

Abstract

Carrying on qualitative research conducted in Guwahati Metropolitan Area (2016-2019), the work explores the role of modern music plays in shaping and producing the urban cultural environment through focusing on specific processes of fusion and diffusion of music in the study area. The city's relationship at present time with modern music has undergone significant changes in recent years through digitisation and significant growth in the live music category focusing on urban policy to develop the field. The thesis analyses the implications of these changes in the context of the study area.

Chapter One introduces the research theme, objectives, methodology, significance, limitations of the study and literature review. Chapter Two of the thesis is composed of geo-environmental set up along with social, cultural and economic backgrounds of the study area. Chapter Three and Four provides an in depth analysis of the survey results of the work under the process of fusion, diffusion and impact of digitisation on the modern music field specifically and on society as a whole. Chapter Five is consist of the key findings of the study. Chapter Six leads to the synthesis including summary and conclusion of the entire work done. To carry out the study primary data has been collected in three phases viz. online data collection with the help of Google Form, interview with experts in the field of music and mapping of selected audio recording studios with the help of GPS. Stratified random sampling has been adopted to collect primary data from the stakeholders of the study. The stakeholders like lyricists, composers, musicians, recordists, producers, promoters, singers and listeners were recruited via e-mails, WhatsApp with prior confirmation over mobile messages or phone calls. The findings of the study reflect a very prospective field of modern music in the study area at per the global platform. The study area has been projected as a highly potential zone for fusion in modern music with great upcoming talents and growing scope in the field. At the same time the musicians are availing the international platform through digitisation which is helping to diffuse the music of the study area at a faster pace.