

Ancient musical Sicilian Instruments

Hello! Our names are Zaida and Andrea . We live in Trapani ,Italy. Andrea is twelve and I'm thirteen. We are very interested in music : pop and rock music. My favourite singers are Fedez and Babik and Andrea's favourite singer is Justin Bieber; but with our music teacher we are studying some folk musical instruments and...we like them... Some of them are very old, may be our ancestors used them, but now we are discovering their existence and their sounds. It is difficult to translate their names but we are trying to explain what they are and how they are used.

The first, we want to talk about is the "ciaramedda". You can find it in some rural zones of the south of Italy and in Sicily. It is linked to agro-pastoral civilization and you can find it only in ethno-anthropologic museums together with other instruments like: flute" aparo" , marranzanu, tambourines, the "quartane", the "troccole". You can find it at Christmas time used to play the Christmas carols ; the ciaramedda or bagpipe belongs to the group of oboe, the characteristic leather bag , it becomes deflated by means a pipe that works as an air chamber.



Ciaramedda

Marranzanu



The second one is the " the marranzanu" or" mariolu"; it is an old aéro phone musical instrument, with a particular kind of sound ,it consists in a metallic support in a horseshoe shaped ,in it, is fixed a steel thin plate. The marranzanu is played putting the support into the mouth and making the thin plate vibrating with a finger, meanwhile you let the air go out from your diaphragm. the sound that you can hear is very particular and unique. This instrument has Arabian origin and was used in agro-pastoral zones.