

KENYAN POPULAR MUSIC: THE LUO BENGA MUSIC FEMALE ARTISTS REPRESENTATION

ABSTRACT

The Luo Benga music is a genre known and played nationwide. Different artists come and go in the genre and their music is still played to the mass at different places from events to clubs and hotels too. Some of the music played is by Female musicians and a good number of people do not know them. This study focused on the Representation of the Luo Female Benga Artists with the assumption that they are few. The research aimed at understanding the reasons so as to why they are few and where are the few in existence, with the objectives as follows; a) Identify the established Luo Benga female artists and their contributions. b) Find out reasons why the Luo Benga female artists are not accorded similar spotlight as the male. c) Establish if there is an emerging community of Luo Benga artists' tradition. The study used a qualitative research method with interviews and recorded videos for data collection, as purposive sampling technique was employed. The research was conducted mainly in the Western region of the country. Nairobi was also of importance since Ketebul Studio is found in Nairobi and it has a number of documentations on the genre as well as recordings and interviewees who were also involved. It is with anticipation that this study will help to bring out the Female artists and their music hence enabling the music consumers to know them with their influence to the Luo Benga tradition.

Key word: Luo Benga, Female representation

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