The Music of Malaysia, first published in Malay in 1997 and followed by an English edition in 2004 is still the only history, appreciation and analysis of Malaysian music in its many and varied forms available in English. The book categorizes the types of music genres found in Malaysian society and provides an overview of the development of music in that country. Analyses of the music are illustrated with many examples transcribed from original field recordings. Genres discussed include theatrical and dance forms, percussion ensembles, vocal and instrumental music and classical music. It is an excellent introduction to and exploration of the country’s vibrant musical culture.

This new, fully revised and updated edition includes time lines, listening guides and two audio CDs of field recordings that are analysed and discussed in the text. Ethnomusicologist Patricia Matusky (PhD, UMich, USA) focuses research and publications (1975-present) on Malay and Dayak traditional music, organology and contemporary art music of Malaysia in international journals and encyclopedias. She currently serves as Adjunct Professor in the graduate studies program of the Academy of Arts and Culture of Malaysia, a Director in the Nusantara Performing Arts Research Center (USA and Malaysia), and Vice-Chair of the ICTM Study Group on Performing Arts of Southeast Asia.

Tan Sooi Beng is Professor of Ethnomusicology at the School of Arts, Universiti Sains Malaysia. She is the author of Bangsawan: A Social and Stylistic History of Popular Malay Opera (1993) and co-author of Longing for the Past, the 78 RPM Era in Southeast Asia (2013) that won the joint Bruno Nettl Prize. Tan is a keen exponent of community engaged arts aimed at revitalizing the multiethnic traditions of Penang.

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