

Cite as:

Ong, Frank. 2019. The Indie Rock Music Scene in Kuala Lumpur Before 2015. *AEMR-EJ*, 3: 36-41.

THE INDIE ROCK MUSIC SCENE IN KUALA LUMPUR BEFORE 2015

Abstract

This paper is to give an overview about a specific way doing and consuming music in the Malaysian capital Kuala Lumpur. The time frame of observation is short and defined from 2009 to 2014. In this period, many changes in public life occurred, which were connected to an increasing pressure on artists who were not complying to mainstream media demands. This overview is based on a long-lasting cooperation and a steady flow of information between musicians, organizers, and the researcher. The consequences of giving this short are a list of questions and insights into the dynamics of musical expression among specific audiences and their musical idols.

Keywords

Indie Rock, Malaysia, subculture, urban music

Frank Ong

A musician with vast experience in contemporary popular music, Frank Ong (full name Frank Ong Thwee Cheen) has performed internationally including in Hong Kong, Singapore, Los Angeles, Taiwan and Malaysia. He is actively involved in the Malaysian music industry as a session musician, arranger, production and executive producer. After many years of industry experience, Frank joined the contemporary popular music education fraternity in Malaysia during the industry's early days in 2000. His research interests are contemporary popular music and culture, fusion music, Indie and mainstream music industries, and popular music semantics.

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