MUSIC IN THE LIFE OF BALBALASANG
A VILLAGE IN THE NORTHERN PHILIPPINES

Directed by Michiyo Yoneno-Reyes and Terada Yoshitaka | 26 mins | Produced by the National Museum of Ethnology, Japan

Balbalasang is a small village in the Province of Kalinga, Luzon Island, Northern Philippines. The film portrays the sound environment and music-making in the context of village life. Featured are gongs and bamboo instruments which generate music that are structurally related to each other but evoke highly contrasting sentiments. The gong repertoire associated with warfare and headhunting was documented in the village outskirts because playing it outside a ritual context is forbidden, but the same music was played on bamboo instruments in the residential area.

SOUNDS OF VICTORY
A KALINGA WEDDING IN THE NORTHERN PHILIPPINES

Directed by Michiyo Yoneno-Reyes and Terada Yoshitaka | 25 mins | Produced by the National Museum of Ethnology, Japan

The Kalinga have practiced Christianity since the early twentieth century while maintaining traditional customs and beliefs. This film documents a Kalinga marriage ceremony in Tabuk, which consists of the consecration of the union at a Christian church followed by an all-night gong playing and dancing at the house of the bride’s family. The sounds of gongs also evoke highly complex emotions that are informed by memories of bloody conflicts involving headhunting in the past.

About the Directors
Michiyo Yoneno-Reyes, Ph.D., Associate Professor at the Asian Center, University of the Philippines Diliman, has researched on Cordillera music and culture since the 1990s.

Terada Yoshitaka, professor in the Department of Advanced Studies in Anthropology at the National Museum of Ethnology in Osaka, Japan, holds a Ph.D. from the University of Washington. His primary areas of research are India, the Philippines, Japan, and Asian North America. His publications include the edited collection, Music and Society in South Asia: Perspectives from Japan (Senri Ethnological Studies 71, 2008). For the past 15 years, he has experimented on filmmaking methods and produced more than 30 films on musical traditions from diverse locations.

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