

## **Abstract**

Learning processes in a cultural context. – A music project with Swedish and Gambian secondary school students.

This essay is about a cross-cultural music performance project between Swedish and Gambian youths. As a researcher, I am especially interested in learning processes among youth musicians. I have the focus on the young peoples learning processes. This interest perspective in this topic has come from the experience I have gained as a music teacher both in Sweden and Gambia. The research takes place in Gambia with a group of Swedish and Gambian youths whom during two weeks time teach each other a song of their own choice and at the end of the two weeks perform before an audience showing what they have learned. During these two weeks both groups of students are faced with each others commonsense on a daily basis, and as a researcher and a teacher it gives me satisfaction that young people can meet and interact over the boundaries that cultural difference sometimes can be.

My method has been to do field research and taking field notes as well as video filming and analysing them. I analysed the field notes by looking at the film to see if my notes where accurate. When I analysed the films I took notes in shape of table and transferring these tables into Excel where I got diagrams and statistics.

One of the results from the study is that youth's change their learning strategies as the project continues and I have made the conclusion that they are influenced by each others cultures and that they are interacting with each others commonsense. Tables

Research question: How can musical learning processes among youngsters be seen in a concert project that transcends cultural barriers?

## **Keywords:**

Learning, learning process, oral tradition, descriptive tradition, music tradition in Gambia, music tradition in Sweden, Western tradition of knowledge, West-African tradition of knowledge, music ethnology.