

RHYTHMS OF THE WORLD

Shared terms:	The aural tradition	Call and Response
	Improvisation	Ostinato
	Syncopation	Drone
	Cross-rhythm	Homophonic
	Polyrhythm	Polyphonic
	Irregular	
	time signatures	Microtone
	Occasion	Accents
	Modes	

African Music

Used for a range of occasions (weddings, funerals, call people together, send messages)

Main drum types: **Djembe** (hand drum); **Talking Drum**

Djembe technique (**slap – tone – bass**)

Master Drummer (leads the group)

Call & Response – Question & Answer

Layers of rhythmic cycles create **polyrhythms** and **cross rhythms**

A **cappella** singing is common.



Calypso Music

Comes from the Trinidad & Tobago (Caribbean)

Songs have a verse chorus structure

The texture can be **Homophonic** (melody + accompaniment) or **Polyphonic** (lots of countermelodies).

A calypso band has a **wide range of instruments**: bass guitar, acoustic/electric guitar, brass (trumpets & trombones),

Percussion instruments include: **Bongos, Claves, Maracas,**

Conga drums and **Steel Pans**. **Steel Pans** are tuned

(Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and are played with mallets.

Pan techniques: **tremolo/rolling**;



Samba:

From **Brazil** and is a dance music that is often associated with **carnivals**.

Due to its **slave trade** origins, it shares many aspects with **African** music.

Usually in 2 or 4 beats per bar. It is often fast.

A range of instruments may be used, but Samba is dominated by Percussion instruments (**Surdo, Timbale, Repinique, Tamborim, Agogo, Claves, Cow-bell**)

Samba uses **call & response** (between the leader and the group).

The leader uses a **whistle** to signal to the group

Samba is **polyrhythmic** and **syncopated** (Like African Drumming)

Indian Classical Music

Raga: Scale (there are many ragas - they represent the season, time of day, mood etc.)

Tala: a pattern of beats that set the rhythm of a piece

Drone: the harmony (in the background)

Improvisation: based on both the raga and the tala

Music is passed on by the aural tradition (not written down)

Sitar (Melody); **Tambura** (Harmony/Drone); **Tabla** (sets the rhythm -Tala)

Indian Classical music influenced Pop/Rock: The Beatles with **Ravi Shankar**



Bhangra

Originally a folk dance

Fast paced from **Punjab**

Celebration Music (Harvest, Wedding, New Year)

Basic rhythm played by the **Dhol** player (often using **polyrhythms**, **cross-rhythms**, **syncopation**)

Chaal: An eight note repeated pattern (quavers are swung like in jazz and blues)

Modern Bhangra style developed in the 1970s/80s in the UK

Modern Bhangra **fuses** Punjabi folk music with western Instruments and technology: electric guitar, keyboard, samples, drum machines, DJ techniques (mixing, scratching)



Greek Music

Bouzouki (Stringed) **Outi (Oud)** (String) **Defi**
(tambourine)

Modes used (instead of major or minor scales)

Irregular time signatures are used

Palestinian Music

Often in **irregular** time signatures (i.e. 7/4 or 7/8)

Modes are used which contain **microtones**

Often **monophonic** (no harmony) often by lots of instruments. If some individuals **improvise** by adding **ornaments** the texture is called **heterophonic**

Instruments: Stringed - **Zither, Oud**; Wind/Pipe - **Mizmar**; Percussion - **Doumbek, Deff**

Israeli Music

Lots of different influences due to emigration to Israel in the 20th Century = lots of different instruments used

Klezmer is a music that uses clarinet, violin, double bass, guitar and accordion (originally from Romania)

