

ABSTRACT

Music education in Mozambique

My doctoral research examines the relationship between classical-music education and social development. It focuses on the Xiquitsi (“Shi-keet-see”) Project in Mozambique, an emergent classical-music education and outreach project inspired by the El Sistema orchestral training program in Venezuela. The Xiquitsi Project began in 2013 and is based in the country's capital, Maputo. Running across three one-month sessions, the project provides free musical training for young Mozambicans and aims to introduce the first classical youth orchestra to Mozambique. My methodology will incorporate observation, interviews, and active participation as a trombone performer and brass pedagogue. My research explores whether classical-music education can be effectively used to contribute to social change, in terms of the benefits it can offer young people seeking social and economic advancement through learning a musical instrument. More specifically, I am interested in the implementation mechanisms of such projects, considering issues such as: how programs are engaging students and presenting classical music to potential performers and new audiences; how classical-music education is being merged with existing performance genres, both indigenous and popular; how students perceive classical music, how they learn about it, and how they imagine their futures as musicians.