

Classical Roots, Electronic Branches: Exploring the Interplay between Classical Composition
and Electronic Dance Music

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Certificate

This is to certify that the dissertation entitled **Classical Roots, Electronic Branches: Exploring the Interplay between Classical Composition and Electronic Dance Music** is a bona fide record of sincere work done by, Mithun Mathew, Register Number: 210021000940, Research Centre and Postgraduate Department of English, Bharata Mata College, in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts in English Language and Literature under the Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam during the year 2021-2024.

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Declaration

I, hereby declare that the presented dissertation, **Classical Roots, Electronic Branches: Exploring the Interplay between Classical Composition and Electronic Dance Music**, is based on the research that I did on under the supervision and guidance of Ms.Sreelakshmi P, Research Centre and Postgraduate Department of English, Bharata Mata College, in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the award of the Degree of Bachelor of Arts in English Language and Literature from Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam. This is a report of my hands based on the research done on the selected topic and it is my original work and interpretations drawn therein are based on material collected by myself. It has not been previously formed basis for the award of any degree, diploma or fellowship or other similar title or recognition.

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Chapter 1

Introduction

This dissertation tries to explore the evolution of Classical music and EDM and to unveil the connections which lead to the evolution of music over time. It also deals with the rich history of Classical Music and explores the innovative world of Electronic Dance Music.

Music is a form of art which includes sound, rhythm, melody and harmony to produce expressive and meaningful compositions. It is created by modifying sound waves, usually with the help of instruments, voices, or electronic equipment. Music has been an essential part of human society, rituals, communication, amusement and expression. It has the power to create feelings, deliver ideas and stimulate creativity. “ Music should not exclusively be an amusement, or a complement, or a garment for life, music has to be an important part of life itself, of the life in general and of the life of each individual” (Kabalevsky 22).

Music has changed over time, embracing new genres, instruments, and approaches, from prehistoric Mesopotamia and Egypt to classical traditions in Greece and Rome, as well as the mediaeval, Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and modern periods. These days, it spans a wide range of global genres and influences, demonstrating the inventiveness and diversity of human expression. India has a long and rich history of music that spans thousands of years and includes a wide range of instruments, styles, and customs. Texts like the *Vedas* and the *Natyasastra*, which dates back to more than 2,000 years, contain descriptions of ancient Indian music. These books shed light on *talas*, or rhythmic cycles, and *ragas*, or melodic frameworks, among other theoretical components of music. Indian music saw tremendous transformation in

the nineteenth and twentieth centuries as a result of western music influences and technical breakthroughs. Traditional Indian music was preserved and codified in large part by the efforts of individuals such as Vishnu Narayan Bhatkhande and Rabindranath Tagore. Indian music is still evolving today, fusing contemporary inventions with classical components. It is still an essential component of Indian culture, with many local and modern styles coexisting with the ancient customs.

Indian classical music has a long and illustrious history that goes back thousands of years. Complex rhythms, elaborate melodies, and a strong spiritual connection define it. There are tight guidelines for both composition and improvisation, and a range of instruments, including the flute, sarod, veena, sitar, and tabla, are used. Indian classical music has evolved over centuries by the contributions of several musicians and intellectuals, and it has its roots in ancient Hindu scriptures. It fulfils spiritual and contemplative functions in addition to being an amusement. Improvisation is possible within these structures as each performance is a unique investigation of a particular tala (rhythmic cycle) and raga (melodic framework). The importance of the *guru-shishya parampara* (teacher-disciple connection) is emphasised in the music, which is transmitted orally from teacher to students. It is an intricate and varied kind of art that fascinates and inspires people all around the world.

From happiness and calm to melancholy and reflection, classical music has the ability to evoke a wide range of emotions. Listeners may find great peace, inspiration, or catharsis in its complex melodies and harmonies. Classical music has a great emotional impact on people. The relaxing and soothing qualities of classical music make it a popular choice for relaxation therapy. One can feel more at ease and relaxed by listening to classical music, which can also assist in lessening tension, anxiety, and even physical discomfort. Classical music gives listeners an

opportunity to study a variety of musical traditions and styles while providing a window into many cultures and historical periods. Understanding classical works from different places and times helps people grasp artistic expression and cultural legacy on a deeper level. Classical music is a source of inspiration for many writers, artists, and other creatives. Its complexity, depth and beauty have the power to arouse imagination and creativity in people, encouraging artistic expression in a variety of mediums. Classical music also brings people together through concerts, recitals and other community events. By attending such events, it helps people to connect with others who also share the passion for music, also fostering a sense of Community and belonging.

While EDM- Electronic Dance Music is a wide genre of music which is mostly created for raves, festivals and clubs. It is known for its electronic sound production and focus on beat and rhythm. It also includes subgenres such as house, techno, trance, dubstep and Electronic Dance Music was evolved over time. Its beginning can be traced in the synthesiser and electronic instrument experiments of electronic music pioneers such as Kraftwerk, Giorgio Morodor, and Yellow Magic Orchestra in the late 1970s and 1980s. House, techno, disco, funk, and rave culture were among the musical genres and social movements that shaped the birth of EDM. In the late 2000s, the term EDM itself first appeared as a general term to describe the wide variety of electronic dance music styles and subgenres. It gained popularity at the same time as the genre had a spike in both mainstream acceptance and financial success. EDM wasn't found, but rather developed naturally over several decades through the innovative experimentation and creative exploration of producers and performers, finally coming together to form the colourful and varied music we are familiar with today.

EDM (Electronic Dance Music) has been increasingly popular in India and has taken centre stage in the nation's music industry for the past years. Electronic Dance Music gained popularity in India as a result of exposure to the music from foreign performers, events, and online sources. The positive beats and electronic sounds of EDM especially appeal to India's younger generation. As a result, EDM has become more and more well-liked as a sound choice for events, clubs, and music festivals around the country. One of the major reasons for the success of this genre has been the growth of EDM-focused music events in India, such as VHI Supersonic, Electric Daisy Carnival (EDC) India, and Sunburn Festival. These gatherings offer fans the opportunity to witness the music performed live and attract both local and international EDM artists. The diversity of the Indian EDM scene has grown along with the number of native performers who have become well-known both domestically and internationally. Pop music and Bollywood songs have been impacted by electronic dance music (EDM), which has infiltrated mainstream Indian music. This crossover has increased the genre's appeal even more.

Technological advancements, innovative artistic expression, and cultural shifts have all impacted the evolution of electronic dance music. Digital audio workstations (DAWs), synthesisers, and drum machines are just a few examples of the technological advancements that have helped shape the evolution of EDM. These instruments allow musicians and producers to explore new sounds and increase the potential of electronic music. Electronic dance music has been influenced by a wide range of musical styles, including disco, funk, house, techno, trance, dubstep, and more. The blending of numerous styles and inspirations has led to the emergence of new subgenres and creative sounds within the EDM landscape. It is now simpler for musicians to communicate ideas and trends with people worldwide because to the growth of the internet and the globalisation of music distribution. A diversified and interconnected global EDM community

has been created by EDM producers and artists from all over the world being able to collaborate and share their work more easily. In the 1980s and 1990s, the underground rave culture provided a venue for fans, producers, and DJs to get together and enjoy electronic music in a group setting. This is where electronic dance music (EDM) got its start. In addition, the club scene generated new sounds and trends within the genre. EDM's popularity has led to increased commercialization and cross-genre collaborations, which have made the genre even more varied.

The evolution of electronic dance music (EDM) can be traced back to influences and patterns found within classical music, suggesting a continuum of innovation and adaptation across different musical genres. By analysing the historical context, musical elements, and societal impacts of both Indian Classical Music and EDM, this study, by applying the theory of musicology and cultural studies tries to elucidate the interconnectedness and evolutionary trajectory of these two seemingly disparate genres, thereby revealing the underlying connections that shape the evolution of music over time. Furthermore, this research seeks to explore how these genres affect human life, shedding light on the cultural, emotional, and social significance of classical music and EDM in contemporary society.

Chapter 2

Melodic Intersections: Musicology and Cultural Studies

The academic study of music that includes many facets including its history, theory, cultural background, performance techniques, and social relevance is known as musicology. It entails examining music from several angles, such as composition, structure, interpretation, and reception. To comprehend the development and cultural significance of music, musicologists may research various musical genres, historical eras, or geographic locations. Drawing on methodologies and theories from a variety of disciplines, including history, anthropology, sociology, psychology, and cultural studies, musicology is an interdisciplinary field. Musicology opens a window into the rich tapestry of cultural influences that shaped the works of Mozart, Beethoven, and Bach, reminding us that music is not just a product of its time but a reflection of humanity's collective imagination (Irwin). The following are some important fields in musicology:

Historical Musicology: Studying the evolution of musical styles, genres, and composers across time is the main goal of historical musicology.

Ethnomusicology: Examines the social and cultural dimensions of music, examining the roles that music plays in many global communities.

Music Theory: Analysis of the harmony, melody, rhythm, and form of music is done through the lens of music theory.

Music Criticism: Assessment and interpretation of musical compositions, performances, and recordings are the tasks of music criticism, which frequently takes aesthetic principles and societal trends into account.

Music Psychology: The study of music psychology focuses on the psychological effects of music on behaviour, emotions, and thought processes.

Music Education: Music education is the study of techniques and strategies for teaching and studying music at all skill levels, starting with early childhood education.

Performance Studies: Examines how musical compositions are interpreted and performed, as well as the skills and expressive abilities of performers.

Popular Music studies: Rock, hip-hop, jazz, electronic music, and other popular music genres are among the genres that are the subject of popular music studies.

In general, musicology is a field that includes a variety of techniques and perspectives, reflecting the various ways that people listen to and interpret music. According to Richard Middleton, “Musicology is the study of music from the point of view of any of the human sciences. This means that it involves the study of music as a social, psychological, historical, cultural, aesthetic, and even neurological phenomenon” (143).

By enhancing our comprehension and appreciation of music, musicology plays a vital role in human life. This, in turn, broadens our cultural experiences and improves our wellbeing in a number of ways:

Cultural Preservation and Transmission: Understanding and recording historic musical practices, compositions, and performance techniques is one way that musicology contributes to the preservation and transmission of cultural heritage. By preserving a variety of musical traditions, this promotes cultural continuity and identity among future generations.

Artistic Expression and Creativity: Musicology offers valuable perspectives on the creative processes and inventive ideas that underlie musical compositions and performances, hence promoting artistic expression and creativity. Comprehending the theoretical, historical, and cultural backgrounds of music motivates performers and composers to experiment with and discover new ways of expressing themselves.

Cognitive Development and Education: Studies in musicology have demonstrated the beneficial effects of music-listening on cognitive development, including enhanced spatial reasoning, memory, and attention spans. Programmes for teaching music that are grounded in musicological research support students' growth on all levels by encouraging their creativity, critical thinking, and cultural literacy.

Psychological and Emotional Well-being: Music may elicit a wide range of affective reactions and emotions, and musicology enables us to comprehend the ways in which music affects our feelings.

Community Engagement and Social cohesiveness: Musicology studies how music contributes to social cohesiveness, community identity, and collective memory, among other things. Through common musical experiences, music fosters understanding, empathy, and communication among people from different social and cultural origins.

In a nutshell, musicology improves our relationship with music by helping us comprehend its historical, artistic, and psychological aspects, which in turn improves our general quality of life and sense of interconnectedness with the world.

The academic discipline of cultural studies examines how culture influences society. It looks at many facets of culture, including language, everyday activities, literature, art, and media, to see how these affect people as individuals and as a community. Cultural studies are interested in meaning-making and the ways in which culture impacts our understanding of the world (Hall 7). The quest for a more comprehensive understanding of culture outside of conventional disciplines like literature and art history led to the emergence of the multidisciplinary area of cultural studies in the middle of the 20th century. Cultural studies is concerned with all those practices, institutions and systems of classification through which there are inculcated in a population particular values, beliefs, competencies, routines of life and habitual forms of conduct (Bennett 28). Textual analysis, ethnography, semiotics, and critical theory are just a few of the many techniques and approaches it incorporates.

When it comes to music, the cultural studies in music investigate how culture, society, and identity are reflected in and influenced by music. It focuses into various aspects of music, encompassing its creation, utilisation, interpretation, and significance within particular cultural settings. The following are some major fields of study in music cultural studies:

Social and historical context: Scholars examine the ways in which politics, economics, technology, and globalisation, among other social and historical elements, have shaped music throughout history. They examine the emergence and evolution of various musical genres, styles, and practices in response to transformations in culture over time.

Identity and representation: Cultural studies of music look at how different identities—such as gender, race, ethnicity, class, and sexual orientation—are constructed and negotiated through music on both an individual and a social level. It looks into how popular culture and the media portray musicians and musical genres, and how these portrayals affect stereotypes and public opinion.

Subcultures and Communities: Scholars examine how music shapes subcultures and communities, such as youth cultures, countercultures, and marginalised populations. They investigate how, in these societies, music functions as a medium for unity in society, identity development, and cultural expression.

Globalization and hybridity: Cross-cultural adaptation, reinterpretation and hybridization of musical forms, genres and practices are all analysed by cultural studies in music. Globalisation and hybridity are particular topics of interest. It investigates the ways in which transculturation; cultural interaction and globalisation are both reflected in and aided by music.

Politics and activism: Researchers examine the ways in which music has been utilised historically for social activism, protest, and political expression. They examine how music functions in resistance movements, social movements, and revolutions as well as how it might subvert prevailing philosophies and hierarchies of power.

In general, cultural studies in music offer a framework for comprehending the complex connections that exist between culture, society, and music. It also sheds light on the ways that music both influences and is influenced by the environment. Cultural studies in music are about turning up the volume on how music both reflects and effects society. It looks into how different beats, melodies, and lyrics relate to broader cultural issues, identities, and power dynamics. The

goal of cultural studies in music is to investigate the relationships between music and the environment. It examines how the identities, values, and beliefs of those who make and enjoy music are reflected in the many genres. It's similar to putting together the meanings of the songs to learn what society and culture are saying.

Chapter 3

Musicological Analysis of Indian Classical Music and EDM

Classical music is a genre that is characterised by its adherence to established compositional and performance traditions, irrespective of its cultural background. Classical music is rooted in centuries of musical history and includes a broad variety of forms and styles. In order to portray a variety of feelings and concepts, it frequently uses complex harmonies, well-structured forms, and subtle dynamics. The study of form, harmony, melody, rhythm, Instrumentation, historical context, and other characteristics are all important components in musicological analysis of classical music. Indian classical music is analysed from multiple perspectives in musicology, including historical development, settings, complexities and performative dynamics. Analysing the modal systems, melodic patterns, and rhythmic cycles of ragas and talas, music theorists create analytical frameworks to explain and interpret the intricate structures found within. Musicology adds to a thorough understanding of Indian classical music as a vibrant and culturally relevant tradition by fusing several points of view.

From centuries of artistic creativity and cultural growth, the history of Indian classical music within the field of musicology is a fascinating journey. It starts with old Vedic texts like the Samaveda, which make references to thousands of years-old musical ideas and customs. Indian classical music evolved over time into two separate traditions: North Indian Hindustani music and South Indian Carnatic music. Whilst the styles of singing, presentation of the notes, emphasis on structure of the musical modes and instruments used in each vary, Hindustani and Carnatic music share many common features, from the raga system, to the use

of gamakas (similar to vibrato) and portamento (phrase-leading accents of rapidly increasing pitch; (Capwell 139)

Indian classical music's aesthetic ideals were shaped by early treatises like Bharatamuni's *Natyashastra*, which dates back to the second century BCE and contains core conceptions of music, dance, and drama. The music theory in the *Natyashastra* centres around three themes – sound, rhythm and prosody applied to musical texts. The text discusses gramas (scales) and murchanas (modes), mentioning three scales of seven modes (21 in total), some of which are the same as the Greek modes. The text also discusses which scales are best for different forms of performance arts. (Vatsysyan 125). Mediaeval times witnessed the appearance of major musical works such as Sarangadeva's *Sangita Ratnakara*, which codified *ragas*, *thalas*, and musical conceptions. Western musical ideas and instruments were introduced to Indian classical music during the colonial era, and by the twentieth century, the genre had seen a renaissance of invention and enthusiasm. With a wide repertory, varied performing styles, and constant exploration of new creative frontiers, Indian classical music is still a thriving, dynamic tradition in the modern era. Indian classical music has a diverse range of melodic, harmonic, and rhythmic patterns that offer a distinctive perspective for examination in the context of music theory. Indian classical music composition and improvisation are guided by melodic frameworks known as ragas. Music theorists examine ragas to comprehend their interrelationships within larger modal systems, as well as their scale patterns, distinctive phrases, and emotional connotations. Classical music encompasses a diverse range of forms and genres that showcase its versatility and breadth of expression. ("What is Classical Music?") For rhythmic improvisation and composition in Indian classical music, talas serve as the basic rhythmic cycles. A cyclical framework for musical performance is created by the set number of beats and subdivisions, accents, and rhythmic

patterns that define talas. In order to understand how melodic themes are created, expanded upon, and altered through improvisational methods like alap, jor, and gat, music theorists examine the compositional framework and melodic development of ragas. Harmonic factors are also taken into account, especially in group performances and accompaniment, even if melodic elements predominate in Indian classical music. In addition to examining the harmonic relationships between various voices and instruments in ensemble settings, music theorists can also examine the harmonic implications of melodic structures found in ragas. Indian classical music has its own distinct set of ideas, methods, and traditions. It is a sophisticated and extremely structured kind of music. Bandishes, or composed compositions, and improvisational performances are both elements of Indian classical music. Pieces of music can have preset melodies, lyrics, and rhythmic patterns, and be set to particular ragas and talas. But within the parameters of a composition, artists are free to use improvisation to adorn, enhance, and expand the musical content. It's also performed by the help of instruments like sitar, tabla, sarangi, flute, Veena etc. The complex interactions between ragas, talas, improvisation, composition, instrumentation, and vocal expression in Indian classical music result in a rich and engrossing musical experience that captures the breadth and depth of Indian culture and legacy.

When it comes to EDM (Electronic Dance Music) , it is a relatively new phenomena in Indian musicology but it has had a big cultural and musical impact through its rapid evolution. When electronic music started to become more and more popular around the world in the 1980s and 1990s, it is when EDM first emerged in India. In India, electronic music genres including house, techno, trance, and breakbeat were first introduced to listeners through radio, TV, and imported recordings by foreign artists and DJs, mostly from the US, Europe, and the UK. The expansion of urban areas in India, especially in Mumbai, Delhi, Bangalore, and Pune, provided

an ideal environment for the emergence of EDM culture. Different populations came together as a result of urbanisation, which aided in the sharing of musical preferences and the development of an international clubbing and nightlife scene. A major factor in EDM's rise to popularity in India was the advancement of digital technology and the internet. Young people looking for new forms of expression, identity, and belonging found interest in EDM, which grew tightly linked to youth culture and subcultures in India. Clubs and parties using electronic dance music (EDM) evolved into places where people could express themselves, mingle, and feel euphoric together.

A distinct set of musical guidelines and conventions apply to electronic dance music. EDM often has a steady beat, usually in a 4/4 time signature, which gives a continuous pulse for dancing, in contrast to the complex rhythmic cycles of Indian classical music. The fundamental objective is to use electronic drum machines, synthesisers, and sequencers to create catchy rhythms. EDM emphasises harmonic progressions and appealing tunes more than classical music's intricate melodic ornamentations and modal improvisations. The investigation of timbre (tone colour) and sound design is a fundamental component of EDM production. Deep basslines, shimmering pads, distorted leads, and ambient effects are just a few of the unique and inventive sound textures that producers create using a variety of electronic instruments, software synthesisers, and audio effects. EDM compositions usually follow structural elements such as intro, build up, drop, breakdown and outro which makes the audience deeply fall into the performance in many dynamic ways.

All things considered, both classical music and electronic dance music (EDM) have many chances for artistic expression, inventiveness, and auditory exploration, despite differences in their musical languages, approaches, and cultural settings. EDM is a global phenomenon that has

been embraced by a wide range of people worldwide. Its emphasis on rhythm, tone, and electronic production techniques reflect its roots in modern music technology.

Even if both Classical music and EDM seems in two extremes they poses some connections which is unknown for many. While the melodic language and construction of Indian classical music and EDM are very different, there are several cases where Indian classical music melodies have been used into EDM works. A blend of cultural and auditory elements can be achieved by EDM producers by incorporating vocalisations, melodies, or samples of Indian classical instruments into their tunes. Spiritual and Emotional expression is another connection. Like classical music, electronic dance music (EDM) can elicit strong emotional and spiritual responses in listeners—albeit through various channels and settings. EDM music can put listeners into a trance-like condition with its throbbing rhythms and repeating beats, which resemble the rhythmic cycles of classical music in terms of transcendence and immersion. EDM's constant groove can cause listeners to feel more euphoric and physically released, allowing them to lose themselves in the music and connect with other raver people and the dance floor. In the world of EDM, musicology unveils the transformative power of technology, where laptops and MIDI controllers become instruments of expression, blurring the lines between musician and machine (Sullivan). A deep emotional connection can be made with listeners through upbeat chord progressions, catchy melodies, and poignant synthesiser lines that evoke sentiments of happiness, reflection, and nostalgia. Therefore, like the classical music EDM also evoke emotional responses in listeners with its melodic hooks and harmonic progressions. Another one is the narrative and dramatic arc. Dramatic and narrative arcs that develop during a composition are characteristics shared by classical music and electronic dance music. To craft fascinating musical storylines, classical composers frequently use topic development, dynamic

contrast, and structural tension. EDM producers do the same, creating songs that captivate listeners and hold their attention throughout by using dramatic build up, climactic dumps, and emotional payoffs. In both cases, there is an introduction, a development phase, a climax, and finally a resolution. They exhibit the universal ability of music to enthrall, inspire, and connect by evoking a variety of emotions and leading listeners on a transforming musical experience throughout this trip. Their common ideas of tension and release are among the most fascinating and little-known similarities between Electronic Dance Music (EDM) and classical music in musicology. The narrative arc of their pieces is driven by the masterful techniques used by both genres to control melodic tension and resolution, enthralling listeners.

Classical music and EDM share common threads, such as the use of musical forms, harmonic progressions, and rhythmic patterns. Moreover, both genres have undergone periods of innovation and experimentation, with composers and artists pushing boundaries and challenging conventions. Musicology provides a rich framework for analysing classical music and EDM, by looking into their historical development, cultural contexts, and artistic characteristics. By examining these genres through a musicological lens a deeper appreciation about the diversity and complexity of musical expression across different time periods and cultural contexts is possible. So, in general, despite their apparent differences, classical music and electronic dance music (EDM) have surprising connections and partnerships due to their shared musical invention, originality, and exploration. Both musicians and listeners can find new ways to express themselves artistically and appreciate music from a wide range of genres by embracing these links.

Chapter 4

Rhythms of Culture

Cultural studies is an academic discipline that covers multiple disciplines and focuses on analysing culture in all of its forms, including media, literature, art, music, film, language, identity, and daily activities. It aims to comprehend how society, politics, economy, history, and power relations both influence and are influenced by culture. According to Raymond Williams, “Cultural studies help us to see culture not as a frozen repository of unchanging values but as a site of struggle and change” (“The Analysis of Culture”). Cultural studies of Indian classical music look at the many and varied cultural settings, customs, and interpretations that surround this age-old art form. Academics in this discipline investigate several facets of Indian classical music, such as its social value, cultural roles, historical evolution, and current applicability both inside and outside of Indian society.

Significant areas of research in the cultural studies of Indian classical music are: Historical context: It investigates the historical origin and evolution and also looks at the ways that social structure, historical occurrences, and cross-cultural interactions have influenced the repertory, performance techniques, and aesthetics of the music.

Social and cultural significance: Cultural studies scholars explore the social and cultural roles played by Indian classical music in a variety of settings, such as public concerts, private parties, courtly patronage, and religious rites. They also examine the ways in which music contributes to cultural expression, identity development, and community building.

Globalization and Transnationalism: Cultural studies experts examine the ways in which globalisation and transnational cultural flows have affected the spread of Indian classical music, notably through the use of digital media, diasporic groups, and intercultural partnerships. They explore the contradictions between tradition and innovation in an increasingly globalised society, as well as the interactions between Indian classical music and international music markets, tourism, and cultural diplomacy.

Audience reception and Consumption: They explore the role of technology, media, and live performance in mediating audience experiences, as well as the significance of music education and cultural institutions in cultivating appreciation and understanding.

In the field of cultural studies, Indian classical music has a significant impact on human life and activities, influencing a variety of facets of society, identity, and experience. Indian classical music is fundamentally a cultural legacy that reflects centuries of tradition, philosophy, and aesthetic sense rather than merely a kind of entertainment. The spiritual and emotional well-being of individuals is shaped by Indian classical music, which offers a means of transcendence and inner serenity. Scholars examine how Indian classical music can be therapeutically effective, delving into how its complex melodies, rhythmic patterns, and emotive aspects can elicit a wide range of feelings. This is done within the framework of cultural studies. Indian classical music stimulates listeners' spiritual and emotional development by taking them on a deep emotional journey, from the calm of a morning raga to the excitement of a fast-paced *thala*. Indian classical music is essential to the formation of cultural identity and legacy. It passes down customs, traditions, and stories from one generation to the next through the melodic and rhythmic nuances of its intricate melody. Cultural studies in relation with music look into the ways that Indian classical music helps people feel like they belong, that it keeps them connected to their cultural

history, and that it makes them proud of it. Indian classical music is a symbol of cultural resilience and continuity, whether it is played in a village courtyard or a concert hall. It represents the complex fabric of Indian culture. Indian classical music promotes community bonding and social unity in Indian society. Additionally, it promotes education and learning by providing chances for creativity, intellectual stimulation, and personal development. As a bridge between various cultures and traditions, Indian classical music promotes intercultural communication and exchange. Thus, Indian classical music shapes people's spiritual, emotional, social, and intellectual aspects of life and activities in the field of cultural studies. It has a multifarious effect. It is a manifestation of India's cultural legacy, promoting a feeling of self, belonging, and interdependence among people and communities. Indian classical music has the power to uplift, enrich, and bring people together from all walks of life with its ageless melodies and eternal rhythms.

Cultural studies of electronic dance music, or EDM, in India would look at how the genre has changed over time and impacted different aspects of Indian culture. Topics including the blending of electronic beats with traditional Indian music, the growth of EDM festivals and clubs, the influence of EDM on young culture, and the place of Indian DJs and producers in the world of EDM might all be covered. The following are some significant points about cultural studies of EDM in India: Fusion of Traditional Music: Explores how EDM producers in India incorporate elements of traditional Indian music such as classical instruments, folk rhythms, and vocal samples into their tracks. Rise of EDM Festivals: Looks at how EDM events like Sunburn, VH1 Supersonic, and Electric Daisy Carnival India have grown and how they've affected young culture, travel, and the music industry. The rise of EDM festivals like Sunburn and VH1 Supersonic has transformed India into a global destination for electronic music enthusiasts,

fostering cultural exchange and tourism (Lobo). **Impact on Youth Culture:** Examines how EDM music, fashion, and lifestyle—particularly among urban millennials and Gen Z—have evolved into emblems of youth revolt, independence, and self-expression in India. **Club Culture:** Talks about the rise of EDM-focused clubs and events in India’s major cities and how they’ve influenced the country’s youth population’s social life and nightlife. **Globalization and Localization:** Investigates how Indian EDM artists navigate between global trends and local tastes, and how they infuse their music with elements of Indian culture while still appealing to international audiences. **Socioeconomic Factors:** Takes into consideration the socioeconomic backgrounds of Indian EDM artists and fans, as well as the ways in which their engagement with the genre is influenced by class, gender, and urbanisation. **Digital platforms and Social media:** Examines how digital platforms and social media are used to promote EDM music, events, and culture in India. Also consider how these channels affect fan communities and audience participation

Electronic dance music, or EDM, has a big impact on a lot of different parts of life in India. It interacts with socio-cultural phenomena like gender and class. EDM culture’s capacity to promote community development and social cohesiveness is among its most noteworthy effects. EDM parties and festivals provide as venues for people to come together from all walks of life who are passionate about dancing, music, and shared experiences. People from various socioeconomic origins can meet and connect on a common cultural platform at these events, which frequently cross class lines. It’s important to pay attention to the gender dynamics present in EDM culture. Gender representation and inequality problems still exist in it, despite the increasing number of female DJs, producers, and enthusiasts who are defying conventional gender conventions. The need for more inclusivity and gender diversity within the scene is

highlighted by the preponderance of male musicians as well as the ubiquity of gendered stereotypes in EDM imagery and marketing materials. In addition, the persistence of urban-rural differences is facilitated by the urban-centric nature of EDM culture in India. Large EDM festivals and clubs are mostly found in urban areas, making them inaccessible to people who live in rural or semi-urban locations. This regional discrepancy highlights the larger socioeconomic disparities that influence access to leisure activities and cultural consumption patterns in various parts of the nation. EDM in India presents prospects for artistic expression and cultural hybridity, apart from these obstacles. A vibrant process of cultural interchange and identity reimagining is shown in the blending of electronic beats with traditional Indian musical elements.

Moreover, EDM culture in India has grown to become an environment for advocacy and social activism. EDM concerts frequently function as platforms for generating awareness and rallying support for a variety of social concerns, from advancing environmental sustainability to supporting LGBTQ+ rights and mental health awareness. The relationship between social activism and EDM emphasises how music and cultural movements have the power to spark social change and advance larger conversations about socio-political issues.

Therefore, electronic dance music (EDM) has a profound impact on human existence in India, moulding social relationships, cultural identities, and socio-political dialogue. Its influence on elements of cultural studies such as class, gender, and urban-rural dynamics highlights the necessity of a comprehensive knowledge of the ways in which music and culture interact with more general socio-cultural realities in modern Indian society.

Thus, the study of culture in Indian classical music and EDM offers a nuanced understanding of how music intersects with and influences culture. By examining music within its broader

cultural contexts, the ways in which music reflects and shapes cultural identities, values, and practices, ultimately contributing to a deeper appreciation of the role of music in society is understood.

Chapter 5

Conclusion

Music has a profound impact on our existence and can take many forms that enhance our relationships and lives. A noteworthy feature of music is its capacity to function as a very powerful means of expressing feelings. Melody, harmony, rhythm, and lyrics all work together in complex ways to create music that can elicit a wide range of emotions, from intense melancholy to wild joy. It gives people a way to express and deal with their emotions; it offers consolation in times of grief, inspiration in times of reflection, and joy in times of celebration.

In its most basic form, music is a group of structured sounds that are frequently produced by instruments, voices, or electronic devices and are composed using structure, melody, harmony, rhythm, and timbre. But it's important that these sounds produced by instruments and voices which are composed using melody, harmony, rhythm and so on has multiple advantages and usages. Music is a lifelong companion that can be relied upon in difficult times, inspired during thoughtful periods, and enjoyed in joyful moments. Its melodies and rhythms allow individuals of different backgrounds to unite in sharing feelings of amazement and beauty despite linguistic and cultural barriers. Our hearts are consecrated by music, which uplifts us with its captivating harmonies and timeless melodies and serves as a continual reminder of the human spirit's boundless capacity for sound creation and communication.

Both electronic dance music (EDM) and classical music are separate genres that add to the rich fabric of music in different ways and are important for elevating the subject of music in general.

Classical music has a vast history that extends centuries and is an essential part of musical legacy since it embodies the pinnacle of technical skill and artistic expression. A diverse range of works from many times and styles are included in it. Classical music enhances the conversation about music because it showcases the highest calibre of artistry, innovation, and workmanship. Its timeless melodies, rich harmonies, and complex structures inspire listeners and musicians alike and show off the infinite possibilities of musical expression.

Electronic Dance Music (EDM), on the other hand, is a contemporary and vibrant genre that arose from the electronic music scene. It is distinguished by its synthetic sounds, pulsing rhythms, and contagious energy. Pushing the limits of technological innovation and auditory experimentation, electronic dance music elevates the theme of music. Encouraging artists to create immersive and exciting soundscapes that attract audiences worldwide, it incorporates the newest developments in digital technologies and music production techniques. Electronic dance music's (EDM) contagious beats and blissful melodies have revolutionised modern music, impacting mainstream society and reshaping our perception of music in the digital era. Classical and EDM music together highlight the variety and development of musical expression, illustrating the timeless ability of music to uplift, inspire, and bring people from all backgrounds and generations together. Technological advancement, invention, and energy are represented by EDM music, whereas tradition, sophistication, and artistic refinement are embodied in classical music. We learn more about the range and profundity of human creativity in the field of music when we recognise and celebrate the distinctive contributions made by both genres.

Classical Music has a long tradition and history. While EDM, Electronic Dance Music, has come up in the contemporary age. Therefore, EDM does not have any direct root from Classical music; it poses some influence of Classical music within Musicology. The idea of composition

and arrangement is one of the key ways that classical music influenced the emergence of EDM. Classical music has impacted the way EDM producers approach their art because of its focus on complex harmonies, structured forms, and theme development. Using well-known structures like sonata-allegro, theme and variations, or fugue, composers of classical music carefully organise their works. Throughout a composition, these forms offer a structure for arranging melodic concepts and advancing motifs. Similar to this, EDM producers frequently use structural components like build up, breakdown, drop, and intro to make tracks that are captivating and dynamic. The fundamental ideas of composition and organisation are the same even though the forms of EDM and classical music may vary. EDM and classical music are examined harmonically and melodically by musicologists, who demonstrate how each genre uses chord progressions, melodic themes, and thematic development to build tension and atmosphere in their works. Furthermore, the analysis of performance practices reveals that, in contrast to EDM performances, which emphasise DJ sets and electronic production with a focus on mixing, remixing, and live sound manipulation, classical music frequently features live instrumental performance with an emphasis on precision and expression. Musicologists may better grasp the relevance of classical music and EDM within the study of musicology by looking at cultural context, reception, and critique. This allows them to see how these genres both reflect and influence larger social, political, and economic processes. Through examining the similarities and differences between these two genres, researchers can obtain a comprehensive understanding of how music both shapes and reflects larger social, cultural, and historical processes. All things considered, the integration of EDM and classical music into the study of musicology advances our knowledge of music as dynamic, multidimensional phenomena that are more inclusive and nuanced.

Even though their styles and contexts seem different, both classical music and electronic dance music (EDM) have a significant impact on human life. Deep relationships can be made with listeners through both genres' ability to elicit intense emotional reactions. The complex compositions and poignant performances of classical music, with its centuries-old heritage and wide repertory, can evoke sentiments of melancholy, reflection, or exultation among listeners. Similar to this, Electronic Dance Music (EDM) can evoke feelings of joy, excitement, or catharsis through its throbbing rhythms and ecstatic melodies, energising listeners and uniting them in celebrated moments of release. Additionally, both classical and EDM music promote interpersonal connections and communal integration. People can connect and enjoy live music by going to chamber music recitals, operas, and classical music concerts. This fosters a sense of cultural identity and community. On the other hand, EDM events-dance clubs, music festivals, and get-togethers with electronic music offer spaces where people may come together due to their shared passion for dance and music, removing barriers between different age, racial, and social groups and fostering vibrant, friendly communities.

Also, listeners may have spiritual and transcendent experiences when they are exposed to either classical music or EDM. Classical music may take listeners to deep states of reflection and introspection, offering comfort and a spiritual connection through its appreciation for tradition, beauty, and transcendence. On the dance floor, EDM can also create states of ecstatic release and spiritual connection because to its emphasis on rhythm, energy, and ecstasy. These moments are known as transcendence and freedom.

In conclusion, although classical music and electronic dance music may have different aesthetic attributes, cultural backgrounds, and historical legacies, they both have the power to impact human existence through emotional resonance, social interaction, cognitive stimulation,

and spiritual inspiration. Both genres strengthen the universal significance of music as a transforming force in our lives by adding to the richness and diversity of human expression as essential parts of the larger musical landscape. Thus, with this dissertation, the evolution of Classical Music and EDM (Electronic Dance Music) in India is analysed and it also brings out the lesser known connections between the Classical Music and EDM, even though both are two worlds apart.

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