



FREE PALESTINE!

Special Edition

Asian Music for Peoples' Peace and Progress (AMP3)
December 2023



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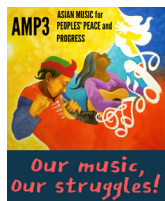
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Asian Village Zine Team

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Editor's Note

Welcome to a special issue of the Asian Village Zine titled "Free Palestine!", which is dedicated to the historical struggle of Palestinians in light of the escalating attacks by Israel. This issue endeavors to introduce readers to the diverse musical landscape that has emerged in solidarity with the people of Palestine.

It is crucial to acknowledge that narratives surrounding Palestine are as diverse as the people who call it home. This zine does not claim to be exhaustive, but rather seeks to be a catalyst for further exploration and understanding. We encourage you to engage critically with the content presented here, recognizing the complexities inherent in the struggle for social justice and emancipation.

We invite you to consider the intersections of music and activism, contemplating how artists, through their craft, become both storytellers and advocates for change. As you traverse these pages, reflect on the role music plays in fostering resilience, building bridges, and amplifying the call for a more just and equitable future. May these songs serve as a bridge, connecting us across borders and reminding us of the universality of peoples' struggles. The dialogue and reflection inspired by these musical narratives are integral to understanding the nuances of the Palestinian struggle. May the visuals and lyrics resonate with you, and lead to a greater appreciation of the strength and heroism that define the Palestinian spirit.

In solidarity,
The Asian Village Zine Editorial Team

A decorative header featuring a series of musical notes. The notes are arranged in a descending, wavy pattern from the top left towards the bottom right. They are rendered in a dark, textured, charcoal-like style, with some notes appearing more prominent than others.

Song for Palestine

Lingling Maranan-Claver

It's raining fire in Palestine
The swifts have gone in hurried flight
The olive branch wilts on the ground
No water flows on burning land.

It's raining fire in Palestine
where mothers' tears are never dry
Hear their wails through crumbling walls
Through bombed-out homes, to shattered skies.

Fathers hold their shrouded children
by zionists's guns, their lives were taken
Oh, Gaza grieves, torment's unending
Hear cries of freedom! for motherland.



art by Louvia Ramos



art by Louvia Ramos



A people's land was occupied
Their history rewritten
By wires and walls and sentinels
Shut out and imprisoned
It's genocide by any name
It's genocide by any name
Oh, free Palestine, of you we dream!

This stolen land must be retaken
And history rewritten
Tear down the walls that is a prison
The people's will shall not be broken
The occupation has to end
The occupation has to end
Oh, free Palestine, of you we dream! 



scan to listen

Lingling Maranan-Claver is a former member of Cordillera - based Salidummay, and a volunteer with environmental groups in the city of Baguio.

Louvia Ramos is a 23 year-old visual artist-activist, and a graduate of Fine Arts in Visual Communication at the Philippine Women's University. She started creating and emerging in socio-political form of artworks when she joined UgatLahi Artist Collective in 2017, during her Senior High School at the Polytechnic University of the Philippines. Currently, she also engages in multimedia design as her focus work, while joining exhibitions and art conventions on the side by still incorporating society's freedom of expression.



Made in the USA

Danny Fabella



art by Patrick Kent Oaterra

How could you sleep soundly at night?
When women and children cry in fright
Nowhere to hide, nowhere to run
As their shelters crumble and burn to the ground.

We couldn't just sit back and watch
While innocent lives are buried and trapped
Under the rubbles of hospitals and schools
Lies a graveyard of their dreams and hope.

As thousands of bombs fall like rain
Unleashed by the Zionist State, and it's made in the USA,
Made in the USA.



art by Patrick Kent Oaferina

So let our voices be heard in every part of this world
Saying no to apartheid, saying stop the genocide
Stand up for justice and human rights

And from the river to the sea, let Palestine be free.
We can not just turn our back
While thousands are killed, wounded, and starved
And the Western powers and media alike
Justify these massacres through all their lies

As thousands of bombs fall like rain
Unleashed by the Zionist State, and it's made in the
USA,
Made in the USA.

Until the dust settles
And the smoke disappears
The blood of the martyrs will flow
From the river to the sea.
From the river to the sea
Let Palestine be free. 🌿



art by Patrick Kent Oaferina



scan to listen

Danny Fabella is a Filipino activist poet/songwriter/performer. Most of his works depict the life and struggle of the toiling masses. He used to be a member of Tambisan sa Sining, a trade union-based cultural group, for ten years.

He had won several awards in poetry, play and songs. Among his major works are the songs *Rosas ng Digma* and *Anak ng Bayan*. He is currently a member of *Musikangbayan* and *Sining Bulosan*, the cultural arm of *Migrante International*.

Patrick Kent Oaferina is a Filipino doodle artist who delves into the spiritual. His use of black and white in his artworks depict the many deaths and rebirths of his soul, his unconditional surrender to the eternal and often times vicious flow of change and of being free by being attached to nothing but the eternal moment that is the here and now. His artistic journey is one that is marked by pain and freedom; the perpetual contraction and expansion of his soul.



To Whom it May Concern

Samageet

A little boy was playing football with his friends
A little boy was playing football with his friends
Hell came from the sky,
Your party begins.

A little girl was singing
A little girl was singing
How lovely she sings
Then the singing turns crying
Your party begins

And your party begins.

A little baby was sleeping in peace, in silence
A little baby was sleeping in peace, in silence
And then was that BOOM sound
Your party begins

And your party begins
And your party begins
And your party begins



art by Umiigpaw



art by Umiigpaw



When a father in Gaza holds his dead little kid
Do you watch it on TV
Does your heart ever bleed?

And the tears of their mother
wash the blood from their face
O mama, o mama

And the tears of their mother
wash the blood from their face
She's holding her loved ones in final embrace
O mama, o mama

Does it civilize you?
Help in making progress?

Does it give you sound sleep?
Give glory to your race?

Does it civilize you?
Help in making progress?

Does it give you sound sleep?
Give glory to your race?

Does it give you orgasm?
Does it please your sense
Put a smile on your face
Did you kill your conscience?





Does it give you orgasm?
Does it please your sense
Put a smile on your face
Did you kill your conscience?

Did you kill your conscience?
Did you kill your conscience?

O dear Uncle, will you press
that it's just self-defense? 



scan to listen

Samageet is an organization that engages in various forms of cultural activism like art school for kids, study circle and seminars about contemporary issues, music events. They write and perform songs about contemporary issues in Bangladesh like the conservation of the environment and natural resources, workers safety, workplace violence, low wages of workers of different sectors, against open pit coal mines, and protest songs about the communal attacks on indigenous people and minority communities.

Umiigpaw is a transwoman artist who focuses on themes of struggle and revolution, inspired by the works of revolutionary Filipino artists Renz Lee and Parts Bagani, and social realist paintings of Antipas Delotavo. Her activism gravitates towards peasant communities, weaving their stories of losses and victories and aiming to do her part in the development of revolutionary consciousness among the people and within herself.



Shades of Anger

Rafeef Ziadah

Allow me to speak my Arab tongue
before they occupy my language as well.
Allow me to speak my mother tongue
before they colonise her memory as well.
I am an Arab woman of color.
and we come in all shades of anger.
All my grandfather ever wanted to do
was wake up at dawn and watch my grandmother kneel and
pray
in a village hidden between Jaffa and Haifa
my mother was born under an olive tree
on a soil they say is no longer mine
but I will cross their barriers, their check points
their damn apartheid walls and return to my homeland
I am an Arab woman of colour and we come in all shades of
anger.
And did you hear my sister screaming yesterday
as she gave birth at a check point
with Israeli soldiers looking between her legs
for their next demographic threat
called her baby girl "Janeen".
And did you hear Amni Mona screaming
behind their prison bars as they teargassed her cell
"We're returning to Palestine!"
I am an Arab woman of colour and we come in all shades of
anger.
But you tell me, this womb inside me
will only bring you your next terrorist
beard wearing, gun waving, towelhead, sand nigger
You tell me, I send my children out to die
but those are your copters, your F16's in our sky
And let's talk about this terrorism business for a second



Wasn't it the CIA that killed Allende and Lumumba
and who trained Osama in the first place
My grandparents didn't run around like clowns
with the white capes and the white hoods on their heads
lynching black people
I am an Arab woman of colour and we come in all shades
of anger.
"So who is that brown woman screaming in the
demonstration?"
Sorry, should I not scream?
I forgot to be your every orientalist dream
Jinnies in a bottle, belly dancer, harem girl, soft spoken
Arab woman
Yes master, no master.
Thank you for the peanut butter sandwiches
raining down on us from your F16's master
Yes my liberators are here to kill my children
and call them "collateral damage"
I am an Arab woman of colour and we come in all shades
of anger.
So let me just tell you this womb inside me
will only bring you your next rebel
She will have a rock in one hand and a Palestinian flag in
the other
I am an Arab woman of color
Beware! Beware my anger... 🌿



scan to watch

This piece was shared during a poetry jam in Taipei by **Liu Nanxi** in solidarity with Palestine. Liu Nanxi is a community art worker, researcher, curator, Hong Kong Sign Language learner, and part-time lecturer of socially engaged art in the Department of Visual Studies at Lingnan University. Since 2013, she has been involved in arts for empowerment and inclusivity initiatives. Her research and practice relates to socially engaged art, psychoanalysis, domestic violence, art therapy, Disability politics, and community arts.

INTERVIEW

Music that Liberates

a conversation with Irfan Popish



“Music and resistance have become intertwined aspects in the struggles of various historical people’s..., music can serve as a torch, igniting the spirit and inspiring people to become conscious of or get involved in the struggle movements.”

These words open “Our rhyme is our stones: An introduction to Palestine Music”; a new zine about music and the Palestinian liberation struggle from Indonesian writer Irfan Popish.

We caught up with Irfan at the Solidarity for Palestine gig held on November 12 at the Continue Studios in Taipei. Irfan was introduced to us by AMP3’s LJ Pasion who plays bass for Talahib People’s Music and Village Idiots. Irfan shared the stage at the Spin for Palestine section of the program with another Dj who goes by the name Anna. We chatted with Irfan just before his set about his work in Taipei and his zine.

AMP3: What made you decide to write “our rhyme is our stone: an introduction to Palestine music?”

Irfan: Previously I wrote this article for my final paper on Middle East studies class that I took in the Fall Semester 2022 at National Cheng Chi University, Taiwan. And following the event of Solidarity for Palestine that early November, I summarized that paper to the zine format. My friend, Willy Chen (Suck Glue Boys) who organized the event helped me to translate it to Chinese and lay out the zine.

However, my curiosity about Palestine did not come suddenly. As Indonesian Muslims, we are very familiar with this issue especially from the religious point of view. When I was an undergraduate studying international relations in 2008, I started to learn more about the political diversities in Palestine and looked at this issue from a broader angle.

Besides that, I have loved music for a long time. Since I was in elementary school, haha. And I always believed music is not a single factor, sometimes it emerges and is built to respond to socio-political situations. So I have my own pleasure to dive deep and to know more about the Palestine issue through music.



I remember I started to know Palestine music for the first time, through the underground album called “Nasheed Haraki” which was published independently in a Muslim Student Movement circle in Indonesia, maybe around 2002. In university, I watched the movie called “Slingshot Hip Hop”, a documentary about Palestine Hip Hop, and met DAM there. So these are the two pivotal gates that opened for me to know more about Palestine music.

AMP3: What would you say is the common thread weaving the songs on your playlist?

Irfan: My playlist is not 100 percent contained by the Palestinian artists. I included two artists, Morgue Vanguard (Indonesia) and The Radio Dept. (Sweden), two of my favorite artists who have a clear stance on the revolutionary movement, including Palestine. I think it would be good if I mix these tracks with the idea of Palestine music. So that's why I mixed this with poetry from Mahmoud Darwish.

And the main idea of this mixtape is about “Free Palestine and freedom for all”. That's why I repeated a sentence from Mumia Abu Jamal who said “Freedom for All” together with Fateh track. If you notice, some tracks like Everyland, also talk about this idea of ‘freedom for all’. Maybe I was influenced a lot by Fannie Lou Hamer's quote: “Nobody's Free Until Everybody's Free!” Hahaha.

Other than that, I also see Zionism as equal to fascism, so I ended my set with Death to Fascism by The Radio Dept.



AMP3: How would you describe the progressive or people's music scene in Taipei?

Irfan: In my experience as a foreigner living in Taipei, I think the Taipei scene is quite good enough to collaborate between music and progressive ideas. Even not only music, but many other art forms too. I found a lot of people who have a good idea to create an event like this. Like for example, punk collective Suck Glue Boys, or tent theater Taiwan Haibizi or Potestas Creative, woodcut print collective Print and Carve Dept, or self-organized collective who raise concerns about migrant workers issues such as Trans-Voices Projects. Not to mention some spaces that you can find in almost every city in Taiwan like Halfway Cafe in Taipei or Jiang Shan Yi Gai Suo in the city that I live in, Hsinchu. So Taiwan is very open to ideas like these.



scan to listen to
the playlist



scan to read
Irfan's zine

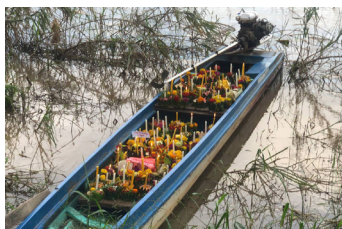
Tracklist:

1. DAM - Dedication/Ihda (Intro)
2. Shadia Mansour - El Kuffiye Arabeyye
3. El-Funoun Palestinian Popular Dance Troupe - Ahh! My Free Homeland
4. Rim Banna, Bruno Cruz, Ministry of Dubkey, Mahmoud Darwish - The Sun of Love/Palestine
5. Morgue Vanguard, Still, Mumia Abu Jamal - Fateh Dedication
6. Sadaaqa - Shalabiyah
7. 47Soul - Everyland
8. Checkpoint 303, Wardeh Sbeit - My Homeland
9. The Radio Dept., Ministry of Dubkey, Mahmoud Darwish - Death to Fascism/Love & Hope

IN PHOTOS:

Cultural protest actions for Palestine

AMP3 members join and launch protests in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Hong Kong, and the Philippines to amplify the call for peace and justice in Palestine.





art by JL Burgos



AMP3's Statement on Palestine

Asian Music for Peoples' Peace and Progress (AMP3) supports an immediate ceasefire in Gaza to enable the entry and distribution of humanitarian aid. We support the protection of civilians in the conflict. We support a peaceful and just resolution to this conflict.

We support the struggle for land, cultural heritage, and identity of the Palestinian people.

From Delhi to Dili
Bangkok to Bali
From Darwin to Dhaka
Jakarta to Manila
From Phnom Penh to Vientiane
Taipei to Chiang Mai
From Tokyo to Naypyidaw

We sing in unison:
Free Gaza! Free Palestine!

About AMP3

AMP3 traces its history to the work of Jess Santiago in the early 80's. Jess was the coordinator of the cultural action program of Asian Cultural Forum on Development (ACFOD) from 1982-89 where he initiated network building activities and consultations among artists/cultural workers across the Asia Pacific region. ACFOD organized two regional consultations in 1986 and 1988 both held in Manila, which brought together artists from different disciplines (music, poetry, dance, theater, visual arts, film). These consultations resulted in the formation of an informal network of artists across the region.

In 2005, Jess was awarded an Asian Public Intellectual Fellowship grant by the Nippon foundation to do research and networking among musicians in the region. His API fellowship allowed Jess to reconnect with artists he met during his stint with ACFOD and reach out to a new generation of socially engaged artists.

In December 2010, a core group composed of Jess, Bong Ramilo, Joseph Purugganan, JL Burgos, Jonathan Ronquillo and Leonard Reyes from the Philippines decided to form the Asian People's Music Collective, which is now known as Asian Music for People's Peace and Progress (AMP3).

Today, AMP3 connects socially engaged musicians across Asia to produce, promote, and enrich people's music, build and strengthen its community, foster solidarity with other artists, and support local and regional struggles.

About the Asian Village Zine

Asian Village Zine is our community's JOURNAL chronicling the comings and the going's in and around our progressive music circles.

It's our COMMON CALENDAR and COMMUNITY BILLBOARD, highlighting our key activities and events.

The zine is our BULLHORN, amplifying the calls of communities and their struggles for rights and freedoms.

It's our FREEDOM WALL, where we post our photos, artworks, sketches, graffitis, slogans.

It is a SAFE SPACE, for artists to share random thoughts, reflections, insights, rants, opinions on anything and everything about people's music and our society.



scan to read our
previous issue



Be part of the next Asian Village Zine!

Connect with us at:

 fb.com/amp3page
 asianpeoplesmusicwordpress.com

