

Sub- Saharan Music Culture



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Instruments

In the south of Africa they use a few different types of instruments.

The jellyfish: The jellyfish comes in many shapes and sizes (as shown below) they make a sound like a maraca but deeper.



Voices: voices are the musical instrument that everyone has. Some low pitched, some high pitched and some in-between. Singing is often the light and soul of the party.

Cow bells: Cow bells generally are used as

a backing rhythm.



Djembes: djembes are an un-pitched percussion. They are used for the main beat and the rhythms. You can get higher pitched sounds by hitting around the outer rim and lower pitches by hitting in the middle (base and tone)



Hit here for
lower
pitched
sounds

Hit here for
the tone
sound

Hit here for
the base
sound



The geography of it



Africa



= Above Saharan



= Sub-Saharan

The place we are focusing on in music is the Sub-Saharan. This is to the south of the Saharan desert. The continent is Africa. For this unit we will have to sing, dance and play music. This is what the people do as they perform their music.

Tribal music over the centuries

Over the centuries tribal music has spread all over the world. It has always been a massive part of the peoples day to day life. When explores came, the music started to spread across the world.



What are the various features of instrumental and vocal music?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8gu4b0XP30U&index=1>

Their music is unique to their community and they all seem to enjoy what they are doing. The tempo is allegretto and the music is forte. There is a build up of the texture as the music progresses. In this one there is no vocal music. They are all standing up in the video and they use xylophone type things to make their music. Here is a screenshot of it.



Similarities and differences of the south and north music

1. <http://www.folkmusicvideos.com/southern-africa-folk-music-videos/>

-Southern Africa 2011; Local dancers performing traditional music and dance

2. <http://www.folkmusicvideos.com/central-africa-folk-music-videos/>

-African folk music in Prague/CZ 2010

South (1.)	similarities	North (2.)
-drumming and other instruments -singing -dancing Lively -polyrhythmic -steady beat -fast	-drumming -dancing -polyrhythmic -steady beat -fast	-drumming and dancing -loud - polyrhythmic -steady beat -fast

What is music used for, where is it performed and who by?

The music is an important part of life for the people of Africa. No matter where you go in Africa, the music is always different. The music brings the community together and when a group of people start



performing, everyone joins in. The people sing dance and play at the same time. No matter how tall, small, thin or fat you are, everyone plays a part and no one is left out. Music is performed anywhere and is used for everything from a festival to cheering up the community. Music is probably played everyday and most of the instruments are probably handmade. The music is native to Africa.

Glossary

Sub-Saharan: below the Saharan desert.

Culture: the way certain people live their life.

Community: people of the village.

Handmade: made by hand.

Native: made/ born in that country/ only found in that country

Vocal: voice

Allegretto: quite fast, merrily

Forte: loud

Resources

<https://www.bing.com/images/search?view=detailV2&ccid=XSFnaCtH&id=EA3C0B0D8E5867A5467368A614341F60292E0A46&thid=OIP.XSFnaCtH1TVx5YKhOCwthQHaHa&q=african+drums&simid=608043658894511717&selectedIndex=4>

<https://www.bing.com/images/search?view=detailV2&ccid=8A00fEhh&id=E371A04718BE928D86E3CD478FC249A6D173B1E7&thid=OIP.8A00fEhhEftzQ08LWHEr3wAAAA&q=the+jellyfish+african+musical+instrument&simid=608014655137124010&selectedIndex=0>

<https://www.bing.com/images/search?view=detailV2&ccid=mII1VeK8&id=2ECF523E74A062A151F5CFF7BAC34EF022944AEA&thid=OIP.mII1VeK81nYIKUcc9AYZAAHaEK&q=the+jellyfish+african+musical+instrument&simid=608017760371083428&selectedIndex=5&mediaurl=https%3A%2F%2Fi.ytimg.com%2Fv%2FSnE50Ho7RYM%2Fmaxresdefault.jpg&exph=1080&expw=1920>

https://www.bing.com/images/search?view=detailV2&ccid=8fwsnoc%2B&id=AEEA4F57AA9A1C3B864670B9B4B10EA1934CD978&thid=OIP.8fwsnoc-MJoEw5VcApWsJgHaHa&q=people+singing&simid=608026492038152529&selectedIndex=33&mediaurl=http%3A%2F%2Ffree bridal-shower-themes.com%2Fimg%2Fpictures-of-people-singing-karaoke_2.jpg&exph=491&expw=491

https://www.bing.com/images/search?view=detailV2&ccid=c4e5aPPi&id=86BC6A643E4B5B3FB969A0755B7F903761D682F2&thid=OIP.c4e5aPPieFmW96oP0_5qkgHaHa&mediaurl=http%3A%2F%2Fmedia.musiciansfriend.com%2Fis%2Fimage%2FMMGS7%2FECB22-Hand-Held-Agogo-Bell%2F448268000000000-00-750x750.jpg&exph=750&expw=750&q=agogo+bells&simid=608039179424826466&selectedIndex=1&ajaxhist=0

https://www.bing.com/images/search?view=detailV2&ccid=c4e5aPPi&id=86BC6A643E4B5B3FB969A0755B7F903761D682F2&thid=OIP.c4e5aPPieFmW96oP0_5qkgHaHa&mediaurl=http%3A%2F%2Fmedia.musiciansfriend.com%2Fis%2Fimage%2FMMGS7%2FECB22-Hand-Held-Agogo-Bell%2F448268000000000-00-750x750.jpg&exph=750&expw=750&q=agogo+bells&simid=608039179424826466&selectedIndex=1&ajaxhist=0

https://www.bing.com/images/search?view=detailV2&ccid=p8o5w%2bu%2f&id=B4663E1DE91E89EEF0AD3802773290DB14B6A0A9&thid=OIP.p8o5w-u_I2qX-

<https://www.bing.com/images/search?view=detailV2&ccid=GBWfdrrbbjsE%2fSbRkX349yNI%2fAAAAAAAUAU%2fusiY0zrOmno%2fs1600%2fafrica-map->

<https://www.bing.com/images/search?view=detailV2&ccid=Sahara%25253Dyellow.GIF&exph=563&expw=502&q=map+of+africa+with+sahara+desert&simid=608019431095470484&selectedIndex=0&ajaxhist=0>

<https://i.ytimg.com/vi/Ag6y6jz7bQQ/hqdefault.jpg>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8gu4b0XP30U&index=1>

https://www.bing.com/images/search?view=detailV2&ccid=fFhI0rzD&id=90BDE4B688E96D8E7AB2D18FBD9992248569420D&thid=OIP.fFhI0rzDei_sYcfoKTjFTAHaE7&mediaurl=http%3a%2f%2f4.bp.blogspot.com%2f-

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