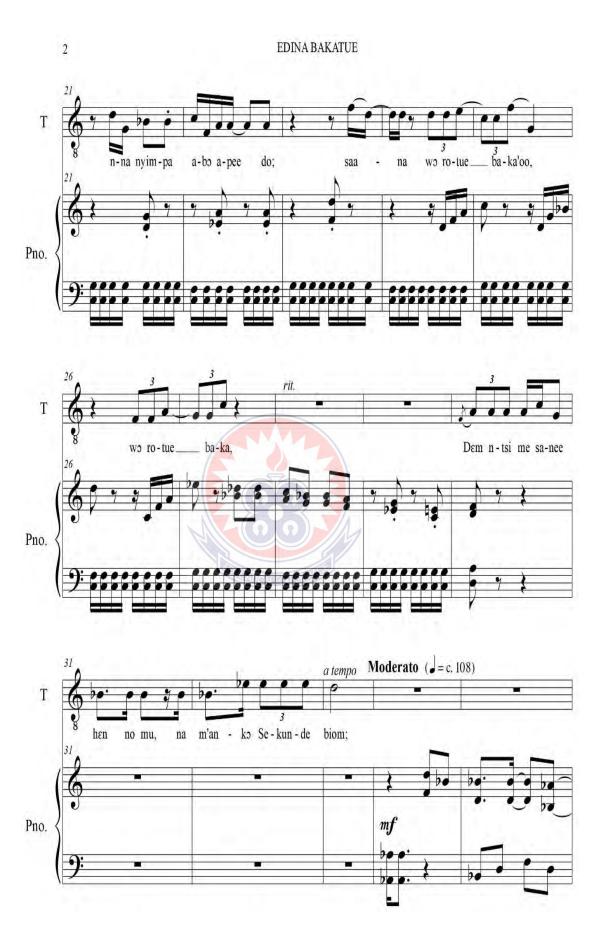






### **EDINA BAKATUE**









#### EDINA BAKATUE

5



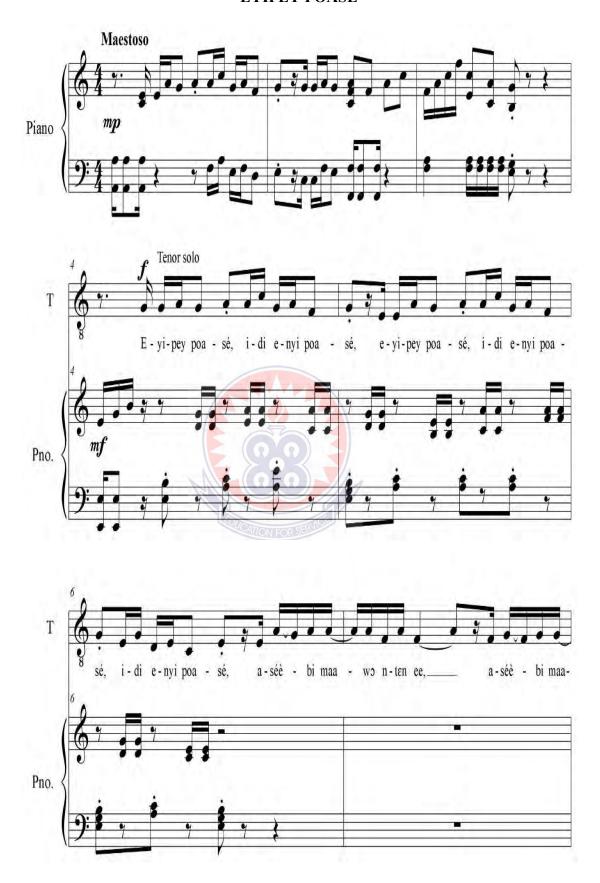














EYIPEY POASÉ 3 i - di e - nyi poa - sé, pi na a-moo-wo n-ten,\_ i-di e-nyi poa-Pno. T i - di e - nyi poa - sé, a - séè - bi maa - wo n - ten ee, Pno. n - ke - kye, i - di e - nyi poa - sé, ee,\_ i - di e-nyi poa - sé, i - di e-nyi poa -Pno.

















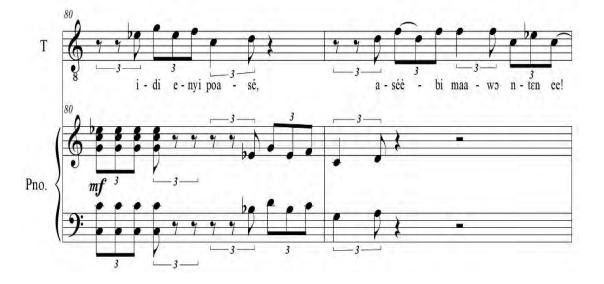














# TATA AMU





TATA AMU 3









TATA AMU 5









## **KPANLOGO**





KPANLOGO 3



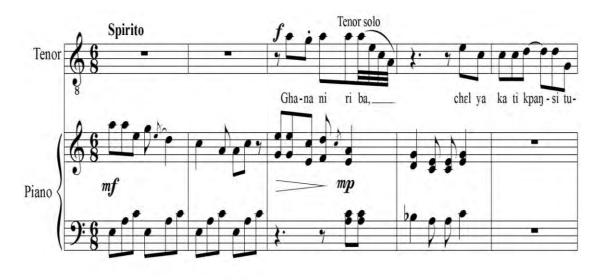


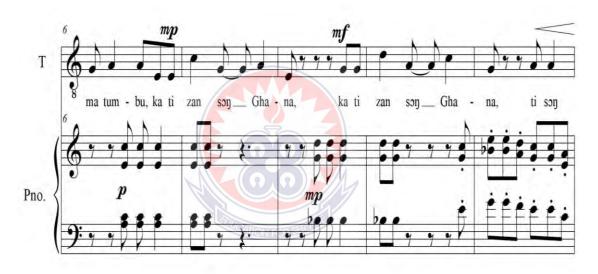
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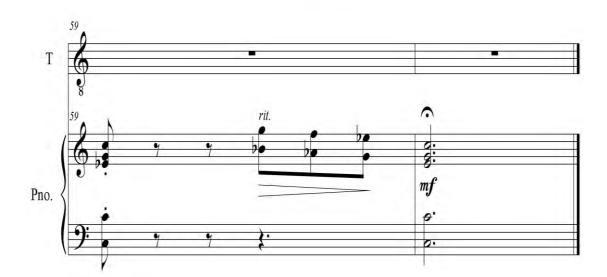
















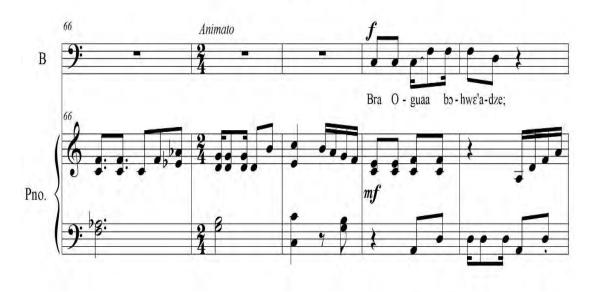










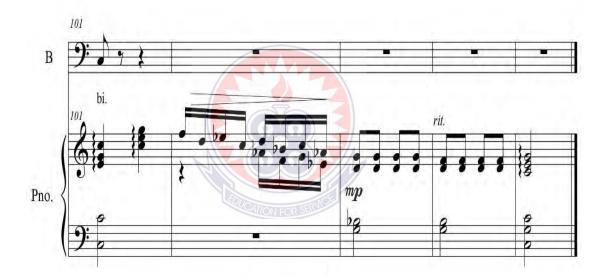










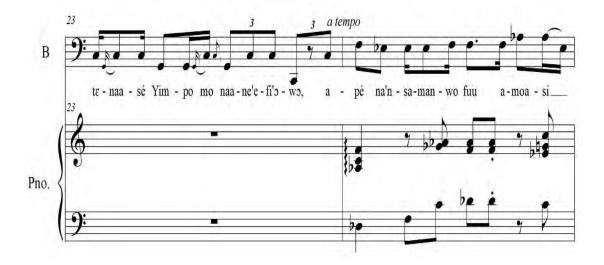




# SIMPA ABOABIKYIRE 2 В A - ne so'o-men-gye'a! A - ne so'o-men-gye'a! e-si'm - so'ee, e-si'm - so'ee! Pno. 12 В tεa - ni na'a-woa - ni'ee, e - fi'm - fo'ee, e - fi'm - fo'ee! E-fi'm - fo'ee; Pno. В Pe-tu-wo,'e - goo! A-ne so'o - men-gye,



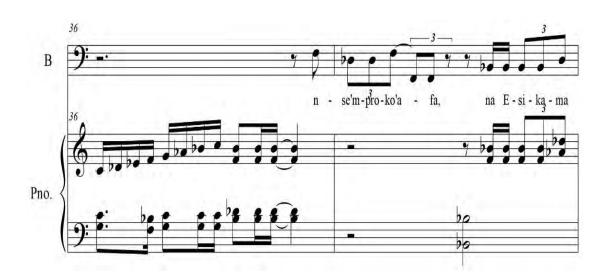












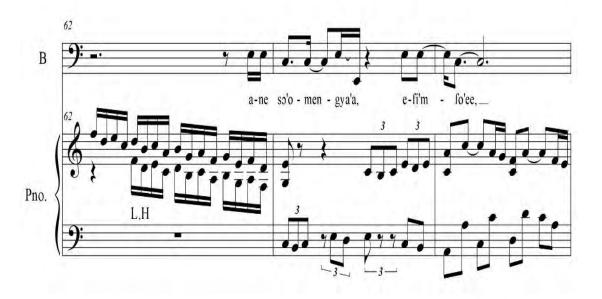


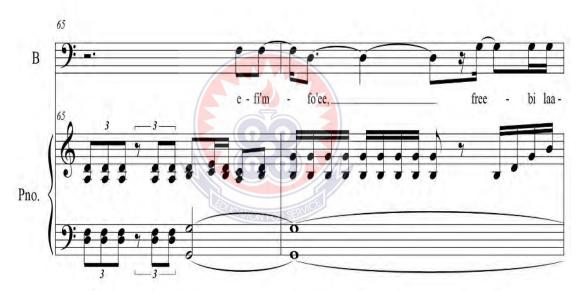


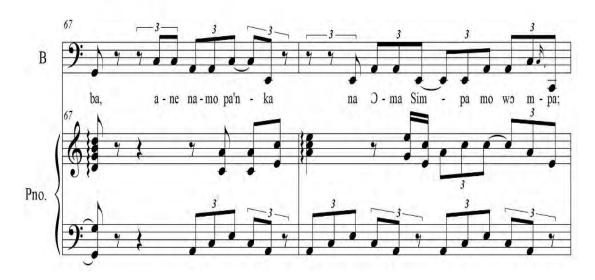






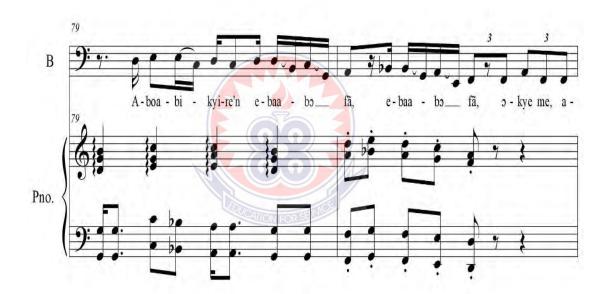










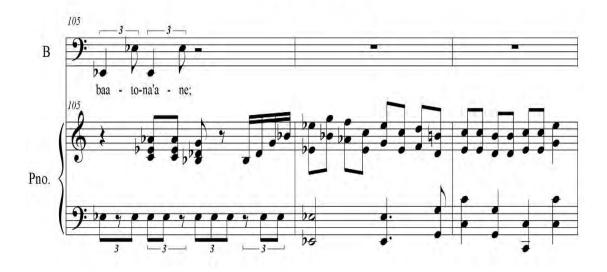




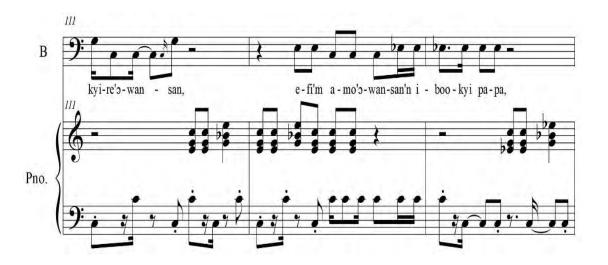






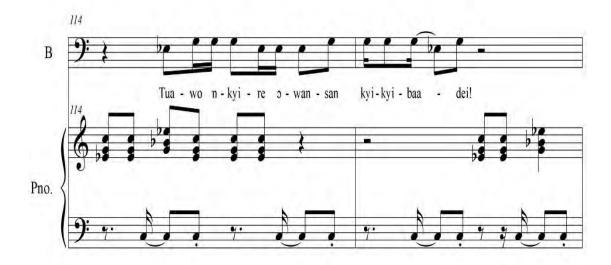




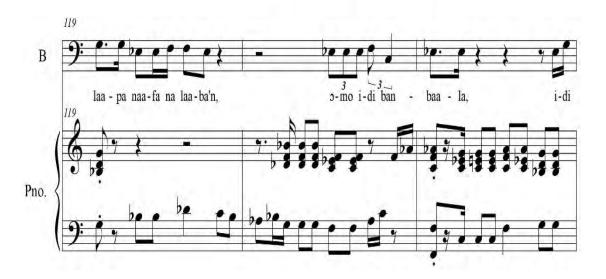


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#### SIMPA ABOABIKYIRE





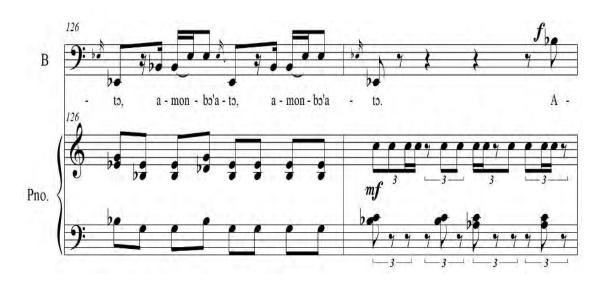


#### SIMPA ABOABIKYIRE

17









## SIMPA ABOABIKYIRE

19





#### O COCI AOO 3M AY/AM 3O



## 2 O COC AOC 3M AYMAM 3C 16 В wo gbloe nye me seo, loo! Pno. 21 mf В xo nye wo gbloe nye me seo, dzi nye la wo gbloe No-vi nye wo gbloe, nye me seo, Pno. 26 В nye me seo, Pno.

## DE MENYA ME DOA DGO O





# O COCI AOO 3M AYNAM 3D 5 В Wo gbloe nye me seo, wo gbloe nye me seo, wo gbloe nye me seo Pno. 71 В E - ya loo, e-nye Pno. 76 В nu si kpom \_\_me le e-gbea,\_ \_\_ nɔ-vi dze kɔ a - nyi na se a-me fe gbe, E-la-be-Pno.



#### MADTSE JI BO

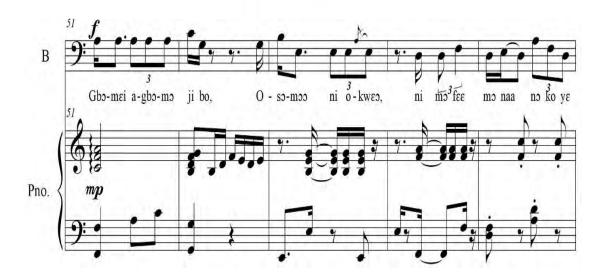




MADTSE JI BO 3









MADTSE JI BO 5



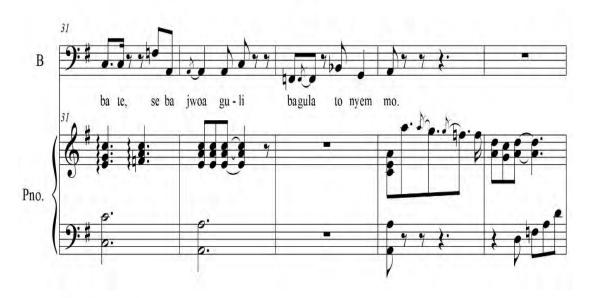


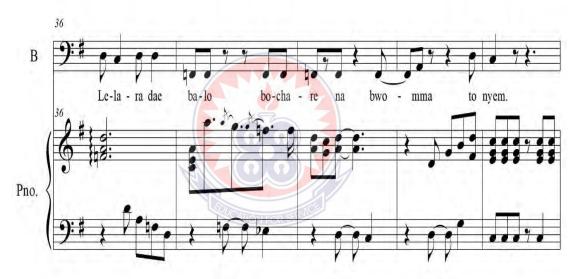












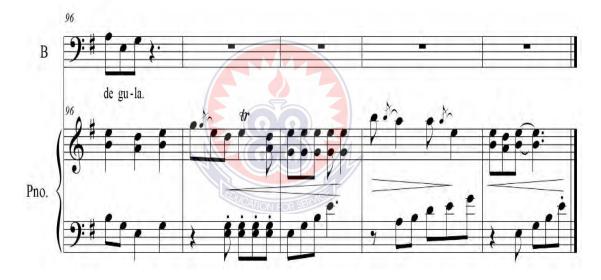












#### **CHAPTER SIX**

#### ANNOTATION OF THE CONTEMPORARY GHANAIAN ART SONGS

#### 6.0 Preamble

This chapter is a write-up of a substantial annotation that give comments, explanations and the composer's interpretations of the creative works to guide readers, performers and listeners alike. Specifically, a general description that summaries the compositional procedures and the composer's application of elemental components of the contemporary Ghanaian art songs was given to create an impression of the musical artefacts in the minds of readers. However, a detailed elucidation of the creative works was done through formal analysis to bring to bare the most hidden structural contents in terms of melody, rhythm, phraseology, range, timbre, texture as well as harmony and tonality for a better comprehension and appreciation of the musical artefacts. The chapter also introduces relevant technical exercises that meet international examination repertoire standards and constitute a substantial contribution to musical knowledge.

#### 6.1 General Description of the Contemporary Ghanaian Art Songs

I was motivated by two critical issues for the creation of the musical artefacts. Firstly, that, I am a Ghanaian art music composer and the fact that some Ghanaian art music composers have done few similar works. The former was an intrinsic motivation to identify myself with my compositions whilst the latter, an extrinsic motivation to explore the concept of art songs in the Ghanaian context. Characteristically, the work exhibits the symbiosis of Ghanaian and Western musical elements and compositional techniques by explicitly exploring the indigenous resources from Asafo, Ompe and Apofondwom together with the Western musical elements to create thematic intercultural compositions. Of course, the compositions are characterized by tonal and

rhythmic inflections of selected Ghanaian texts, complex polyrhythm, syncopations, counterpoints and the percussiveness of the music.

With the Koñadá creative model, the compositional process begun with the consideration of poems and stories in diverse Ghanaian languages such as Fante, Effutu, Ewe, Ga, Dagbanli, Dagaaba, Kasem and Gurune as texts. In all twenty (20) poems and stories were developed into musical libretti to create twenty (20) contemporary Ghanaian art songs. The following are the well-thought-out texts in eight Ghanaian languages with their literal translations. Imperatively, the translations are not meant to be sung to the tunes of the songs but rather to give a fair idea about the lexical constituents of the texts.

#### MANKESSIM GUA

*Mewuo! nhwɛ adze:* 

Wow! Just look at this;

Obrumankoma, Odapagyan na Oson

Obrumankoma, Odapagyan and Oson.

hon nhonyi na osi nkwanta no mu n',

In the junction (roundabout) are their

statues

Nna əkyere de, (y'edur əman kese m') 2x

That means, we have reached *Mankessim* 

Oman a wotsew hon ho fir Bono ho bopue

We have reached a town that left Bono to

settle on a Fante land;

Oman kese m' oo.

Borbor Nfantse na y'edur n';

A big town.

Hwe anaafo ho,

Look at the west end,

gua kese na nyimpa aye mu menyamenya n'.

A big market crowded with human beings.

Mankessim gua (4x), kese ampa, kese Mankessim market (4x), big indeed (2x)

атра,

*Oyε gua kɛse ampa;* It is indeed a big market

Mba ma yenkətə adze; Come, let us go and buy some

commodities;

eburow anaa bankye a, Maize or cassava,

*abε na nduadzewa asorɔtoow pii*, Palm fruit, and a variety of vegetables.

Mewuo! Mo kən adə abɛ nkwan a məmən Wow! I am craving for palm-nut soup

atsim. with rotten fish.

*Nhwe namfo n' mu;* Look at the fish section;

Osorpaa, apoku na safor ebu do pii. There is abundance of diverse fishes.

Mankessim Gua (3x), Mankessim market (3x),

*Sye gua kesi ampa (3x).* It is a big market indeed (3x).

#### YENKO AKYINFO

Bra ma yenkə Akyinfo (3x), Come, let us go to Saltpond. (3x)

Akyinfo beye de (2x), Saltpond will be joyous. (2x)

Bra ma yenkə Akyinfo, Come, let us go to Saltpond.

Sisei,  $k > h w \in$ ; Steimer aba (2x), By now, the ship has landed offshores;

(2x)

Bra ma yenkə Akyinfo'oo, Come, let us go to Saltpond,

Akyinfo beye de (2x); Saltpond will be joyous, (2x)

Owo, ntsei; kô daadze na me mbo wo mu. You, listen, sit down and let me narrate to

you.

*Oyε daano dwowda bi a mokor ho a,* One Monday that I went there,

Ose wo 'enyi, onse wo kakyere; It was a sight to behold and not to be told.

Mpoano ho ara na mo hun de Steimer It was at the beach that I saw the landed

aba, ship,

Odze asopaatsee na nter feefew pii; It brought a lot of sandals and beautiful Kohwè nso ka ho bi. dresses; and even coffee.

Me hun mfir asoroztoow pii nso. I saw different kinds of machines;

Me dε, mo tɔɔ ntɛr na asopaatsee ara ma I bought dresses and sandals, and my moho sika saă. money got finished.

Bosom aso; sisei, kɔhwɛ, Steimer aba,

The month has ended; by now the ship has landed offshores.

Bra ma yenkə Akyinfo (3x). Come, let us go to Saltpond. (3x)

#### EDINA BAKATUE

Yefir Simpa reko Sekunde daano Benada We were going to Secondi from Winneba bi, one Tuesday,

Na yedur Edina n' nna nyimpa abo apee Upon reaching Elmina, it was do; overcrowded with people;

Saana woretue baka oo, woretue baka. Not knowing, they were opening the lagoon.

Dem ntsi me sanee hen no mu na m'anko Therefore, I alighted, and did not Sekunde biom. continue the journey to Secondi.

Mere kasa yi' nna Edinaman mu ayε dεw; As I am talking, Elmina has become na ayε fεw nso. joyous and beautiful as well.

Dom twitwi, ahenfo na amanfo nyinara A multitude of people, chiefs and more rotow santsen roko Benya ho people were processing to the Beenya lagoon.

Na mara so midzii ekyir bəkəə kodur I also followed, and reached the place Benya a w'abə bosompo m' where the lagoon joins the sea.

Ho na kurowmufo na bohweadzefo n' It is the place where the citizens and yetwa ehyia. visitors (spectators) have gathered

Ho noara so na amandze a Nana The rituals led by Chief Konduah had

Konduah odzi enyim n' hyɛ ase.

also begun.

Wodze to 'a nkyirefua deda do sii Benya mu ma woguu asèw mpen ebaasa.

A mashed yam with eggs was immersed into the sea, and a net casted three times.

Asèw no ekyir n', nam pii a wonyaa n' da edzi pefee dε,

The bumper harvest after the cast obviously suggests that,

Edina Bakatue no edzi mu na kurow n' nso bedzi yie.

The opening of the Elmina lagoon was successful, and the town will have good fortunes.

Woetue baka oo, woetue baka;

The lagoon has been opened (2x);

Enyigye aba kurow m', ahotə aba kurow m'

There is joy in town; there is comfort in town.

Menyi gyee ara ma mowere fir de mo roko Sekunde.

I was overjoyed to the extent that I forgot about my journey to Secondi.

Enyigye aba oo!

There is joy.

#### OGUAA AKOTO

Oguaa akətə dwerdwerba a, yegu hen tu Little crabs of Cape Coast resting around ano,

our holes,

Eduasa a, yε nye apem koi a, apem entum  $h\varepsilon n$ ;

Thirty that fought with thousand and defeated them;

Eyee Oguaa den na Oguaa anye w' bi.

What did you do to Cape Coast, and

Cape Coast did not retaliate;

Эwo, Fa da kor bэhwɛ adze wo Oguaa;

You may find one day to come for

observation in Cape Coast;

Kətə ne honyi a' əre ma wo akwaaba wə Kɔtɔkuraba n' kyerε wo dε, edur Oguaa.

The statue of the crab welcoming you at Kətəkuraba indicates that, you are in Cape Coast.

Wo Kotokuraba ho noara, ibehyia Egya At Kotokuraba, you will meet Mr.

Crentsil a, ətse Bentsil;	Crentsil who resides in Bentsil;
Onye wo boko Ntsin, wo Papa Egyir Blankson ne fie,	He will take you to <i>Ntsin</i> at Mr. <i>Egyir</i> Blankson's residence,
Hə na Coffee a, Steimer dze fi Ngyiresi Abrokyirman mu bai n' wətən.	That is where the coffee brought from England by the ship is sold.
Papa Egyir ne nyənko nye Nana Kwegyir Riverson a' ətse Amanful;	Mr. Egyir's friend is chief Kwegyir Riverson who resides at Amanful;
Эує Kyrekyenyipanyin; onyim nhoma na abakəsem.	He is a headteacher; he is learned, and a historian as well.
Na mbəfraba a' wəfa ne nsa mu n', dodow n' ara kər Mfantsepim.	Most of his students went to <i>Mfatsipim</i> school.
Me dε, bra Oguaa bɔhwε adze, bra Oguaa bɔhwε adze;	I say, come and see something at Cape Coast (2x);
Skuul akese pii wo ha; Oboadze Ne ndzemba pii a' Woabo n' so wo ha.	There are several big schools and tourist sites here.
Na mara Kweku Atta a' metse Abrɔfomba, na m'egya tse Nkum n', mo wɔ ha bi;	I, Kweku Atta who resides at <i>Abrofomba</i> , and my father residing at <i>Nkum</i> , am here also.
Me nye w' bɔkɔ Anafo, na y'etwam' akɔ Akrampa, na y'ekowie wɔ Kakumdo'oo.	I will take you to <i>Anafo</i> , through to <i>Akrampa</i> , and then to <i>Kakumdo</i> .
Oguaa akətə dwerdwerba a, yegu hen tu ano,	Little crabs of Cape Coast resting around our holes,
Eduasa a, yε nye apem koi a, apem entum hεn;	Thirty that fought with thousand and defeated them;

What did you do to Cape Coast, and

Cape Coast did not retaliate.

Eyee Oguaa den na Oguaa anye w' bi.

#### KAAKAAMOTOBO

Kaakaamotob! ibə fɛw, ibə fá, ibə ifu! Masquerade! it is beautiful enjoyable and

scary.

Idi egyampa nsile, ibə few, ibə fá, ibə ifu; It is an ancient performance; it is

beautiful, enjoyable, and scary;

Dha Simpa'a, kaakaamotobi'n ibə fá Masquerade in Winneba is really

akwankye, akwankye, enjoyable,

Ibə fá akwankye, akwankye; ibə fɛw papa, It is really enjoyable, beautiful and scary.

ibə few papa, ibə ifu, ibə ifu, ibə ifu.

Kaakaamotobi, ibə few papa; Masquerade; it is really beautiful.

Oba Simpa'a anebo Nobles, Egyaa, In Winneba, we have groups such as

Tumus, Red Cross, na Royals. Nobles, Egyaa, Tumus, Red Cross and

Royals.

Amuuku nter afeefew; amo'asa wo bo few They design beautiful costumes; and their

paa, choreography too is beautiful.

Bo few paa (6x); It is really beautiful (6x);

Miye kaakaamotobi ibə few. I say, masquerade is beautiful.

Kaakaamotobi, (idi egyampa atə) 3x, ibə Masquerade; it is an ancient custom, (3x)

*ifu akwankye akwankye.* it is really scary.

Egyampa'n, nna enyimpa na'amooda ewi, It was the elders who performed it in the

olden days,

Nkekye idi enyimpa nsile, ka ntobi shire Because it was meant for the elderly, and

papa; ntobi shire, ntobi shire. (children really feared it) 3x.

*Nkyinsa'm, ba na ɔbaayɛ, ba na ɔbaayɛ,* Come and see currently;

obeehu kye ntobi fuu kwaa wo, amo nter You will observe that children are part of

wo bofew paa; the performance, and their costumes are

really beautiful.

Kaakaamotobi; ibə fɛw, ibə fá, ibə ifu, Masquerade; it is beautiful, enjoyable and

scary;

Ibɔ fá, ibɔ fɛw, ibɔ fá paa! ibɔ fá paa! ibɔ It is enjoyable and beautiful. It is really

fá paa! enjoyable.

Kaakaamotobi, ibə few, ibə fá, ibə ifu, Masquerade; it is beautiful, enjoyable and

scary,

Ibə ifu, ibə few paa, ibə few paa, ibə fá! It is scary and really beautiful; it is

enjoyable!

#### **NENYI AYIREBI**

Nenyi ee! Nenyi Ayirebi; O, King! King Ayirebi;

Owo na Owo Asante, na Obete odefe mo You, who went to Asante, and brought

nuu ba, the head of a king;

Okobran ni'w, ayekoo, ayekoo, Okobran You are a brave man, (well done) 2x; you

ni'w, ayekoo! are brave, well done!

*Ombo ato, Ombo ato,* You have done well, you have done well,

Odi Odefe laapa akwenkye, akwenkye; You are indeed a great king.

Nenyi ee! Nenyi Ayirebi; O, King! King Ayirebi;

Owo na owo Katamanso Oko'n, na odi You that went to the Katamanso war and

ibe, came out victorious,

Okobran ni'W, ayekoo! You are a brave man; well done!

Okà kyè wo se ne Bortsie Komfo Amu, You have proven to be the son of Bortsie

Komfo Amu,

Nenyi Osimpam Tumpa mo ndebi ni'w, You are the grandson of King Osimpam

Tumpa.

Odi Odefe laapa (3x), You are a great king (3x).

Nenyi Ayirebi; (Odi Odefe laapa) 3x, King Ayirebi; (you are a great king) 3x.

Nenyi Ayirebi, Owo na obrofur'n da King Ayirebi, you were honored by the

Woaba so; colonial masters;

Okobran ni'W, ayekoo, ayekoo! You are a brave man; (well done) 3x!

*Owo na ada'W mbraani ye;* This is your appellation;

Asantewo Otoni (3x); The lord of the Asantes (3x);

Odefe moakyire odefe (3x)! The king who captures kings (3x)!

*Ombo ko kyï (3x);* You have done some before (3x);

Amankosam ndebi'ee (3x), Amankosam's grandson (3x),

*Owo kye Onso Oma'm*; You, that saved the kingdom;

Osimpam ndebi (3x); Osimpam's grandson, (3x)

Owo Asante na Obà (3x); You went to Asante and came back (3x);

*Kotoko hyire (3x);* Kotoko is afraid (3x);

mo hyire akwenkye! It is really afraid!

Nenyi Ayirebi, Nenyi Ayirebi, ayekoo. King Ayirebi, King Ayirebi, well done.

#### EYIPEY POASÉ

Evipey poasé, idi enyi poasé (3x), Evipey beach is a beach for men (3x),

Aséèbi maawo nten ee (2x), idi enyi Women are not allowed there (2x); it is a

poasé! beach for men.

Eyipey poasé, idi enyi poasé (3x), Eyipey beach is a beach for men (3x),

Enyi npinpi na amoowo nten, idi enyi It is only men who go there because, it is

poasé (3x), a beach for men (3x),

Aséèbi maawo nten ee, nkekye, idi enyi Women are not allowed there because, it

poasé, ee (3x), is a beach for men (3x),

Ebaloo, (3x) amoaba'eei, Tsooboei, (3x) Ebaloo (3x), they are coming, Tsooboei

ebaloo(3x), (3x), ebaloo(3x),

Miye, meedi atobi kyikyi baadee'n, misé When I was a child, my father took me

bete me wo poasé anopa koafà; to the beach every morning;

Mo ne me wo eyipey poasé, He took me to Eyipey beach,

*Mo ka me mpe se ebɛ ɔpo*, He taught me how to swim,

Mo ka me asibini, He taught me to be courageous,

*Mo ka me mpe se mo bo so baabɔ dur;* He taught me to be brave;

Eyipey poasé, idi enyi poasé (2x), Eyipey beach is a beach for men (3x),

Aséèbi maawo nten ee! Women are not allowed there!

Enyi pii bo nten, (3x) More men are always seen at the beach.

ntobi na enyimpa fuu bo eyipey poasé; Both young and old men are at Eyipey

idi enyi poasé, beach; it is a beach for men,

Apoowo pii bə nten, amobə esumini, bete Fishermen at the beach work very hard nu ba poasé kā əsokwaafā nya ko di. to provide fish for our consumption.

Eyipey poasé, idi enyi poasé. Eyipey beach is a beach for men.

Maasi nde mproko'n, nna esumam I was always sent to go and buy fish in

ibefuu kye mo woaso nnu, my teenage days,

Kã mofo nten a, moohu nyama pii bo I always saw different kinds of canoes;

nten;

Iko di Aso ntona okusi, Nyim po di Odo, Notable ones were Asem ato kusi, Nyame

Kɔtɔkɔ na Anomansa; yε Ͻdɔ, Kɔtɔkɔ and Anomansa.

Amofuu nya inu, amofuu nya inu bə They all catch fish at the Eyipey beach.

eyipey poasé.

Inkyinsa'm me nwo nten, muhu insa ko During my recent visit, I saw fishermen laawo opo, insa ko nfi opoto mba. either going to sea or returning from sea.

Amo nnya inu breete, breete, (2x) They had a bumper harvest (2x),

Mohu insa ko wə leedwete amo nyama bə əpotə laaba nsuano, I saw some fishermen pulling their canoe offshores.

Mohu insa ko wə laabə amo nyama

I also saw others repairing their canoes.

freebi;

maawə nten ee (2x)!

Eyipey poasé, idi enyi poasé, aséèbi

Eyipey beach is a beach for men, women

are not allowed there (2x)!

#### SIMPA ABOABIKYIRE

Ate ani na awo ani'ee, efi mfo'ee, ane so It is yet another year; elders, receive omengye'a! blessings.

Petuwo, egoo! Ane so omengye,

Agoo, elders of the Dentsefo Asafo;

receive blessings.

Freebi na peebiso laaba, ane na mopa,

Let us usher in the goodness that is coming,

Ate ani na awo ani'ee, efi mfo'ee, efi mfo'ee!

It is yet another year; elders, receive blessings.

Atenaasé Yimpo mo nna ane efi əwə,

The Almighty God has given us a new year.

Apé na nsamanwo fuu amoasi di nsi!

The deities and ancestors are also

observing.

Yei! Tuawo 'naane na amofi Ekuano

Wow! The Tuafo Asafo is trooping out of

Eku Ano, carrying Jemisi.

Efi'm amo kyere akwankye, ka amoatona

Dentsewo!

This year, they have increased in number

but cannot be compared to the Dentsefo

Asafo!

Miye, amoatona Dentsewo!

laaba'n, amo sorá Jemisi;

Verily, they cannot be compared to the

Dentsefo Asafo!

Miye so wo asi; m'awo Kofi Ano na Just enjoy yourself; I am going to Kofi

meba: Ano; I will be back.

Nse mproko afa, na Esikama moda ewi, Esikama shall come out very soon.

Obeehu tookó nda fi'm; You shall see something today;

Enyi ebi na amo aba'n, The real men are coming.

Esikama nda ewî, nkye' onhu təəko, Esikama out: is have you seen

something?

Nsa mpiipiipi, na amo wora ənye laaba'n; Behold, the multitudes in red trooping.

Dentsewo nda ewi, əmantə mbə manya The *Dentsefo Asafo is out* and the town is

very boisterous. manya,

Sakama ogyae, ogyae, Sakama ogya! Sakama ogyae, ogyae, Sakama ogya!

It is yet another year; receive blessings. Efi mfo'ee! Ane so omengya'a,

freebi laaba, ane namo pa nka na Oma Let us usher in the goodness that is coming for the progress of Winneba.

Simpa mo wo mpa;

Fida kusum mpo nim; Penkye taase, This is just Friday rituals; *Penkye* is alive,

Ane so omengya'a, efi mfo'ee! It is yet another year, receive blessing.

Okye me, anaawo nyanto; We shall go to the forest tomorrow,

Saturday.

The Aboakyer festival will be joyous; Aboabikyire'n ebaabə fã,

We shall go to the forest tomorrow. More Okye me, anaawo nyanto, efi mpa ee!

bliss to us.

Anese ane, Tuawo, amoawo nyanto; The Tuafo Asafo is processing to the

forest.

Dentsiwo na amoaba'n; efi'm amoasi nyin The Dentsefo Asafo is aggressively

akwankye, akwankye; processing;

Dentsiwo laawo nyanto; omanto fuu mbo The are processing to the forest, and the

town colourfully red. onye yerew, yerew.

Efi mpa ee, efi mpa na mpa, efi wo Season greetings! Many happy returns. baatona ane!

Anese ane Tuawo, amongyampa kyire Our fathers, the Tuafo have caught the owansan; first deer;

Efi'm amo əwansan'n ibookyi papa; This year's deer is very small in size.

Tuawo nkyire owansan kyikyibaadei! The Tuafo Asafo has caught a small deer.

Mewo! Owansan laapa naafa na laaba'n, Wow! Behold the procession of a big deer;

*Omo idi banbaala, idi laapa akwankye.* This is really big.

Dentsiwo nka kye amo di enyi akwankye, The Dentsefo Asafo has proven to have akwankye; the real men.

Amonbo ato. They have really done well.

Ate ani na awo ani'ee, efi'mfo'ee, ane so' It is yet another year; elders, receive omengye'a! blessings.

Efi mfo'ee, freebi wo mba; Another year is here with all goodness;

Ane baada Owombir, na Akosolontoba. We shall celebrate with Owombir and Akosolontoba.

#### **CACCACA**

Be woabbb de anyi hia be wòanye ali si Bending down requires a flexible waist; te nu trona bbbe;

Nyonu fe ali si atenu afo nu, atro ahavuvu A waist of a woman that can easily boboe. whine, turn and shake.

Bobo nye akunyawowo nuto nuto le Bending down is the real magic in boboobo me; Si wo nuku nuto be woakpo. Boboobo; very magnificent to behold.

Bəbəəbə, bəbəəbə, bəbəəbə! Bəbəəbə, bəbəəbə!

Kpé fe didi, takuvi fe totro, kpé fe vuvu, The sound of the bugle, the rolling of the

hadzidzi kple vugbe fe didiwo katâ hea dzidzə kple dzidzə ve

handkerchiefs, the shaking of buttocks, the singing and the rhythms of the drums all bring joy and gladness.

Melo boboobo nuto; mabobo resiari I love Boboobo; I will always bend down ahano rli dom le nye alime le akunya wowo fe gbedidiwo ta.

and whine my waist to the magical sounds.

E! woado ŋku Kodzo Nuatro dzi resiari Yes! Kodzo Nuatro will always be be eyae do modzakadeha kple redudu sia anyi

remembered as the founder of this recreational music and dance.

Boboobo, boboobo, boboobo;

Boboobo, boboobo, boboobo;

Melo boboobo nuto, meloé nuto.

I love Bəbəəbə! I love it.

## **AVIHAWO**

Gboloe nye, nye nuxaxa fe konyifaha,

Emptiness is my dirge of sorrow,

Gbemansi fe didi wo nye le nye dzi me;

Voiceless, its echo in my heart;

Etsə susuwo fe dodoezi,

Thoughts of yesterday, now stilled,

Megatsia nye susu dedome o.

No longer freeze my mind apart.

Enye nkudo dzinya be, togbo be konyifaha dea sena miafe susu kple miafe nuxaxa hã la, mloeba la, yeyiyi hayana eye agbe yina edzi.

It's a reminder; it's a reminder that although dirges command our attention and grief, eventually time heals and life goes on.

Vevesese wo gli de nye luvo fe afe dzi; Eye nudzide fo gãla megali o.

Pain has made a wall upon my soul's home and my great courage is no more.

Nye luvo si gbã la koe tsi tre; abe gli Only my shattered soul stands like a gbagbã ene,

broken fence.

Eve amesiwo metenu tsoa dzidefo kpo nye And those who dare not look me in the nkume o la,

eye now beat their chest as men.

fuasi akə àzə abe nutsuwo ene, me le bla I am sorrowed; and I use my last breath to

nui e ye me tsə nye gbəgbə mamlɛ gblə say; be,

Oh, Eku! afikae wo fe dzidudu le.

Oh death! where is thy victory.

### TATA AMU

Le Peki Avetile fe anyigba kəkəe dzi la, On the sacred land of Peki Avetile, a kekeli fe nuwəna ade do. luminary did rise.

Tata Amu, akadi si ŋu bubu dede le le Tata Amu, a beacon revered in our eyes. miafe ŋkume.

Atigã ade si le anyighadzi si fe anyinənə An oak in the inland; his presence stood dze.

Luvo si me nuse le, si vãa ame kple A soul of strength, inspiring one and all. amewo katã.

Ese nunya no rli dom abe dzidegbe ene, His wisdom roared like thunder, mighty nusé kple gã! and grand.

Məkpəkpə fe hafoha ade, si kaka de A symphony of hope, spreading across anyigba la dzi. the land.

Abe alesi wõfa tu abe dodoezizi tu abe As gentle as silence, his music touched dodoezizi ene la, efe hadzidziwo ka lupo. the soul.

Esi wòxo miafe konyinyiwota la, ena Embracing our traditions, he made us miezu ame blibowo; whole.

Haŋlɔla gã, hakpanyaŋlɔla kple A great composer, poet and scholar he agbalĕnyala gã adee wònye. was.

Tata Amu; fe domenyinuwo ano anyi Tata Amu; His legacies forever will tegbee! remain.

Ame gede dina vevie be yewoazə mə si dzi Many yearn to tread the path he had trod. wòto.

Kplola, nutegakpola, dzinoamefoto kple A leader, visionary, courageous and nuséto. strong.

Tata Amu, Tata Amu, Tata Amu! Tata Amu, Tata Amu, Tata Amu!

Ese hadzidziwo woano agbe eye woadi le May his legacies live on and resonate feawo me. through the years.

Neva eme be woafia mɔ mi ayi dekawɔwɔ May they guide us towards unity and gbɔ eye woade miafe vɔvɔwo katã da. dispel all our fears.

### DE MENYA ME DOA DGO O

Wo gbloe nye me seo, (3x) wo gbloe loo. I was told but I did not listen; they said it.

Wo gbloe nye me seo, My brothers said it but I did not listen.

Novi nye wo gbloe, nye me seo, My friends said it but I did not listen.

Xo nye wo gbloe, nye me seo, My parent said it but I did not listen.

Dzi nye la wo gbloe, nye me seo I did not listen.

Ke egbea, novi, me dze sii be, But today, my brother, I noticed that;

Vi ma se to nu, a ŋɔ kae kua to nɛ loo, A disrespectful child always lands in trouble.

Wo gbloe nye me seo, loo, I was told but I did not listen;

Eya enye nu si kpom me le egbea novi, That is the consequences I am facing

today.

Dze kɔ a nyi na se ame fe gbe, elabena Brother, humble yourself and heed to

good advice;

ho vie nye wo Mawu loo, Because, a brother is divine.

Vi ma doa toa me, I am a disobedient child,

Ke egbea, me dze sii loo, and I am facing the realities of today.

Novi nye wo; tso me ma nya fe vi deo My brothers; today, I am facing the

*kpom me le egbea.* unknown consequences of the future.

### **GAMEI JI WO**

Keje Ille Ife ye Nigeria, keya shi Ghana, wo blemabii nyiε;

From Ille Ife in Nigeria to the coast of Ghana, our ancestors trekked;

Ame nye ame ye gbetsii ke haomo srotoi ano ko ni ame nye ame she ame yaa he le,

They overcame obstacles and challenges in order to reach their destination.

Naa he ni wo yoo, ake Gamei,

Here we are today as the Ga people.

kε ninamo;

Hεε, wo ji Ga; gbomei ni voo hiewaa wulu Yes, we are Ga; the people of great valour and affluence.

Tsuru ji wə kunimyeləi ni wə buə.

Nii Tackie Tawiah ke Nii Tackie Teiko Nii Tackie Tawiah and Nii Tackie Teiko Tsuru are our revered heroes.

Wo blemabii amumo yε wo blemabii hii a welolo.

The spirits of our ancestors still dwell in our ancestral male houses (We).

Wo ji Gamei; wo kusum nifeemo ke wo kusum tsəə wə.

We are Ga people; Our culture and traditions define us.

Nortey, Okine, Tettey, Armah, Odoi, gbεi.

Nortey, Okine, Tettey, Armah, Odoi, Adjeley, Okoe, Deede ke Lankai ji wo Adjeley, Okoe, Deede and Lankai are our names.

Ga Mashie, Teshie, La, Tema, Nungua ke Osu ji wə krənn shiai.

Ga Mashie, Teshie, La, Tema, Nungua and Osu are our sacred homes.

mumo agbo ke gbofee-mo.

Hεε, wo ji Ga; gbomεi ni voo ηmono Yes, we are Ga; the people with great sense of humour and hospitality.

Shitə Amadann, Pamplo, Səprano, wuə aleehe nitsumo, Kaashimi ke Okoe Atunpani ji wə gbejegbei komei agbei.

Shito, Amadan, Pamplo, Soprano, Poultry farm, Kaashimi and Okoe Atunpani are just some of our street names.

Wo blemabii ke wo ye nii ni ame ke Portugalbii ye jara, Dutchbii ke Britishbii ye wo shikponn le no.

Our ancestors dined and traded with the Portuguese, the Dutch and the British on our land.

Hee, wo ji Ga; gbomei ni nye ame wa Yes, we are Ga; the people who dared to

həmə yi.

hoot at hunger.

Wo heo wo yeo ake Nyonmo ni kwo fe fee yε, Nyɔηmɔ kɛ wɔ blemabii amumɔ.

We believe in the existence of a supreme being, Nyonmo and our ancestral spirits.

Gamei ji wo; Kpaashimo, Kpanlogo ke We are the Ga people; Kpaashimo, Kolomashie, wo mlifilimo.

Kpanlogo and Kolomashie, our pride.

### **CWCMCH**

Wə mii wa həmə yi,

We are hooting at hunger,

Wə mii da nyənməi le ashi ake ame jəə wə ke niyenii ye homo ni naa wa, gbii nee fee asee

We are thanking the gods for blessing us with food after days of severe hunger.

Wo mii nya toinjole ke ekome feemo; gbijurəyeli ni ke ekome feemə baa

We are celebrating peace and unity; the festival that brings us together.

Wo mii kai wo blema saji, ke kusum We are remembering our history, and nitsəəməi ni wə ke ha wə bii

teaching our children our tradition.

Hee! wo mii nya HOMOWO

Yes! We are celebrating *HOMOWO*.

ke shwaa gbe le no ke haa nyonmoi le ke blemabii

Gbijuroyeli niyeenii ni ji KPOKPOI, wo With the festival's dish, KPOKPOI, we sprinkle on the streets to the gods and ancestors for spiritual protection.

Gbəmei ni je shənn ke mei ni benke ke wə mii nya, ni ame ke wo yeo wo kusum ni jrawa le

People from far and near are sharing in our happiness and experience of our rich culture

kusum joo, mii sheje wo mli ke wo gboi le hu

Wo ke miishee ke mliflimo, lamoi, ke We are making merry, singing, and dancing our traditional dances to entertain ourselves and visitors.

Wo mii shwã suomo ni wo mii ja ha We are spreading love and sharing with gbəmei srətoi, wə shiii bu ko haaa həmə dɔŋŋ

others, leaving no room for hunger again.

wa həmə yi.

Homowo, Homowo! Hee, wo mii Homowo, Homowo! Yes, we are hooting at hunger.

## **KPANLOGO**

Mi webii ajoo ji Kpanlogo *Kpanlogo* is the dance of my people Eji oblaahii ke oblaayei ajoo The dance of the youth

Man le tsui tswaa joo ne The dance that is the heartbeat of the

nation

Joo ni mə fee mə ekpele nə The dance accepted by all

Atswa den atswa den, Atswa den atswa Atswa den atswa den, Atswa den atswa den den

Kεji oblaayei wo amε atofo When the ladies tie their atofo,

Ni oblahii le wo ame nika ke ame tsitsi And the male dancers put on their shorts

with their bare chest folo lε

Keji ayi Atswereshi le, ewosoo gbomotso A beat on the atswereshi bounces the le ke ame naji ye shikponn no body with their feet on the ground

Osheboo lala gbeemo le ke miishee baa, ni The sound of the osheboo lala brings joy and makes sadness drown emio awereho

Jooi le tãã suomo adesa The movement tells the story of love

Ni eyiə wə suələi ahie ke ŋmənə And fill the faces of our loved ones with a

smile

Hewale ke miishee ye shikpənn joo le nə The energy and the excitement on the

dance ground

Tseneo kpaa kredee ko ni etaomo wa Ignite a special bond that is hard to find

Eshio toinjole ke ekome feemo ye wo It leaves peace and togetherness in our

jwenmo ke tsui minds and heart

Gamei ji wə, ni kpanlogo ji wə mlifilimə. We are the GA people and kpanlogo is

our pride.

### MADTSE JI BO

You are a king! The reflection of Mantse ji bo! Jielo kpetenkpele

greatness.

Oblanuu ni tsui mli tse ni asan, haa

hienəkamə ehaa mei ni be hienəkamə

A man, pure in heart who gives hope to

the hopeless

Your personality speaks of your legacy Osui wieo ogboshinii ahe

Owekukpaa ji Simpa Adense; ni Sakyi

Akumbea ji ogbei.

Your ancestry is Simpa Adense; Sakyi

Akumbea is your name.

Bo ji hienyielo! Nilee nitoohe You are a leader! The reservoir of

wisdom

You lead with love and power that we Suomo ke hewale ni wo nyeee he wo gbe

oke nyies ws hie can't despise

Bo fee bo ni ji le, owebii ahe ojweo klenklen keji nyomo woo ko ye ni esa ake

You put your people first regardless the

price you have to pay

Gbəmei agbəmə ji bo

You are a man of the people

Osomoo ni okweo, ni mo fee mo naa no ko

yε okplo le he

owo

You serve and make sure everyone has at

the table

Tse ji bo! Nuhiŋmei aŋaawolɔ kpakpa You are a father! The fountain of good

counsels

Obuo obii ano ni ohaa ame hewale You protect your children and give them

strength

Osuomo ni wa le shio kadimo ko ni anyeee

ake to onajian

Your tough love leaves a mark that is

irreplaceable

You are a hero and a role model Bo ji wə kãkãlə ke wə nəkwemənə

Okwes ws ns ni okudss ko ni ws ka gbee

amanehunu mli

You guide and direct so we don't fall into

trouble

Bo ji no fee no ni wo bio ye solemo mli daa You are everything we pray for daily

Wo ke bo baa damo shi ejaake, MADTSE We will stand with you because YOU JI BO

ARE A KING

**GYIL** 

Kəntome kyəgtaa na mi yi na wogtaa zie;

A gift from a dwarf will always depend

on a connection with the dwarf.

boore te to boore

A langfo nga na mi wane noο kpέέ a yi A connection that brigs blissful moments

from generation to generation.

kəntome zie.

Kyogtaa te kon Kuudenew yāg, A yir A gift was given to the grandson of

Kuudenew by dwarfs.

Kyogtaa na wa ne maalo ko nĕnboore za.

A gift that has become a blessing unto

generations.

Gyil; a seelo dien dien bon.

*Gyil*! The instrument of the spirits.

A dien dien bon velaa nga be na de

nknankoo, gan ane gyilbie.

A beautiful instrument made up of wood, calabash, rope, belt and mallet.

A dien dien bon velaa nga na mi tire voon

seεli.

An instrument that produces magical

sounds.

Voon ne na mɛ laŋne a saakomine vooro;

Sounds that accompanied the spirits of

our ancestors.

Gyil! Gyil!! Gyil!!!

Gyil! Gyil!! Gyil!!!

Kyogtaa na kontome nag de ko te A gift from the dwarfs to our ancestors.

saakomine.

saakomine seeli.

Kyogtaa ne te na me de eréé ne a A gift used to communicate with the

spirits.

Gyil; kyəgtaa yelnoore bon.

*Gyil*; a gift of blissful music.

A te saakomine vooro kyāά na erε voon The spirits of our fathers still echo in the

seεli.

magical sounds.

Gyil, Gyil, Gyil!

Gyil! Gyil!! Gyil!!!

Kyogtaa ne kontome nan de ko te A gift from the spirits to our ancestors. saakomine.

Kyəgtaa na pign te ter,  $\varepsilon$  maalo te a.

A gift for spiritual protection and bliss.

### **KOLEGO**

Kelse ya yele kirisi kəəsi, n damini tu How mystical the music of Kologo tuba puan waa! sounds in our ears;

Kəlegə! Kələgə!! Kəlegə!!!

Kəlegə! Kələgə!!! Kəlegə!!!

Tu Frafra de'eŋo logo ti tu tara mwe'era The pride of Frafra. nyuə, tu dike la

Wane, gane, doo, gilla, kobe ba lisi la The unity of Wane, Gane, Geele, Dogo, kpaa la mwee rega lagum ta<mark>aba</mark> ti ku t<mark>ar</mark>a kənyelesi n bugele suure ge nyuura tu good music. seesi buli nini.

Washahe, Weh-erhgah and Kpah brings

Kolego giila yuum nyalema n sa'ane tu The magical sound by the strings yamduma tuum vəəsi la ba ya'anɛ yela.

resounds the values of our ancestors.

malema; tu seesi puan paŋa la tu nyuɔ our spirit and our pride. тwға.

Kolego! Kolego!!! Kolego!!! Tu buure Kolego! Kologo!!! Kolego!!! Our culture,

 $d\varepsilon'\varepsilon\eta o$ , tu yuuma la tu tuusum.

Kolego! Kolego!!! Kolego!!! Tu buure Kolego! Kologo!!! Kolego!!! Our tradition, our music and our identity.

zina la tu beere paŋa.

Kolego!! Kolego!!! Kolego!!! Tu daami, tu Kolego!! Kolego!!! Kolego!!! Our past, our present and our future.

Tu wan zala ku wana wulam, ge wan dike We shall preserve it for generations yet ku zamse tu koma ti ku gā gura paara tu unborn. кэта те кэта те кэта.

### TUMA KPADSIBU

Ghana ni ri ba, chel ya ka ti kpan si tuma People of Ghana, let us endeavour to tumbu

work

ka ti zan səŋ Ghana; ti səŋ Gha-na, chɛl to help Ghana; let us help Ghana!

ya ka ti tum kpe-ma!

Sa ha kam, sa ha kam, de zi ni ya yo li, Do not sit idle always,

Bo mi ya tum she li tum; tu ma ka vi. Find yourself a work to do; it is not

shameful to work.

Kpur im ya yi ku ya ka ti chan ti ko. Pick your hoes, and let us go and farm.

Ko bu sa ha paai yaa, di paai yaa; de sa It is time for farming, it is time; this is the

ha mbə ŋə. season.

chel ya ka ti kpan si tuma tumbu, ti son let us endeavour to work to help Ghana Gha-na saa kam. always.

Tiŋ gba ni gli ti a maa ti kpi <mark>li</mark> kum, sa ha Why are we surrounded with vast lands kam ne wu la, yet we die of hunger all the time?

De zi ni ya yo li; bo mi ya tum she li tum, Do not sit idle; find yourself a work to do ka ti ma li Ghana. to develop Ghana.

So kam yir si lu tu ma so li, ti chan ti ko. Let us all move to our fields and farm.

Ti tum tu ma səŋ Ghana! Let us work to help Ghana!

### **LELARA**

Lelara! Lelara! Lelara! Lelara! Lelara! Lelara! Lelara!

Wars are for the brave and fearless men Lelara ye baara balo na ye bebe to nyem

of the land! mo.

Baara balo na choa ye ba yera tega kam Men who are courageous, protectors and defenders of the land. to nyem mo.

Baara balo na se se ba go, naa ba go ba, Men who are ready to kill and to be ba tio xwane to nyem mo; killed;

Baara balo na se se ba te, se ba jwoa guli Men who are ready to die as heroes of the ba gula to nyem mo. land.

Lelara dae balo bochare na bwomma to Wars are not for the faint-hearted. nyem.

Lelara! de ta gula de tiguri sem gula; Lelaraa! The memories of wars resounding;

Lelara! de ta gula de bebe selo na tege to Lelaraa! The memories of fallen heroes gula. ringing.

Bebe selo na tage china se vere de bam Heroes who fought and liberated the land kabeem wone to. from slavery.

Lelara! Chena de te, chichwooa de so- Lelaraa! bows and arrows, spears, zoro mo toŋa.

daggers and cudgels are the weapons.

Lelara! nabaara de tangona mo toge Lelaraa! Deities and charms are for yiga.

Ye gungwoxa de wua maa nyiiri yera. The sound of the instruments is mystical;

Ka faŋ ka chue, ka teterega ye kaana The jumps, leaps, and exaggerated battle willa mo bere baro.

movements are signs of strengths and bravery.

Lelara! bebe selo na tega ba tio ŋwane to Lelaraa! Wars are for the brave and mo de gula.

fearless men of the land.

After the development of the texts, I recorded their correct pronunciations, critically listened to them and identified the speech surrogates to aid the organization of melodic themes. Significantly, melodies of the contemporary Ghanaian art songs rigidly followed the tonal and rhythmic inflections of the spoken texts. Of course, melodic resources of the *Asafo*, *Ompe* and *Apofondwom* were also duly explored.

With the African pianism as one of the underpinning theories, the piano accompaniment was composed utilising the rhythmic, melodic and harmonic resources of the indigenous source materials. As an integral part of the composer's concept, the accompaniment served as an interactive and an interpretive partner to the voice. The musical artefacts were composed predominantly in either simple duple time or compound duple, and in diverse key signatures, exploring four different vocal types (soprano, alto. Tenor and bass). In terms of compositional techniques, the composer explored a fusion of traditional and Western techniques.

# 6.2 Analysis of the Contemporary Ghanaian Art Songs

The study of musical structure in either composition or performance may be perceived to be musical analysis since it unravels the elementary components of the formal structures of the music. Musical Analysis is the resolution of musical structure into relatively simpler constituent elements and the investigation of the functions of those elements within that structure. Musical analysis is that part of the study of music which takes as its starting point, the music itself rather than external factors. Music analysis is important to answer a question like 'how does this music work?'. By asking appropriate questions, we are exposed to both the general identifications and various structural components of the compositions respectively (Agawu, 2004; Annan, Acquah & Sackey, 2022; Bent, 2001).

In this study, formal analysis was used as the analytical bent to unravel the formal structures of the compositions. Importantly, the study of structures of a musical composition forms the basis of formal analysis in music. It is also acknowledged that gestural analysis is, in many ways, formal analysis. Instead of relying only on chordal function, several other variables (boundaries of analysis) are considered. Variables

such as scale, vocal rages, melodic organization, harmony and tonality, non-chord tones, texture, and form are largely considered in formal analysis. The formal analysis uncovers deep relationships between these structures and examines how they dramatize the form, and how they may heighten the expressive quality of the work. In effect, it provides insights into compositional styles (Marvel, 2021; Stanley, 2021).

It is worth asserting that, apart from the texts and vocal ranges, the analytical findings of one composition could be generalized as the analysis of all the compositions of the contemporary Ghanaian art songs. It is upon this fact that four compositions such as *Mankessim Gua*, *Avihawo*, *Tuma Kpaŋsibu* and *Simpa Aboabikyire* were selected to represent different vocal types and different texts. The study therefore considered the following as the analytical parameters; scale, vocal rage, melodic organization, harmony and tonality, texture, form, text and compositional technique.

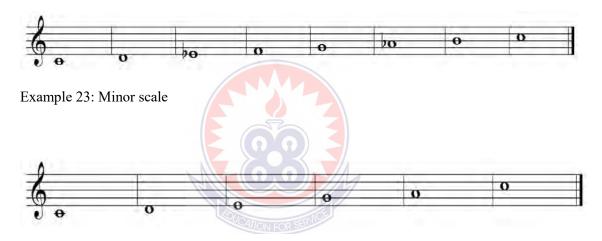
# i. SCALE

Kwami (2011) defined scale as a "series of pitches arranged in order from low to high or high to low". In the four selected art songs, however, the composer utilised different scales such as major, minor, heptatonic and pentatonic depending on the text. Of course, the Dorian and Phrygian modes were intermittently used to exhibit specific musical passages. Apparently, these scales were explicitly employed as the basis of specific scales in order to develop other scales. For instance, in *Mankessim Gua*, the F Heptatonic scale interspersed with the F Phrygian mode was used as the basis to develop other scales such as B flat major, A flat major, E flat major and c minor scales. Also, in *Avihawo*, the F Pentatonic scale was used as the basis to develop scales such as B flat Pentatonic and C Pentatonic respectively. Again, in *Tuma Kpansibu*, C Pentatonic scale was used to develop other scales such as F major,

G Dorian mode, E flat Pentatonic scale, A flat major and D flat Pentatonic scale whilst in *Simpa Aboabikyire*, E flat Pentatonic scale interspersed with E flat Phrygian mode served as the base to develop scales such as C major scale, A flat Phrygian mode, F major scale, c minor scale and d minor scale. The following Examples are illustrations of the scales used.



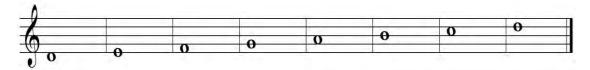
Example 22: Major scale



Example 24: Pentatonic scale



Example 25: Heptatonic scale



Example 26: Dorian mode



Example 27: Phrygian mode

### ii. VOCAL RANGE

Vocal ranges refer to the span of pitches of vocal parts in a musical composition. A typical choral arrangement divides women into higher and lower voices and men into higher or lower voices. Most voices can be assigned one of these four ranges, and this gives the composer four vocal lines to work with, which is usually enough. The four main vocal ranges are soprano (a high female or boy's voice), alto (a low female or boy's voice), tenor (a high adult male voice) and bass (a low adult male voice). Arrangements for these four voices are labelled SATB (Annan, Acquah & Sackey, 2022; Schmidt-Jones & Jones, 2007).

In the four selected contemporary Ghanaian art songs, however, I predominantly explored compound intervals beyond an octave in order to provide an avenue for the trained singer to exhibit his or her vocal dexterity. Of course, the choice of wider vocal ranges is favourable for the trained singer since it represents the right choice of pitches for the various vocal parts. In *Mankessim Gua*, for instance, I operated ranges between intervals of thirteen (13) whilst in *Avihawo*, the range was between an interval of twelve (12). In *Tuma Kpaŋsibu*, however, I operated ranges between intervals of fifteen (15) whilst in *Simpa Aboabikyire*, the range was between an interval of seventeen (17). See illustrations below.



Example 28: Vocal ranges

## iii. MELODIC ORGANISATION

Melody may be perceived as the vital core of music without which music is unconceivable. It is primarily the linear succession of single pitches perceived as a meaningful whole. It is generally seen as that element in music that appeals most unswervingly to the audience. Etymologically, the word melody is derived from the Greek melodia and consist of two Greek words for tune and singing or song. The literal translation is something like 'singing tune' (Acquah & Sackey, 2021; Aldridge & Aldridge, 2008; Forney & Machlis, 2007).

The purpose of the melodic organization was to situate the concept of art song in the Ghanaian context, hence, the creation of the contemporary Ghanaian art songs. In view of this, melodic themes rigidly followed the tonal and rhythmic inflections of the selected Ghanaian texts. However, chromatic notes were appropriately used to either modulate to another tonal centre or to embellish certain passages. Apparently, melodic themes were generally organized with steps, skips and leaps to reflect the speech surrogate of the spoken text. See the following excerpts for illustrations.



Example 29: Melodic theme from Mankessim Gua



Example 30: Melodic theme from Avihawo



Example 31: Melodic theme from Tuma Kpansibu



Example 32: Melodic theme from Simpa Aboabikyire

From the Examples above, all indications with square are leaps whilst indications with circle are steps. Skips on the other hand are without any indication. It means that, all intervallic passages without indications are skips. It is obviously clear, also, that chromatic notes in the melodic themes above are for modulation purposes. For instance, in Example 29, the theme has modulated from F major to A flat major and E flat major respectively.

## iv. Harmony and Tonality

The simultaneous combination of notes into chords and the sequential ordering of chords is referred to as harmony. It means that when you have more than one pitch sounding at the same time in music, the result is harmony. Harmony is one of the

basic elements of music which may be comprehensive than other elements such as rhythm and melody. Of course, music can be just a rhythm or a single melodic line. The indication, however, is that, as soon as there is more than one pitch sounding at a time, there is harmony (Schellenberg, Bigand, Poulin-Charronnat, Garnier & Stevens, 2005; Schmidt-Jones & Jones, 2007). Tonality on the other hand is primarily used to denote a system of relationships between a series of pitches (forming melodies and harmonies) having a tonic, or a central pitch class, as its most important (or stable) element (Gutiéreez, 2006, p. 16).

Even though the focus of the contemporary Ghanaian art song is the voice solo, the piano accompaniment is an integral part of both the melodic and harmonic progressions. In view of that, however, I extensively explored tertian harmony, quartal harmony, and the use of altered chords to effect various shifts in tonal centres. In *mankessim Gua*, for instance, the piano introduction which begun in F major explicitly exhibited a combination of quartal and tertian progressions from bar 3 to bar 11 of the movement. The excerpt below is an illustration.



Example 33: Quartal and Tertian harmonic progressions

From the example above, the progression with the oval indication is a movement of parallel fourths whilst the progression with the rectangular indication is a combination of parallel fourths and thirds. Of course, the progression ends with F Phrygian mode

in bar 11. Similar harmonic progressions are significantly found in other bars throughout the composition.

Mankessim Gua, which commenced in F major modulated to B flat major from bars 19 to 21, from bars 23 to 25 and from bars 53 to 56; E flat major from bars 50 to 51 and from bars 65 to 79; c minor from bars 52 to 53 and from bars 80 to 82; F major from bars 84 to 91, and then through F Dorian mode to F Phrygian mode from bars 92 to 95. Throughout the movement, several altered chords such as secondary dominant ninth of two (V9/ii), secondary dominant seventh of four (V7/IV), secondary dominant of five (V/V) and secondary dominant of six (V/vi) were explored to effect specific shifts in tonal centres. Apparently, harmonic progressions in Mankessim Gua are generalizable to all other compositions of the contemporary Ghanaian art songs. See Example 34 for illustration.



Example 34: Harmonic progression and tonality of Mankessim Gua

## v. TEXTURE AND FORM

Texture often describes how layers of sound within a piece of music interact in terms of density and range. The concept focuses on the way melodic, rhythmic, and harmonic materials are woven together in a composition. Apparently, the term is often used rather loosely to describe the vertical aspects of music. It can be monophonic,

homophonic, polyphonic and heterophonic (Annan, Acquah & Sackey, 2022; Benward & Saker, 2009). Furthermore, Hamilton (2006) defined form as "a way of describing the structure or shape of a piece of music. That is, the way it has been constructed from various smaller sections" (p. 1).

The texture of the art song compositions could easily be described as monophonic when one considers just the voice solo. However, since the piano accompaniment is an integral part of the composer's concept, and the fact that it serves as an interpretive partner to the voice, all layers of sound within the music are considered to describe the texture. In the compositions, the effective and extensive use of counterpoints to interlace harmonic progressions resulted into the contrapuntal nature of the musical artefacts, hence, making the texture polyphonic. See illustration below.



Example 35: Texture of Simpa Aboabikyire

Undoubtedly, the form of the contemporary Ghanaian art song compositions is through-composed. In these compositions, however, the return of sections of the music did not occur. In other words, no two parts of the composition could be identified as identical in any respect. Imperatively, the compositions are series of contrasted themes without the return of the themes.

### vi. TEXT

Aleshinskaya (2013) highlighted that "text is a product of social activity, a result of interaction of social practices and social agents" (P. 231). Of course, for a better comprehension and appreciation of a vocal music, text, otherwise called lyric is required. Willgoss (2012) emphasized that "music is language. It often has syntax" (p. 426). Significantly, texts of the contemporary Ghanaian art songs were derived from sociocultural events. Apparently, texts were developed from eight

Ghanaian languages in twenty diverse sociocultural contexts to explain both the contents and the contexts of the musical artefacts. See illustration below.



Example 36: Excerpt of an Ewe text

The excerpt above is an ewe text which literally means, "only my shattered soul stands like a broken fence". The speech surrogate and the rhythmic inflection of the text were rigidly considered to create melodic themes that agree with the text.

# vii. COMPOSITIONAL TECHNIQUES

The contemporary Ghanaian art songs were composed with several compositional techniques such as modulation, counterpoints, call and response, imitation, Asafo singing style, polyrhythm and melodic adaptation to portray the synergy between the Western and the African musical resources. To be more specific, the compositions are characterized by specific shifts in tonal centres to demonstrate the compositional style of the composer. For instance, in *Tuma Kpaŋsibu*, which started as C pentatonic, modulated sequentially to F major from bar 10 to bar 16, and then to C major from bar 17 to bar 21. Other modulations new tonal centres such as G major, E flat major, A flat major, D flat major, and ended in C major. This technique was effectively utilised in all the compositions to avoid monotonous tonal centres. Example 37 below, is an illustration.



Example 37: An excerpt of modulation in Tuma Kpaŋsibu

Again, techniques such as counterpoints, call and response and imitations were utilised to make the compositions very interactive between the voice and the piano.

See illustration.



Example 38: An excerpt of call and response, imitation and counterpoint

From the excerpt, the oval indication is a call and response, and imitation. A call is made by the voice in the first two bars whilst the piano responses in the next two bars. It is also obvious that the first part of the response is an imitation of the first part of the call. Significantly, others indications with square are contrapuntal passages.

Furthermore, the Asafo singing style which resulted in polyrhythmic patterns was judiciously used as a compositional technique to effect free rhythm in some aspects of the work. The compositions were consciously created in either simple duple or

compound duple to depict the respective meters of the indigenous resources. Finally, it is important to state that series of melodic themes from the indigenous resources were adapted to create accompaniment for the voice soli. For instance, the piano introduction and other interludes of *Mankessim Gua* are *Asafo* melodic themes which were adapted to create accompaniment for the voice. Of course, these themes were developed melodically as well as harmonically to fit the context and content of the composer's intention. The excerpt below is an illustration.



Example 39: Melodic adaptation

### **6.3 Relevant Technical Exercises**

Over the years, scholars have developed several technical exercises to aid the effective teaching and learning processes of vocal music in adults' education. Techniques, such as the Bel canto, the somatic voicework, lieder and fauré melodies for diction concept and voice athlete are the available vocal technique resources which have been widely used by voice teachers over the years for effective facilitations. These techniques, even though very useful, have not really been helpful with respect to the teaching and learning of African art choral music compositions. It is upon this fact that I introduce the Sackey Vocal Technique which effectively

explores the African art music compositions in context and in content to outline appropriate vocal technique resources.

The rationales behind the Sackey Vocal Technique involve the correct pronunciation of the African texts, the consideration of the speech surrogate and the rhythmic inflections of the texts, and then the articulation of the texts with the appropriate sounds. Based on the rationales, various melodic themes with specific intervallic structures could be composed as technical exercises to aid vocal facilitations. The figure below shows a graphical representation of the Sackey Vocal Technique in hierarchical order.

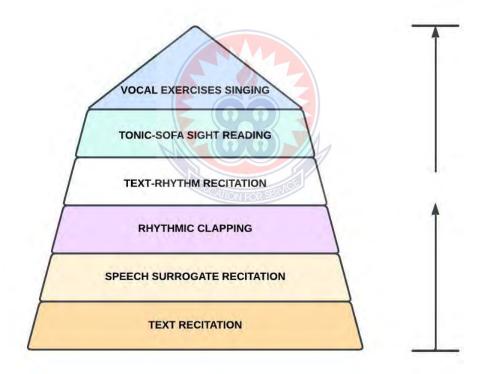


Figure 8: Sackey Vocal Technique

The figure above exhibits six steps of the technique as follows;

a. Text Recitation: The first stage involves reciting the text of the music by taking into consideration the correct pronunciation of the African (Ghanaian) spoken text.

- b. Speech Surrogate Recitation: The second stage involves two steps. The first step is the identification of the speech surrogate with the tonal inflection of the text whilst the second step is the surrogate recitation.
- c. Rhythmic Clapping: The third stage is to effectively and efficiently clap the correct rhythm of the music to aid the right singing.
- d. Text-Rhythm Recitation: The fourth stage involves reciting the text with the rhythm in specific time signature of the music.
- e. Tonic-sofa Sight Reading: The fifth stage involves reading the melody using the tonic-sofa technique. At this stage, the clef, the key signature, the individual pitches and the time signature are equally considered to sight-read correctly.
- f. Vocal Exercises Singing: At the last stage, the vocal facilitator has the liberty to develop technical exercises, focusing on the intervallic structure and the vocal ranges of the music. He or she can select other technical exercises that are relevant to the music in question, and can aid its facilitation.

In this study, however, I introduced relevant technical exercises that meet international examination repertoire standards and constitute a significant input to musical knowledge. The following sample technical exercises were composed based on the main musical artefacts (contemporary Ghanaian art songs) to aid their facilitations.



Example 40: Simple Technical Exercise for Soprano



Example 41: Comprehensive Technical Exercise for Soprano



Example 42: Simple Technical Exercise for Alto



Example 43: Comprehensive Technical Exercise for Alto



Example 44: Simple Technical Exercise for Tenor



Example 45: Comprehensive Technical Exercise for Tenor



Example 46: Simple Technical Exercise for Bass



Example 47: Comprehensive Technical Exercise for Bass

### **CHAPTER SEVEN**

### SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### 7.0 Preamble

This chapter is the concluding segment of the study. It includes the summary of the major findings of the work, and draws conclusions emerging out of it. It also encompasses recommendations based on the conclusions drawn and suggests some areas for further research to assist or encourage creative ethnomusicologists to expand the boundaries of art song compositions within the context of the African.

## 7.1 Summary

The motivation behind this research was to contribute to the body of art song literature by exploring the essential components musical practices that transform a composer's work into a performance. Of course, the purpose was to create a musical artefact (art song compositions) that is characteristically African, in terms of contents and contexts. The itemized objectives were impelled by the fact that such compositions are few in existence due to the proliferation of choral groups in Ghana, and the fact that choral-chorus music in Ghana is exuberant and ubiquitous. In view of this, the study, which was rooted within the intercultural framework, African pianism and creative thinking in music, reviewed theories that brought together certain concepts to develop a creative model for the creation of contemporary Ghanaian art songs. In approaching such novelty, the design embodied creative ethnomusicologic, bibliographic, discographic and creative designs to collect both primary and secondary data. Of course, five research questions were formulated to guide the data collection process of the study.

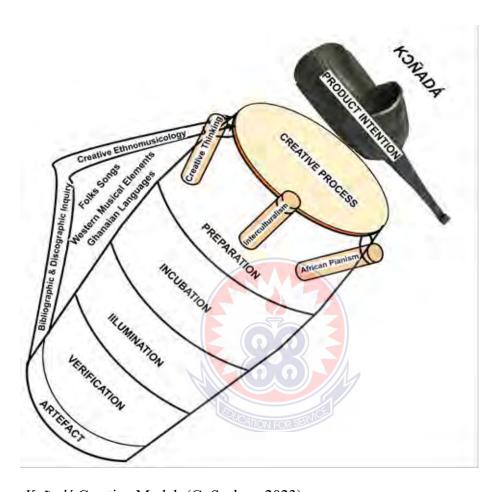
Significantly, the first research question sought to examine selected musical elements and indigenous resources as tools for the musical artefact. The study therefore

explored traditional musical resources that could be used to create contemporary musical artefacts. These resources included sonic elements such as melodic motives, harmonic motives and rhythmic patterns of instrumental setups from *Asafo*, *Ompe* and *Apofondwom* musical types. The indigenous resources were collected from selected traditional ensembles namely *Simpa Dentsefo Asafo* Company, *Osimpam Ompe* Cultural Troupe and *Nyame Ye Odo* Fishing Canoe, all within the Winneba enclave. Apparently, the study identified contemporary compositional styles and techniques such as Asafo singing styles, melismatic passages, melodic imitations and adaptations embedded in the indigenous resources. Of course, these were fused together with other Western musical elements for better comprehension and appreciation by both African and Western audiences.

Also, the second research question sought to explore other Ghanaian languages apart from the Asante Twi to create musical libretti for the creation of contemporary Ghanaian art songs. Twenty stories and poems were however created in diverse sociocultural contexts and contents, and developed into musical libretti using eight selected Ghanaian languages such as Fante, Effutu, Ewe, Ga, Dagaare, Kasem, Dagbanli and Gurune. The following are the titles of the created stories and poems; Mankessim gua, Kaakaamotobi, Bəbəəbə, Gamei ji wə, Gyil, Yenkə Akyenfo, Nenyi Ayirebi, Həməwə, Kəlegə, Edina Bakatue, Eyipey Poasé, Tata Amu, Kpanlogo, Tum Kpema, Oguaa Akətə, Simpa Aboabikyire, De Menya Me Doa Dgə o, Mantse Ji Bo and Lelara.

Furthermore, through the review of related literature, the creative model, *Kɔñadá*, was developed to give directions to the essential components, and the process for creating contemporary art songs within the cultural setting of the Ghanaian. Imperatively, this

model was developed as a compositional model to extrinsically motivate composers who would like to explore other Ghanaian indigenous resources to create similar intercultural compositions.



Koñadá Creative Model (G. Sackey, 2023)

The musical libretti were set to intercultural musical compositions as the fourth research question sought to achieve. Of course, these compositions could be described as symbiosis of Ghanaian indigenous musical resources and Western musical elements. Imperatively, some of the musical elements such as modes, pentatonic and heptatonic scales, tertian and quartal harmonic progressions were common to both the African and the Western cultures, therefore, making it possible to fuse them together in one composition. It was also revealed, however, that the work was characterized

with indigenous compositional elements which included simple melodies, counterpoints, imitations, call and response, polyrhythms, *Asafo* singing style and melodic adaptations. In terms of setting texts to melodies, there was also the rigid adherence to the tonal and rhythmic inflections of the spoken Ghanaian texts. The piano accompaniment on the other hand was highly percussive, depicting rhythmic patterns of various instruments of the selected musical types.

The annotation of the creative product included a general description, formal analysis and relevant technical exercises. The research revealed in the annotation that, the work exposes readers to the compositional procedures and the composer's application of musical structures in his creative work. For instance, the formal analysis explicitly gave a candid elucidation of the composer's lens on his creative work by bringing to bare, the most hidden structural contents in terms of scale, melody, rhythm, range, timbre, texture as well as harmony and tonality. Ideally, it revealed how the composer used different scales and tonal centres to create contrasts in tonalities by employing altered notes and chords in contexts and contents. The annotation also gave comment on how texts were set to sonic elements by rigidly adhering to the tonal and rhythmic inflections of the spoken Ghanaian texts. For an effective teaching and learning processes of the musical artefacts, the Sackey Vocal Technique which encompasses the correct pronunciation of the African texts, the consideration of the speech surrogate and the rhythmic inflections of the texts, and then the articulation of the texts with the appropriate sounds was introduced to aid the facilitations of such vocal compositions.

### 7.2 Conclusions

Imperatively, the availability of indigenous resources is enormous for the creation of Ghanaian art song compositions. It is also possible to integrate two or more indigenous musical types, taking into consideration, their compatibility in terms of common elements and traits. The study however merged sonic resources of three indigenous musical types, namely, *Asafo*, *Impe* and *Apofondwom* with similar characteristics such as simple and repetitive melodic themes, shorter melodic phrases organized with intervallic structure of predominantly seconds and thirds with occasional leaps of fourths, fifths and sixths. The harmonic progressions are mainly parallel thirds, fourths and sixths with occasional fifths. In terms of rhythmic resources, the combination of simpler individual instrumental patterns resulted in polyrhythms, exhibiting contrapuntal and syncopated patterns. It is only appropriate to conclude that, the individual sonic elements of the indigenous resources are simple in nature but become complex when they are merged together in a creative product, whether composition or performance.

Additionally, the use of musical libretti is imperative in the creation of art songs. Since art songs are meant to be sung by the voice, the libretti aid the better comprehension and appreciation of the vocal composition. It could be concluded, however, that, in the creative processes of the cotemporary Ghanaian art songs, musical libretti were developed in only eight Ghanaian languages such as *Fante*, *Effutu*, *Ewe*, *Ga*, *Dagaare*, *Kasem*, *Dagbanli* and *Gurune*. Significantly, the libretti were based on created and adapted stories and poems that reflected the philosophies and historical contents of the African cultural context.

Undeniably, the study with reference to the development of a creative model for creating contemporary Ghanaian art songs is an innovation. Significantly, it augments the few available literature on indigenous art song compositions in Africa, and further create the avenue for subsequent discourses in African art music compositions. Of course, it explicitly elucidates the processes of creating African art choral music compositions, and better clarifies the misconceptions surrounding them.

Furthermore, the novelty created is an explicit demonstration of how the African and Western musical idioms are fused together in one composition without losing both musical identities. Significantly, the composition is very consistent with both the selected indigenous resources and Western musical features. The musical artefact was predominantly based on the heptatonic and pentatonic scales; the major and minor scales and occasionally on the Phrygian and Dorian modes. The work was also based rigidly on the tonal and rhythmic inflections of the selected Ghanaian texts. Of course, it also imitated the rhythmic patterns of the traditional percussive instruments, which makes it an African musical artefact. It can therefore be concluded that, the contemporary Ghanaian art songs give room for the creation of more art songs within the cultural and philosophical contexts of the African. In this case, African composers can rightly identify themselves with their compositions.

Lastly, it is worth asserting that the annotation of the contemporary Ghanaian art songs exposes readers to the compositional procedures and the structural components of the musical artefact for better comprehension and appreciation. Even though the formal analysis focused largely on the formal structures of the creative product, the annotation gave comments and explained the composer's compositional thoughts to guide readers. Significantly, the use of various vocal techniques for choral music

facilitations is a necessity to aid the effective teaching and learning processes at different levels of education. The Sackey Vocal Technique is therefore a very essential set of technical exercises to aid the effective facilitations of African art choral music in higher education.

#### 7.3 Recommendations

Undoubtedly, the study revealed the availability of enormous indigenous resources for the creation of contemporary Ghanaian art songs, even though it utilised sonic materials of Asafo, Impe and Apofondwom. It is recommended, therefore that, other traditional musical types with similar characteristics be explored and harnessed by modern creative ethnomusicologists for more creative works. Significantly, simple instructional materials for educational purposes can be composed out of the indigenous resources of Asafo, Impe and Apofondwom due to the simplistic nature of their sonic materials. Of course, other competitive compositions, whether choral or instrumental, could be created by creatively combining simple motifs into a highly contrapuntal musical piece for performances.

Again, there are diverse Ghanaian languages across various ethnolinguistic traditions in Ghana. However, the study focused on developing musical libretti in only eight Ghanaian languages such as *Fante*, *Effutu*, *Ewe*, *Ga*, *Dagaare*, *Kasem*, *Dagbanli* and *Gurune*. It is recommended that in attempt to expand the repertory of Ghanaian art songs, composers or musical librettists should explore more Ghanaian languages other than the eight languages used in the study, in order to satisfy the multilingualism concept in Ghana.

The study, with reference to the creative model is a compositional guide for African art composers to augment art song compositions utilising the available indigenous resources. It is therefore recommended that more contemporary Ghanaian art songs are created using the *Kɔñadá* model to expand the repertoire in that regard. It is also appropriate, however, to adapt the model for the creation of other Arican art vocal compositions other than the art songs to create room for the expansion of creativity and academic discourses in the area of creative ethnomusicology.

Furthermore, the musical artefact made up of twenty (20) compositions for soprano, alto, tenor and bass soli in eight Ghanaian languages, is an educational material that could be used by the music departments of colleges of education and universities in Ghana and beyond as part of their repertory for voice instructions. It is therefore recommended that music teachers in tertiary institutions in Ghana and beyond should adopt the artefact (contemporary Ghanaian art songs) to augment the African contents of their vocal soli repertory for voice facilitations.

Lastly, the annotation revealed the compositional procedures and thoughts embedded in the creative product, and provided a vivid analytical presentation of the musical artefact that gives room for a further discourse of musical analysis of research-based musical compositions. Of course, music analysts can use such creative ethnomusicological works as fertile grounds to expand research in musical analysis. Imperatively, the Sackey Vocal Technique is an essential annotation on African art vocal andragogy for tertiary students. It is therefore recommended that, vocal instructors and lecturers at higher institutions adopt it for their facilitations in order to aid the effective teaching and learning processes of African art vocal soli.

#### 7.4 Suggestions for Further Research

It is evidently clear in the study that the creation of art songs in the African context is a fertile ground for Ghanaian creative ethnomusicologists and researchers to explore. This research is therefore an extrinsic motivation for composers to expand their scope of creativity. However, the study was limited to only three Ghanaian traditional types and eight ethnolinguistic traditions in Ghana. Significantly, further research could be undertaken to explore issues from other Ghanaian communities in terms of indigenous sonic resources and languages. Imperatively, each linguistic tradition has its own distinctive musical features and practices that give the avenue for further explorations by researchers.



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#### **APPENDICES**

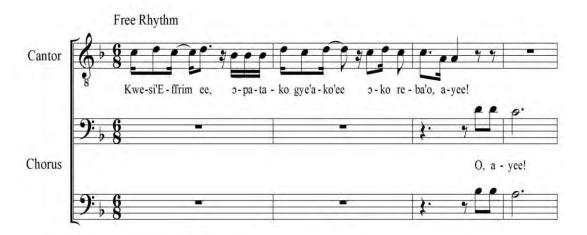
## Appendix A

## Transcriptions of some Folk Songs

# **OSEE AYEE**



### **AKWESI EFFRIM**







## AMANKO RESU

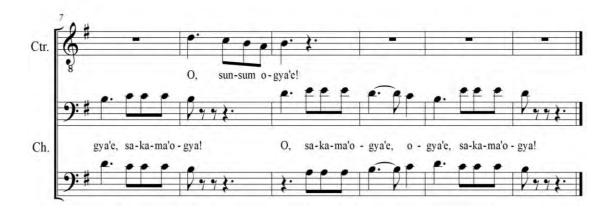


#### TUAFO HON WONSAN KETSEKETSE



#### SAKAMA OGYA





#### **APOOKYEBA**





### EDINA BEENYA





#### ESI EDUWA



Ctr. kro-fo'yi ye-bu hon'm - bo-fram-ba;

E - si,E-du-wa'ee, \_\_\_ a-yee, a-yee.



### FA ME SIKA BRA'M







### YE ROGOR





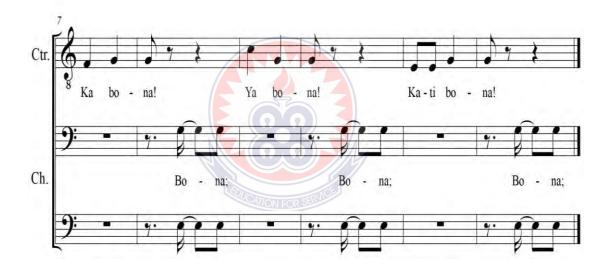


### **AMOLIKA**



# BONA

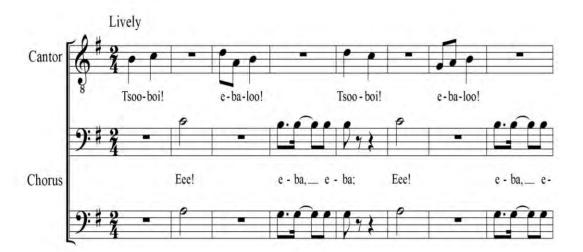


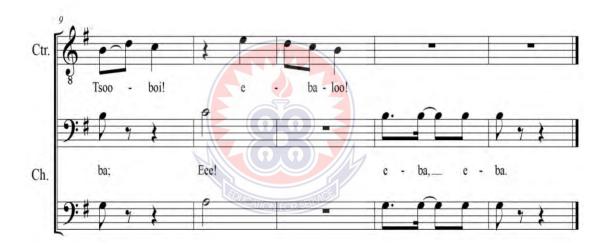


## **EBALOO**



## **TSOOBOI**





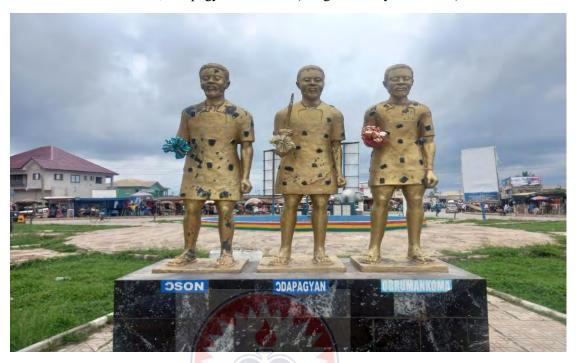
### ZAMINAMINA



## Appendix B

## **Pictures of some Sociocultural Events**

Statues of Obrumankoma, Odapagyan and Oson (Image taken by researcher)



A Section of Mankessim Market (Image taken by researcher)



A Statue of Crab at Kotokuraba, Cape Coast (Image taken by researcher)



Eyipey Beach at Winneba (Image taken by researcher)



A Scene at the Winneba Aboakyer Festival (Image taken by researcher)



Performers of Avihawo at a Funeral at Kpando (Image taken by researcher)



## Apendix C

### **Pronunciation Chart**

The following is a guide to the pronunciation of the musical libretto. Tonal inflections have been rigidly adhered to in the music set to the texts.

A a	Вb	D d	Еe	33	Ff	Gg	H h
[a]	[b]	[d]	[e/I]	[ε]	[f]	[g]	[h]
Ιi	K k	M m	Nn	Oo	Oo	Pр	Rr
[i]	[k]	[m]	[n]	[o/u]	[c]	[p]	[r]
Ss	T t	Uu	Ww	Yу	Ζz		
[s]	[t]	[u]	[w]	[i]	[z]		
Other lette	ers						
dw	dz	gy	hw	hy	kw	ky	nw
$[dz^w]$	[dz]	[dz]	[cw]	[0]	$[k^w]$	[tc]	[n <sup>w</sup> ]
ny	ts	tw	Oa	oe	oer	ua	uan
[n]	[ts]	$[t \varsigma^w]$	[wia]	[wei]	[wer]	[wia]	[wan]
ue							
[wei]							

Vowels (Advanced tongue root)												
i	e	a	0	u								
[i]	[e]	[æ~a]	[o]	[u]								
Vowels (Retracted tongue root)												
e	3	a	э	O								
$[_{I} \sim e]$	[8]	[a]	[0]	[ʊ~o]								
Consonants												
b	d	dw	dwi	f	g	gw	gyi					
[b]	[d]	[d <sub>3</sub> ]	$[dz^wi]$	[f]	[g]	$[g^w]$	[dzi~ <del>j</del> ji]					
h	hw	hwi	hyi	k	kw	kyi	1					
[h]	$[h^w]$	$[\varsigma^{\mathrm{w}} i]$	[çi]	$[k^h]$	$[k^w]$	$[t c^h i {\sim} c c^h i]$	[1]					
m	n	ng	ngi	nw	nu	nyi/nnyi	p					
[m]	$[n/\mathfrak{y}/\mathfrak{p}]$	[ŋ:]	[nî]	[nn m]	$[\mathfrak{p}^w \tilde{\imath}]$	[n:ĩ]	$[p^h]$					
r	S	t	ti	twi	W	wi						
$[ {  _{ l} / r / _{ l} } ]$	[s]	[t <sup>h</sup> ]	[t i]	[tçwi]	[w]	[qi]						