

# CONTEMPORARY MUSIC COMPOSITION: NAM PRIK LONG RUER OF SUAN SUNANDHA

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## ABSTRACT

"Naam Phrik Lohng Ruer Suan Sunandha," the musical composition for a motion video, was inspired by the two Thai tradition sources which are Jeen-Keb-Bup-Pha (Cīn kēb bupphā) and Nok-Jark (Nkcāk). The piece Jeen-Keb-Bup-Pha (Cīn kēb bupphā) is joyful in nature both melodically and rhythmically. In turn, Nok-Jark (Nkcāk) is slower. The composer intended to combine both elements and compose the new contemporary piece. This composition is based on the melodic lines of both traditional sources. Piccolo and Violin are the main instruments for Jeen-Keb-Bup-Pha (Cīn kēb bupphā) with the total of 37 seconds compressed from the original source of 57 seconds. Violin performs eight-note motif patterns while piccolo performs the melody to present the mood of enjoyment to convey the motion scene of preparing in the kitchen to make chili paste namely "Naam Phrik Lohng Reuua Suan Sunandha". In contrast, Nok-Jark (Nkcāk) is in the total of 20 seconds compressed from the original source of 56 seconds. As well as, in Jeen-Keb-Bup-Pha (Cīn kēb bupphā), the composer preferred to use piccolo to carry the melodic part, but harp took the role of harmony control. The Thai castanets is the main rhythmic instrument to give the hint of "Thainess" in the piece.

**Keywords:** Nam Prik Long Ruer, Suan Sunandha, Contemporary Music

## INTRODUCTION

For a creative work, Contemporary Music Composition: Nam Prik Long Ruer of Suan Sunandha, the composer was inspired by making a video soundtrack of steps of making a chili paste, and a Thai traditional songs with a new arrangement for the video as adjusting the main rhythm and a chord pattern to harmonize with story continuity of the video titled 'Nam Prik Long Ruer of Suan Sunandha.'

The chili paste namely "Naam Phrik Lohng Reuua Suan Sunandha," is recognized as one famous food with a long history to the present of Suan Sunandha Palace. The food creator was Princess Nibha Nobhadol, Princess of Uthong, or Somdej Ying Noi. She wanted to cruise along the canal in the park area of Suan Sunandha Palace, and ordered Chao Chom Mom Ratchawong Sadap to take food remains in the kitchen to the Princess' boat, and that time, chili paste was the must-have food in the palace kitchen which ingredients were shrimp paste, caramelized pork, crispy fish, and salted egg yolk. The flavors of the paste must be sour, salty, and sweet. As mentioned, this is the style of the chili paste of Suan Sunandha Palace.

The composer was interested and inspired by some steps of making chili paste as bringing 2 songs, Nok-Jark Song and Jeen-Keb-Bup-Pha song, rearranged by combining western music style and the hint of Thainess to be the contemporary music titled Nam Prik Long Ruer of Suan Sunandha.

### **OBJECTIVE**

1. To be a video soundtrack of Nam Prik Long Ruer of Suan Sunand
2. To rearrange contemporary Thai music for big band music
3. To praise the value of contemporary Thai music

### **CLARIFYING CREATIVE COGNITION**

The composer brought 2 Thai songs: Nok-Jark, and Jeen-Keb-Bup-Pha songs, for rearrangement to be used in big band music. To rearrange, wind instrument would be used instead of the main melody; to arrange contemporary music, stringed instruments would be performed; and cymbals and Thai castanets would be performed as rhythmic instruments.

The sections and harmony processes are explained as below:

Section 1: The composer played the main melody of Nok-Jark song by wind instrument as the main melody of the soundtrack. To arrange contemporary music, stringed and chord instruments would be performed with the tempo 45 bpm, 00.59 minutes.

Section 2: The composer played the main melody of Jeen-Keb-Bup-Pha song by performing flute; moreover, rearranged it to be more contemporary music. The composer performed the percussion for music rhythm and the expression of steps of making chili paste with the tempo 90 bpm, 00.50 minutes.

### **COMPOSITION PROCESS**

Contemporary Music Composition of Nam Prik Long Ruer of Suan Sunandha is processed as follows:

1. Study the history of Palace people's chili paste and the other 2 songs: Nok-Jark, and Jeen-Keb-Bup-Pha songs
2. Select instruments for music performing
3. Set chord progression and rearranged main melody
4. Harmonize music
5. Check and adjust music as appropriate

## EXPECTED BENEFITS

1. Promote the music score of “Contemporary Music Composition: Nam Prik Long Ruer of Suan Sunandha” for big-band jazz or other music bands to further development in the future
2. Get the music as the video soundtrack ‘Nam Prik Long Ruer of Suan Sunandha’ and be proud to be Suan Sunandha Palace people
3. Publish music as the video soundtrack to be recognized in national and international levels.

## RESULTS

Contemporary Music Composition: Nam Prik Long Ruer of Suan Sunandha included

### Picture 1:

**The main melody in the 1st to 9th measures**

**(Krittavit Bhumithavara, Thailand, 2022)**



parts: 1) Nok-Jark Song, and 2) Jeen-Keb-Bup-Pha song. For the first part, the composer analyzed the music as followed:

Section 1: For Nok-Jark song, the composer transposed from Bb key to G key to be easy for playing. The tempo of music is 90 bpm. Initially, the composer wanted to have the music as the grand expression of Suan Sunandha Palace opening. To be Contemporary Music more, the composer used the techniques such as performing a timpani drum roll, swiping harp, trilling stringed instruments, and making soft sound from structured waves. Before the main melodic measure, the composer performed a piccolo in the first measure, and a harp performed in a counter melody as using motive repeatedly in the third, fourth and seventh, eighth measures for the first period as the picture showed below.

The violin 1 and 2 used the chord patterns: Gmaj, A-, Dmaj, A-/C, A-, and Cmaj/E, and performed viola to harmonize with harp. For the last part, harp, cymbals and Thai castanets were performed for the rhythmic control.

### Picture 2:

**The example of harmonizing between viola and harp**

**(Krittavit Bhumithavara, Thailand, 2022)**



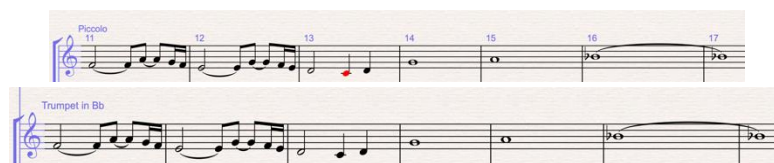
For the second half of the Nok-Jark song, the composer changed the key to C key by violin for the first three measures: Fmaj, Em, and Dm, which all of the chord progression were the major keys to the grand expression: G, A, and Bb keys. For performing a harp, the composer used gliss technique for 6 measures, and performed cello for harmonizing as the picture showed below.

**Picture 3:**  
**The example of chord progression and harmonizing**  
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For the main melody, the composer performed trumpet and piccolo as unison style to be clearer of the main melody as the picture showed below.

**Picture 4:**  
**The example of unison technique between trumpet and piccolo**  
**(Krittavit Bhumithavara, Thailand, 2022)**



For rhythmic part, the composer performed cymbals, snare drums, and timpani to make the song more perfect and the mood of arrogant. There were making a timpani drum roll technique in the fourteenth measures, crescendo technique before entering in compound time, then, continually playing until the outro as the picture showed below.

**Picture 5:**  
**The example of composition of rhythmic part**  
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Section 2: For Jeen-Keb-Bup-Pha song, the composer used Bb key in this music. The tempo of the music is 90 bpm. Melody was adjusted to be more contemporary as not based on the original melody. The author performed piccolo for melody and harmonized sound by violin.

**Picture 6:**  
**Some examples of composition of rhythmic part**  
**(Krittavit Bhumithavara, Thailand, 2022)**



**Picture 7:**  
**Some examples of melody progression**  
**(Krittavit Bhumithavara, Thailand, 2022)**



Besides, tin toms, castanets, guiro, and shaker were played as the representative of the kitchen utensil as the picture showed below.

**Picture 8:**  
**Some examples of using rhythm**  
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## **CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK**

The creative works ‘Contemporary Music Composition: Nam Prik Long Ruer of Suan Sunandha,’ divided into Section 1: Nok-Jark song melody played as the main melody, instrument performed the melody was piccolo, and the counter melody was harp. stringed and chord instruments for harmonizing were performed in G key and Bb key for the second half. The tempo of music was 45 bpm, 0.59 minutes, Section 2: Jeen-Keb-Bup-Pha song melody performed as the main melody, instrument performed the representatives of kitchen utensil was the percussion which the music was played in Bb key. The tempo of music was 90 bpm, 0.50 minutes

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