From body sounds to sound bodies

The way that a primeval scream became computerized symphonic sounds

1. The origin of music

1.1. It sounds like music in the ears
1.2. From voice that produces sounds to objects that can be played
1.3. The first objects which can be played

2. Wonderful pallet of sounds...

2.1. ...caused by air
2.2. ...by material making noise
2.3. ...by vibration of a tense membrane
2.4. ...by the trembling of strings
2.5. ...created electronically

3. Prehistoric and ancient civilizations noises

3.1. From assault weapons to musical objects
3.2. Divine sound, songs for dance and instrumental melodies from the Middle East
3.3. Art of the muses in classical Greece
3.4. Musical life in ancient Rome

4. Experiences in the Far East, America and Africa

4.1. The well-known melodic talas an ragas from India
4.2. The important influence on the music from the Far East and Asia
4.3. Music cultures on the American and Australian continent
4.4. Penetrating African rhythms and tones for communication

5. European first millennium music

5.1. Church canto, in which instruments are artistic accessory
5.2. From " a capella " to instrumental try
5.3. Minimal use of musical instruments as accompaniment to singing

6. From minstrel poetry to the swinging sounds of today

6.1. Ode to the postman
6.2. Intense musical activities in Europe
6.3. Rise of the ensemble and instrumental explosion
6.4. The " Sturm und Drang " period conquers
6.5. The complexity of the romance
6.6. First means of communication spread the beautiful sounds
6.7. From classical music to contemporary songs

7. What is learned in this cradle is carried to the tomb

7.1. A musical childhood that comes true
7.2. Everybody wants to become a master, few will be chosen
7.3. Musicians meet each other and wonder who's the best

Musical instruments

Any object that produces sound can be considered as a musical instrument. It was through purpose that the object became a musical instrument. The history of building instruments is one of experiments, failures and retries.


EFM T29
GREETINGS TELEGRAM
MRS GREEN
12 AVENUE MANSIONS
FINCHLEY RD
NW3





" Great Britain - 1958 - Luxury telegram for St.Valentines day. Ill. little music band. It was in use for only one day. It is the most little edition ever known "

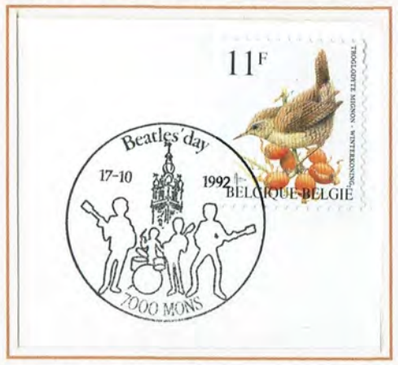
1. The origin of music

1.1. It sounds like music in the ears

What is music to the ears for one, can be for the other a horrible sound. The Beatles are magnificent for youngsters whereas for elder people their music sounds awful. Not only people produce music, but also animals such as birds.



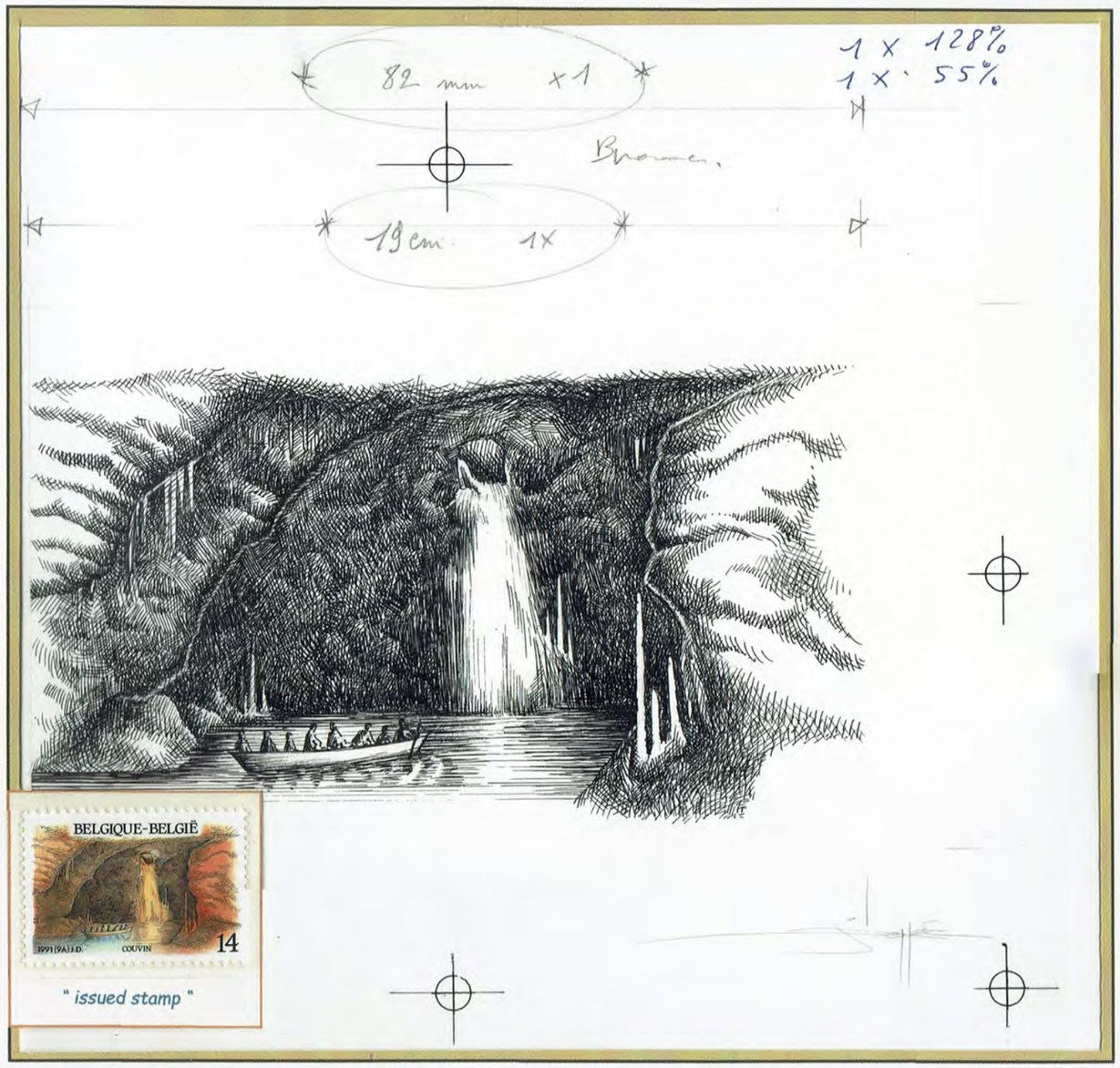
" U.S.A. - 1939 - red meter type Pitney-Bowes - ill. singing bird "



Before there was a mammal on earth, which resembled a human being, there was sound. The roaring of the wind at land or in a cave. Running water that constantly is flowing down, is whether or not an unordered noise.



" Belgium - 1991 - first version of artwork with transparent of the original drawing in India ink for combined engraved and rotogravure print. This proposition was first refused by the Belgian philatelic commission by reason of - the impression of the legs of a woman as a cascade - signed Jacques Doppé "



" issued stamp "

" Belgium - 1991 - original drawing in Indian ink for the issued stamp - Couvin - Les grottes de Neptune - signed - Jacques Doppé "

Musical instruments started as a mythological invention or as historical reality ? In the beginning there was a mythological explanation. There is told that Jubal is the father of the harp and Mercury of the lyre.



" Finland - 1976 - red meter type Pitney-Bowes - GB "5300" series "



1.2. From voice that produces sounds to objects that can be played

The first instrument was unquestionably the human voice.



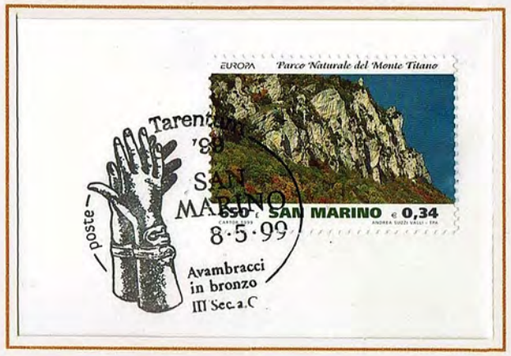






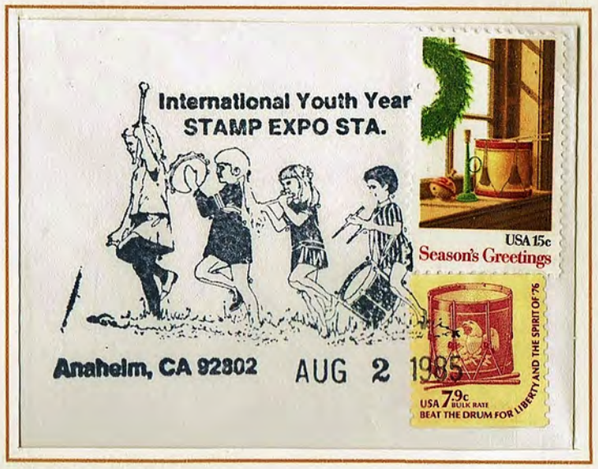
" Switzerland - 1926 - postal stationery, 10 centimes for domestic use "
" Major error - the item was already stamped a day before issue "

Ritual singings were probably accompanied by rhythmic handclaps and foot tramping. The hand clapping and the stamping with feet weren't always in the right rhythm. Thereafter they knocked on blocks of wood and stones, which produced another and a mullet sound.





" issued stamp "



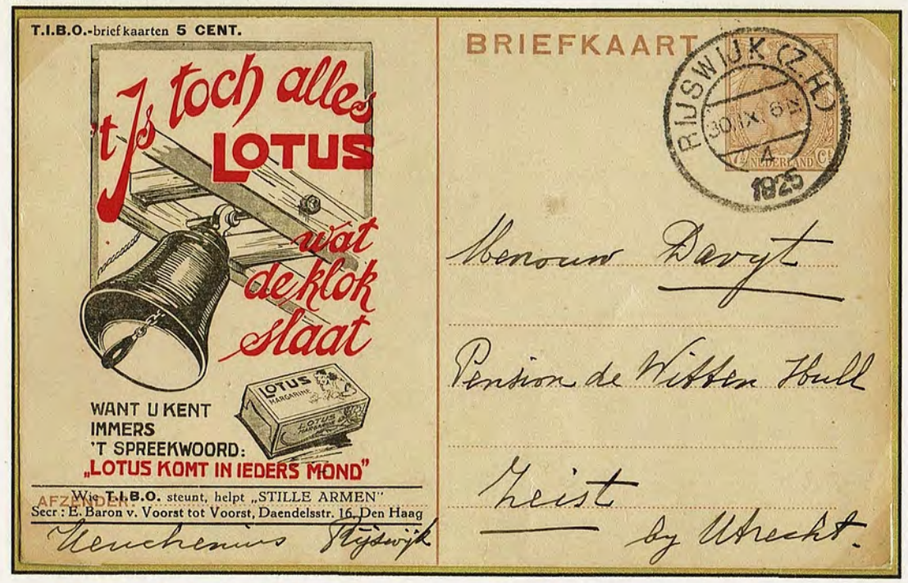


" French West Africa - 1946 - approved artist proof in black for issued stamp "

Soon they knew that knocking on a solid block produced another sound than doing the same on a hollow block. These early instruments, made of natural materials, with a sound of their own, are called idiophones. An example of these modern idiophones are the xylophone and the clock. A hollow block is an example of a coupled system of sound production, where in a certain source vibrations are produced in cooperation with a particular structure, such as erosion in wood.



" Republic of Gabon - 1969 - artist proof in brown - signed J. Combet for issued stamp "



" The Netherlands - 1925 - sold at a reduced rate of 5 cents instead of 71/2 cents "

This discovery is responsible for the existence of the wind-instruments such as the clarion, and resonance-box the violin as well.



1.3. The first objects which can be played

Even when the music didn't exist and there was noise, people had the intension to start a move. Now it is called dance. So without a sound it is possible to do it.



" Columbia - 1928 - postal stationery - printed to order - ill. dance in Egyptian style "

Since the Stone Age flutes have been given a magical meaning . The first Flutes consisted of clay or bones: bamboo or horn.

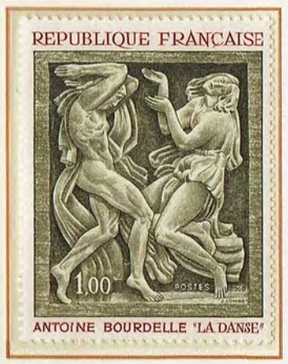


" Vietnam - 1987 - special perforated proof on hard card with official mark and signature for issued stamp "



" normal issued stamp "





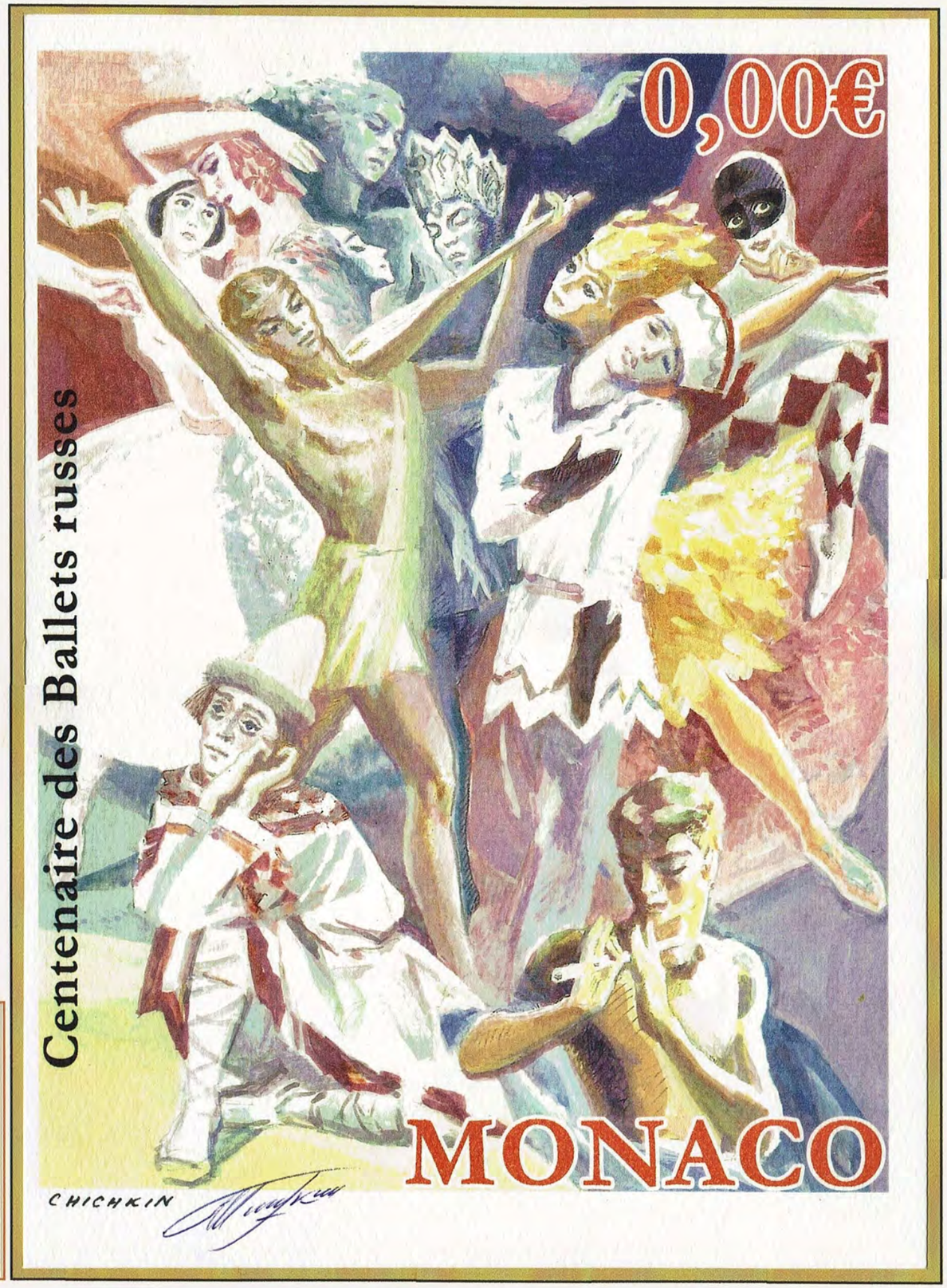


" Nigeria - 1992 - miss perforation and shifted colors "



" normal issued stamp "

In the mythological explanation Pan is the inventor of the Pan flute. It got its name while Pan was chasing the nymph Syrinx. She wanted to remain a virgin and prayed to the Gods. Her prayer was answered and just in time she turned to a reed stalk, of which Pan made his flute.



" Monaco - 2009 - original water draft for the issued stamp - signed by Chichkin - ill. a.o. Pan plays the flute "

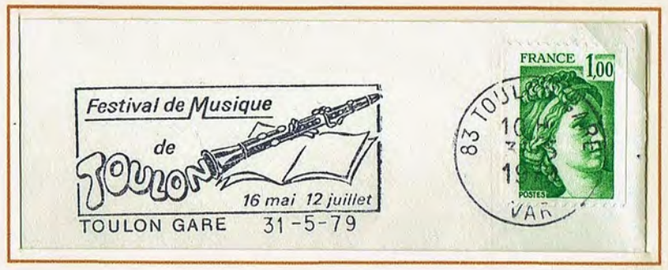
2. Wonderful pallet of sounds...

2.1. ...caused by air

In the submission of aerophones we also distinguish the clarinet. The band clarinet is one of the most versatile instruments that an orchestra can have.

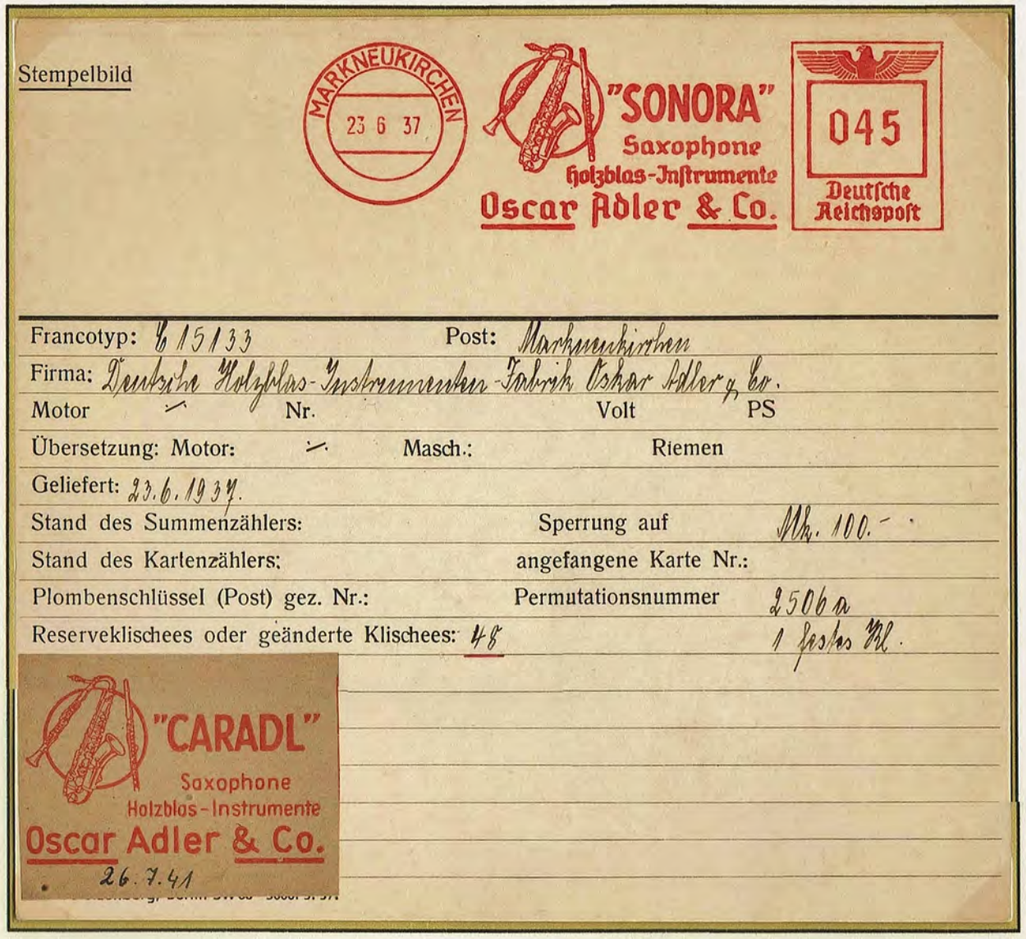








Saxophones and clarinets are a part of the subdivision with a single reed, because they are a hybrid form of the clarinet and the oboe. Often you will find the saxo phones in a dance orchestra.



" German Empire - 1937 - pattern card from francotyp C - ill. Soprano sax, tenor sax and flute "

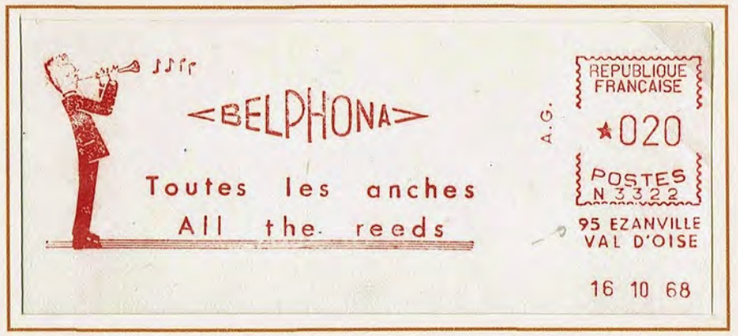


" German Empire - 1913 - postal stationery with additional franking of 5 pfennig for abroad - printed to order - ill. a.o. clarinet and flute "

The oboe was made in the 17th century from the reed pipe and mostly used in house rooms. The first oboes were developed by the Hotteterre family.









" German federal post office - 1974 - red meter francotyp Ccm "



The bassoon is a bas-wind instrument which is developed in the 17th century of the former instrument curtal. The bassoon is featured by 2 separated parallel tubing, which are connected one end through a U-tube. The first bassoons had only 2 valves. In French the musical instrument was called basson.

2.1. ...caused by air

This group belongs also to the aerophone family. It is a large spectrum of instruments where the sound is produced by air vibrations. You have the ocarina which is a 12000 year old instrument. A typical ocarina is an enclosed space with four to twelve finger holes and a mouth piece that projects from the body. Traditional it is made from ceramic or clay.



Bavaria - 1907 - letter card serie I Munich - text - . a.o. ocarina "







" German Empire - 1897 - printed to order - ill. flute player "



" Germany - 1995 - red meter francotyp "Cc/Cm "



The recorder block was very important in the Renaissance and baroque period. They are mostly produced in wood (red cedar) and have a wide drilling at the end.



" Bavaria - 1910 - printed to order - ill. flute player "



One of the largest categorically group are the flutes. They exist in all colors and forms. The flute produces it sound from the flow of air across opening an aside from the voice. Flutes are the earliest known musical instruments



" Brazil - 1978 - variety - blue and yellow omitted "



" normal issued stamp "





2.1. ...caused by air

In the almost infinite series of the aerophones, there is also a modern trumpet. It took thousands of years for its development. All important civilizations had trumpets. Most of them were both bent and straight and had a long, almost cylindrical tube with a slightly flared cup.





" Denmark - 1961 - blue and red meter francotyp Hasler 99 "

Traditionally angels were depicted with musical instruments. One of these instruments is the medieval buizine, one of the precursors of the current trumpet.

One of the ancestors of the trumpet is the clarion . In the beginning it had no valves and the blowing technique determined the sound. The clarion was made of copper and had a penetrating sharp tone. The clarion was and is still used in the army.



" U.S.A - 1940 - 1945 form to fill out before sending on micro film - ill. clarion player "

A few more brass instruments are the tuba and the horn. The tuba is the largest and the lowest -pitched musical instrument in the brass family. The tuba largely replaced the ophicleide. It first appeared in the mid 19th century. In the early days the horn was used as a signal instrument during the hunt and post delivery. Nowadays it is known as a brass instrument in the orchestra.





" Germany - 1968 - red meter francotyp Pytney Bowes 6300 series "



" normal issued stamp "

Bagpipes are also aerophones. They using enclosed reeds fed from a constant reservoir of air in the form of a bag.





" finally issued stamp "





" Israel - 1961 - shift perforation and complete different colors "



" Bahamas - 1992 - preliminary darft and color choise for issued stamp - signed Jennifer M. Toombs "

2.1. ...caused by air

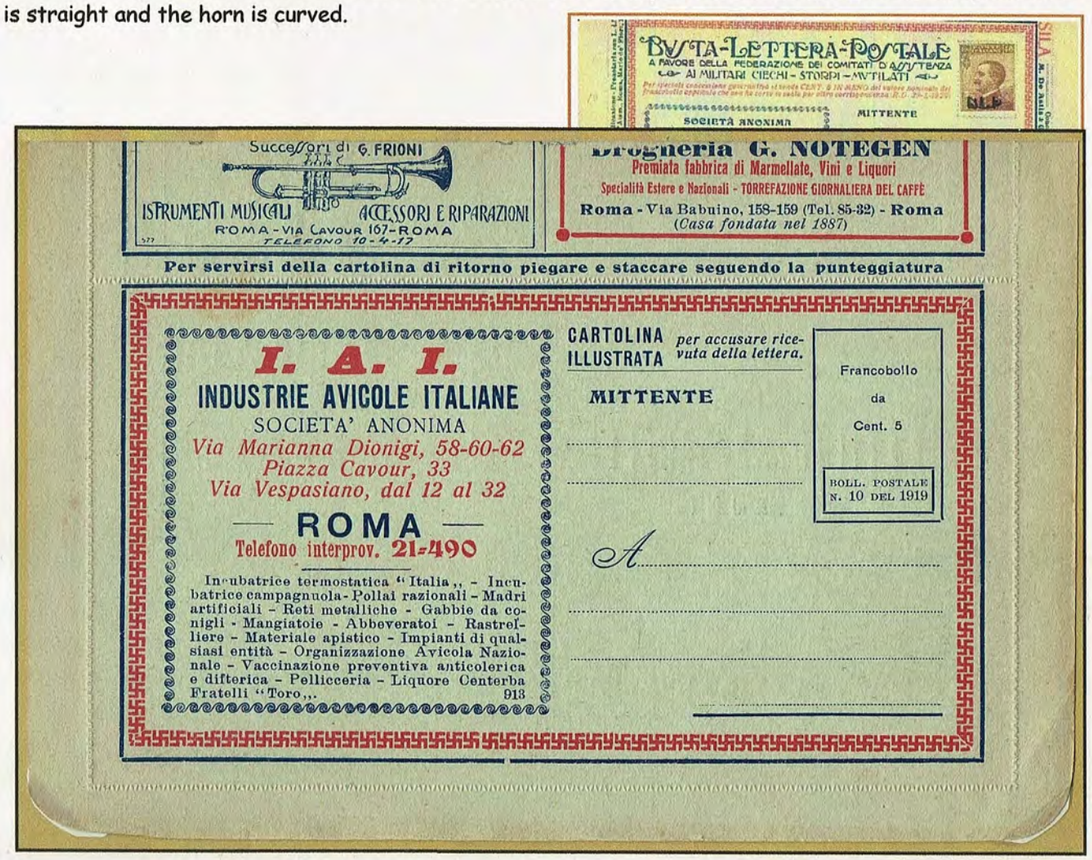
In the family of aero phones you have also the trumpet. Which can be classified as the primitive trumpet, the historical trumpet and the orchestra trumpet. Sometimes the difference between the trumpet and the horn is hard to find, because in both cases the air is produced by vibration of the lips of the player. The real difference between both instruments is that the trumpet is straight and the horn is curved.



" Congo - 1967 - two die proofs - ill. laterally blown horn



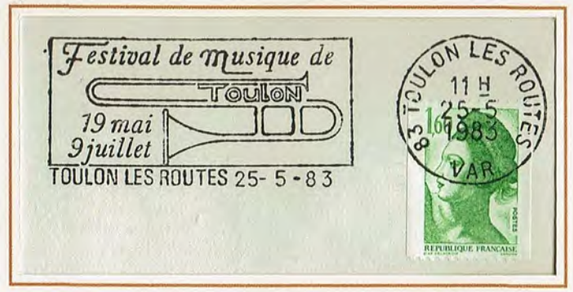
normal issued mini sheet "



" Italy - 1920 - B.L.P. - Busta lettera postale - issued in favor of the found of war invalids
" ill. modern trumpet with valves "

The trombone is a brass instrument whereby the sound is produced by the lips of the player. The typical feature of the trombone is the telescopic slide. It is made to extend the slide. It appears for the first time in Europe in the 15th century.









" German Empire - 1903 - printed to order - ill. tuba - and trombone player "

2.1. ...caused by air



Another group of aero phones are the mouth organs. They have been played in China 3000 years ago. The harmonium an instrument with liberty reeds, is directly related on the harmonica.



" issued stamp "



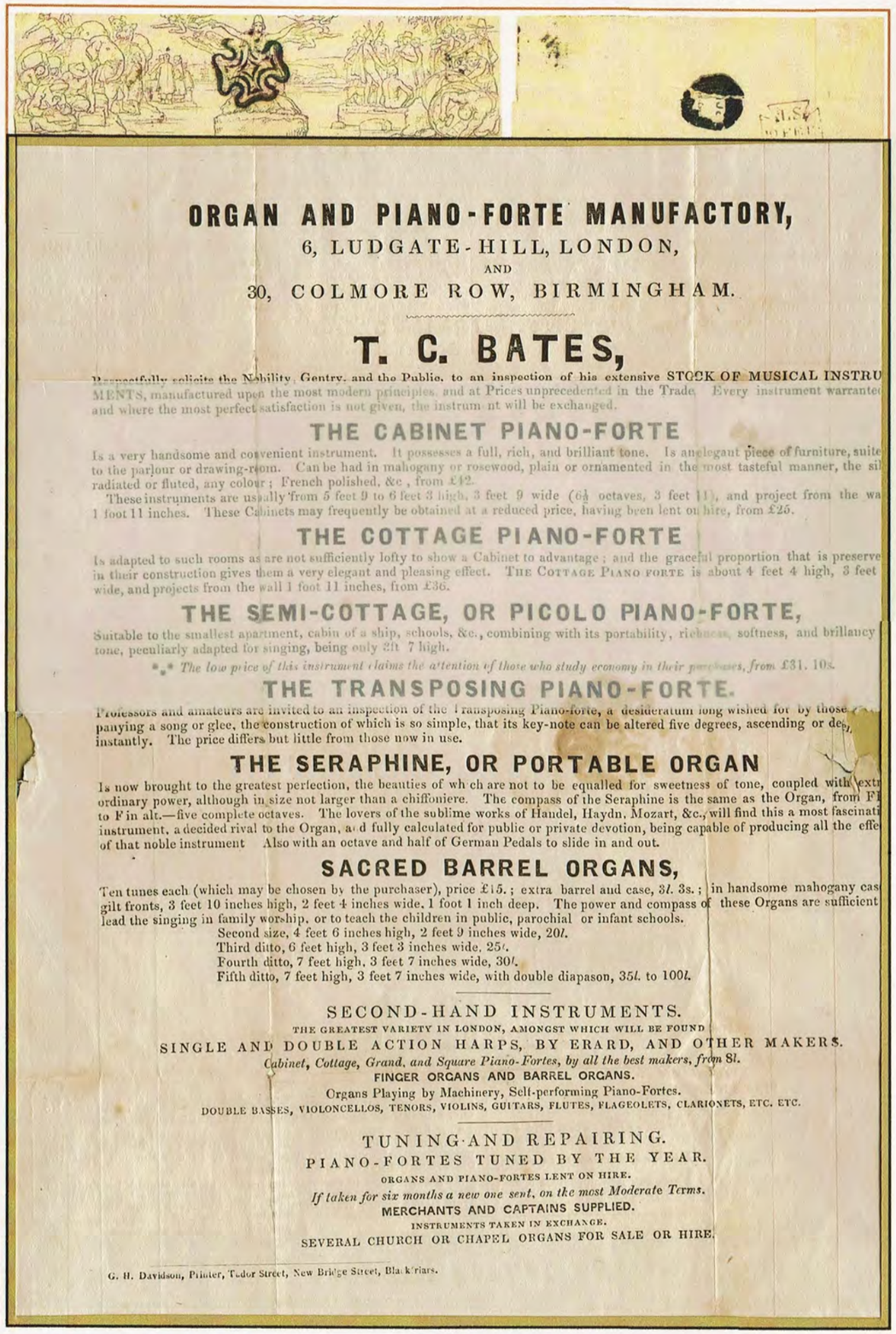




" German Empire post - 1938 - francotyp D "



One of the oldest instruments known is the organ. It is still being played . It exists out of pipes or keys and an air chamber. The first real organ was a hydraulis from the 3rd century BC.



ORGAN AND PIANO-FORTE MANUFACTORY,
6, LUDGATE-HILL, LONDON,
AND
30, COLMORE ROW, BIRMINGHAM.

T. C. BATES,

Respectfully solicits the Nobility, Gentry, and the Public, to an inspection of his extensive STOCK OF MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, manufactured upon the most modern principles, and at Prices unprecedented in the Trade. Every instrument warranted, and where the most perfect satisfaction is not given, the instrument will be exchanged.

THE CABINET PIANO-FORTE

Is a very handsome and convenient instrument. It possesses a full, rich, and brilliant tone. Is an elegant piece of furniture, suited to the parlour or drawing-room. Can be had in mahogany or rosewood, plain or ornamented in the most tasteful manner, the sides radiated or fluted, any colour; French polished, &c., from £42.

These instruments are usually from 5 feet 9 to 6 feet 3 high, 3 feet 9 wide (6⅓ octaves), 3 feet 11, and project from the wall 1 foot 11 inches. These Cabinets may frequently be obtained at a reduced price, having been lent on hire, from £25.

THE COTTAGE PIANO-FORTE

Is adapted to such rooms as are not sufficiently lofty to show a Cabinet to advantage; and the graceful proportion that is preserved in their construction gives them a very elegant and pleasing effect. THE COTTAGE PIANO FORTE is about 4 feet 4 high, 3 feet wide, and projects from the wall 1 foot 11 inches, from £36.

THE SEMI-COTTAGE, OR PICOLO PIANO-FORTE,

Suitable to the smallest apartment, cabin of a ship, schools, &c., combining with its portability, richness, softness, and brilliancy of tone, peculiarly adapted for singing, being only 2ft 7 high.

*** *The low price of this instrument claims the attention of those who study economy in their purchases, from £31. 10s.*

THE TRANSPOSING PIANO-FORTE.

Professors and amateurs are invited to an inspection of the Transposing Piano-forte, a desideratum long wished for by those accompanying a song or glee, the construction of which is so simple, that its key-note can be altered five degrees, ascending or descending, instantly. The price differs but little from those now in use.

THE SERAPHINE, OR PORTABLE ORGAN

Is now brought to the greatest perfection, the beauties of which are not to be equalled for sweetness of tone, coupled with extraordinary power, although in size not larger than a chiffoniere. The compass of the Seraphine is the same as the Organ, from F to F in alt.—five complete octaves. The lovers of the sublime works of Handel, Haydn, Mozart, &c., will find this a most fascinating instrument, a decided rival to the Organ, and fully calculated for public or private devotion, being capable of producing all the effect of that noble instrument. Also with an octave and half of German Pedals to slide in and out.

SACRED BARREL ORGANS,

Ten tunes each (which may be chosen by the purchaser), price £15.; extra barrel and case, 3*l.* 3s.; in handsome mahogany cases, gilt fronts, 3 feet 10 inches high, 2 feet 4 inches wide, 1 foot 1 inch deep. The power and compass of these Organs are sufficient to lead the singing in family worship, or to teach the children in public, parochial or infant schools.

Second size, 4 feet 6 inches high, 2 feet 9 inches wide, 20*l.*
Third ditto, 6 feet high, 3 feet 3 inches wide, 25*l.*
Fourth ditto, 7 feet high, 3 feet 7 inches wide, 30*l.*
Fifth ditto, 7 feet high, 3 feet 7 inches wide, with double diapason, 35*l.* to 100*l.*

SECOND-HAND INSTRUMENTS.
THE GREATEST VARIETY IN LONDON, AMONGST WHICH WILL BE FOUND
SINGLE AND DOUBLE ACTION HARPS, BY ERARD, AND OTHER MAKERS.
Cabinet, Cottage, Grand, and Square Piano-Fortes, by all the best makers, from 8l.
FINGER ORGANS AND BARREL ORGANS.
Organs Playing by Machinery, Self-performing Piano-Fortes.
DOUBLE BASSES, VIOLONCELLOS, TENORS, VIOLINS, GUITARS, FLUTES, FLAGEOLETS, CLARIONETS, ETC. ETC.

TUNING AND REPAIRING.
PIANO-FORTES TUNED BY THE YEAR.
ORGANS AND PIANO-FORTES LENT ON HIRE.
If taken for six months a new one sent, on the most Moderate Terms.
MERCHANTS AND CAPTAINS SUPPLIED.
INSTRUMENTS TAKEN IN EXCHANGE.
SEVERAL CHURCH OR CHAPEL ORGANS FOR SALE OR HIRE.

G. H. Davidson, Printer, Tudor Street, New Bridge Street, Blackfriars.

" Great Britain - 1841 - 1d Mulready wrapper - from London to Ollerton - black cancelled 19 fe 1841 advertised a.o. organ and piano-forte " (only 6 recorded)



" Hungary - 1943 - double flaw also called double pli accordéon "

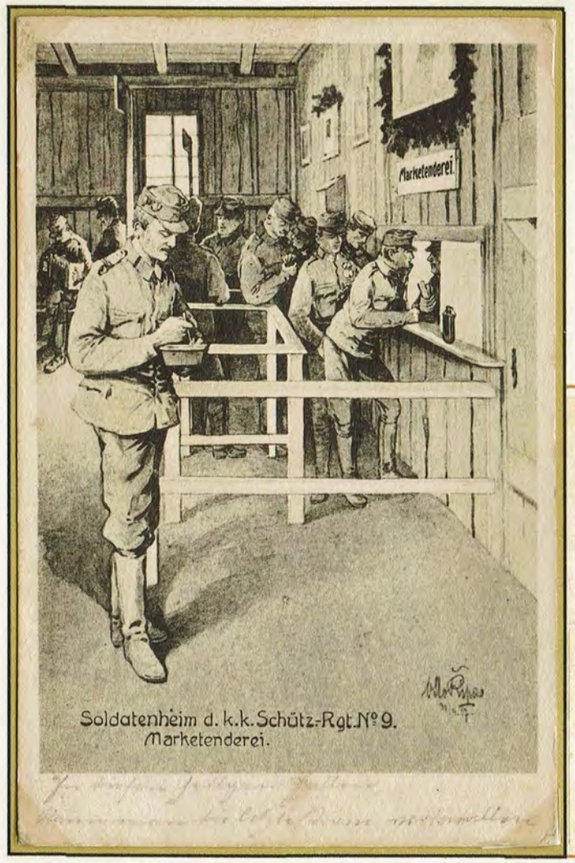


" normal issued stamp "



" France Empire - 10 march 1856 -type accordion roller postmark sent from Paris to Monfort L'Amaury "

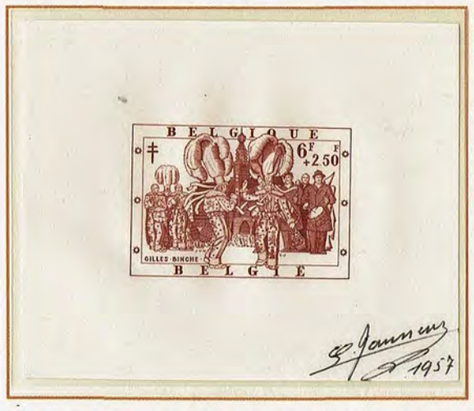
The modern accordion consists of two keyboards which are connected with bellows. The accordion is been worn on the chest with two bands. It is mostly used as a solo-instrument. Accordions are instruments with detached tongues, and with hand operated bellows and two manuals.



" German Empire - 1917 - 26th Schützen division, XXII armeekorps fighting on the East Front - ill. accordion player "

2.2. ...by material making noise

During a thousand years the rattle and noise makers were very important. Special for the primitive people during magic rites. One of the famous groups of noise makers are the Gilles of Binche. Once a year they are to be seen in the streets on carnival on Shrove Tuesday.



" Belgium - 1957 - proof in brown - signed L. Janssens "



" issued stamp "

The **gong** is made of brass and is a round, metal percussion instrument which is struck in the middle with a stick. You will find this instrument especially in South-East Asia and China.



" Germany - 1963 - red meter francotyp Pytney Bowes 6300 series "





" issued stamp "

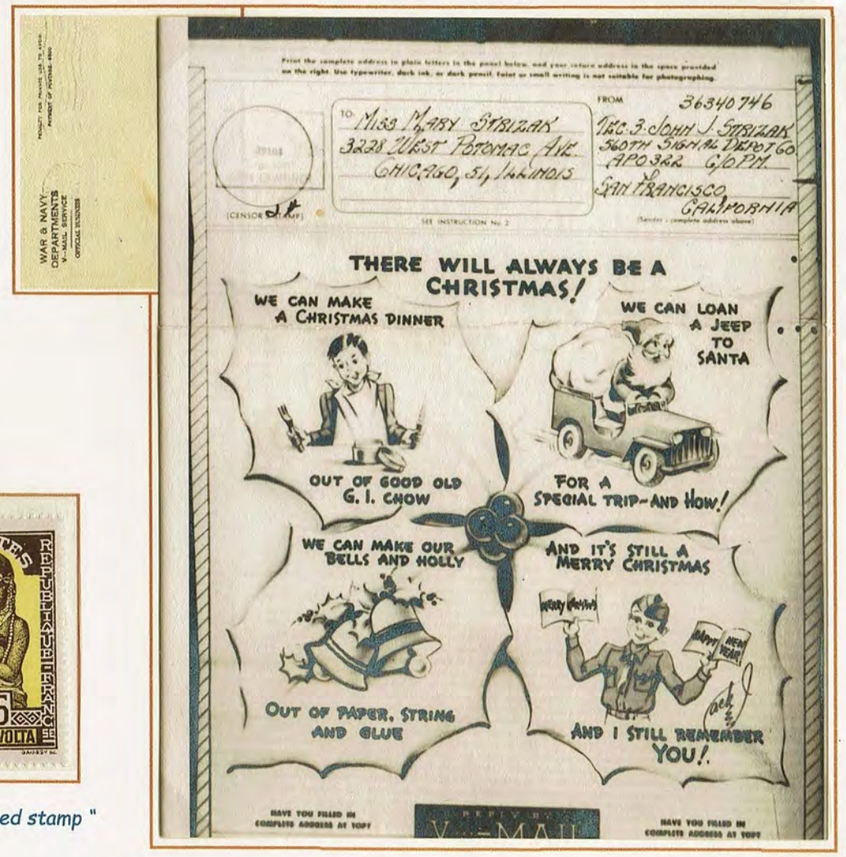
These instruments are called idiophones. The material has a natural sonorous. There are eight different ways to produce the sound of idiophones. Stamp sticks are one of the oldest and most simply rhythm instruments of all. Also bells are idiophones. Most bells have the shape of a hollow cup that when struck vibrates in a single strong strike tone, with his sides forming an efficient resonator.



" Upper Volta - 1928 - artist proof without value for issued stamp - ill. woman with stamp stick "



" normal issued stamp "



Visually a metallophone looks like a xylophone, but it has metal bars instead of wooden bars. The metallophones are very important for the music in the Far East. They play an important role in the gamelan orchestra. Below : a beautifully decorated **gangsa**.



" Indonesia - 1967 - adopted draft for issued stamp - ill. gangsa - color and value were changed "

2.2. ...by material making noise

A large group of rub instruments are the pinecones, shells and musical saws and seeds. The sound is produced through friction.



" France - 1901 - advertising letter sold on reduced price of 10 cts. - a.o. text of seeds "

The **singing saw** is a musical instrument in the shape of a saw. The sound is produced by knocking on the blade or by gang with the bow along the edge of the blade.

" German Empire - 1929 - Pattern card of red meter Francotyp C 5521 - ill. musical saw "

Jars and bottles from different sizes can be used as musical instruments, when the content is filled with different amounts of water.



Germany - 1955 - red meter francotyp " C "

Crecelle is a typical French rasp instrument used in the 15th and 16th century. In courtship sometimes the player used the **Jew's harp**. He kept the instrument in his mouth and gave a soft, attractive sound.



" Jew's harp "



Orchestral percussion exists among others instruments with indefinite pitch as **triangle** and **tambourine**. Second type: pitched instruments such as xylophone and tubular bells. There are also the castanets and basins. Their sound is produced by store pairs of similar objects together.







*" France - 1880 - Sage 15 cts with **triangle** perforation for Credit Lyonnais "*









2.3. … by vibration of a tense membrane

Membranophones are instruments whereby the sound is produced by vibration of a tensioned membrane. Basically there are two types of drums. Less important are the mirlitons. Urging the troops is one of the functions of the military drum. The sound has to terrify the enemy.

Most common types of drum are the cylindrical and conical drums. Typical for the cylindrical drum is that the diameter above and below is equal. Size can vary greatly. Also the conical drums have various sizes and shapes. From flat cup shape to narrowing cone shape. You will find them mostly is Africa and China.



Military drum





"Bavaria – 1898 – printed to order – ill. Infantry regiment including military drums "



" North Korea – 1956 – adopted original design for issued stamp – snare drum "





" issued stamp "



" Bavaria – 1914 – printed to order – ill. Procession with long drums "



In earlier days the bass drum belonged to the family of military drums. Especially used in battles to show the rhythm. The enemy was frightened by his dull blow and penetrating sound. Nowadays only used by harmonies or fanfares during street parades.



Bass drum



Conical drum



cylindrical drum

Below, a nice example of a X-form used cord system.

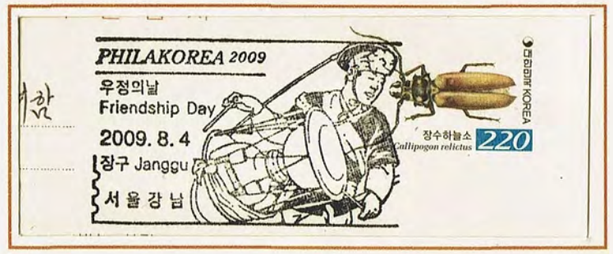


2.3. ...by vibration of a tense membrane

The **barrel-shaped** and **tubular drums** are an important variation of the simply tubular drum. In both cases the ends are equal. All have a double or single sheet.







The **djembé** is the most important drum in the category **vase drum**. Generally used in Senegal, West Africa and Mali.



" Senegal - 1979 - original adopted art work in gouache for issued stamp - signed Aslam - ill. djembé "

Goblet drum also **darbuka** is a single head membranophone with a goblet shaped body used mostly in Egypt, also in parts of the Middle East, South Asia, North Africa and Eastern Europe. Already 1100 years BC.



" East Germany - 1971 - darbuka - set of 5 progressive proofs of issued stamp "

The tambourine is a musical instrument in wood or plastic with pairs of small little jingles, called **zills**. Tambourines are often used with regular percussion sets. To be heard in many forms of music.



Kettledrums are percussion instruments which consist of a hollow brass, copper or fiberglass hemisphere which tension can be changed with a calfskin or plastic head to vary the pitch. They were already known in Old Egypt and Africa. Often they were used in pairs. They existed in lots of sizes.



" issued stamp "





" Mauretania - 1965 - color proofs in brown and green for issued stamp "

2.3. ...by vibration of a tense membrane

Orchestra and band percussion

Drums also have a very important role to play in the section band percussion in orchestras all over Europe. The drum section in the Swiss band orchestra was one of them.



" Great Britain - 1885 - folded letter - printed to order "



" Spain - 1926 - postal stationery serie II - printed to order - a.o. concerts and dance "

Very well known in the Middle Ages and Renaissance are the **snare drum** and tabor. Even today they play on it. A modern **drum kit** in dance orchestras and jazz bands needs snare drums, two suspensions, income basins and hi-hat cymbals.



bass drum



" Switzerland - 1982 - red meter type BB3 Hasler "F 66 "

A hi hat is a combination of **two cymbals** and, a foot pedal all mounted on a metal stand. It is a part of a standard drum kit used by drummers in many styles. Hi hats could be played by hands as well as foot.

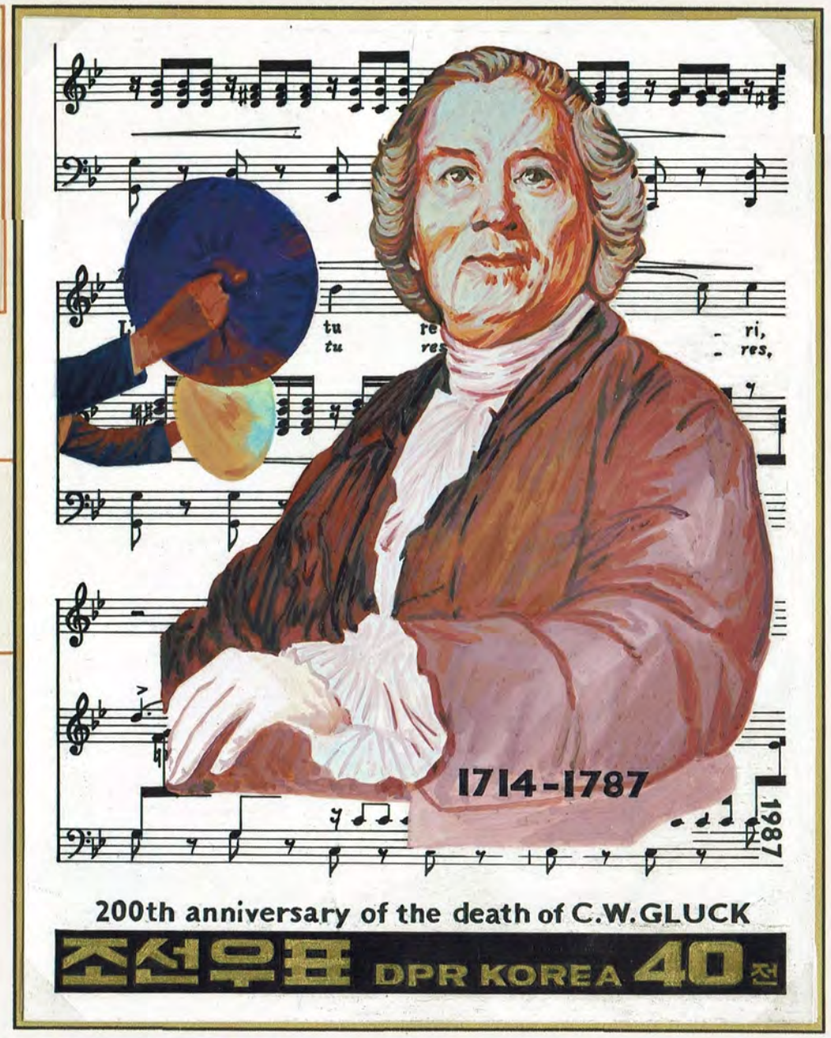




" normal issued stamp "

Timpani or kettle drums are musical instruments in the percussion family. The modern timpani are designed to be tuned easily to specific pitches, often during sessions of music.





" North Korea - 1987 - original signed artist work in water color for issued stamp - ill. hi hat cymbals "

2.4. ...by the trembling of strings

The chordophones are instruments at which the sound is produced by vibrations of strings. There are five basic types among which the bow, lyres, the harps, the lutes and zithers.



" France - 1894 - exposition of the book - ill. harp "





The most simply music instruments found in Africa, were the **music bows**. A resonance box and a few strings were an improvement. Mostly the music bows have one or two strings which have been strained between the ends of a long, flexible pole, which is bent as hunt bow.

The **harp** is a plucked string instrument. The strings run in the slant of the resonance to the neck of the instrument. 3500 BC the first harps were known in Egypt. They only were played by women.



" Bavaria - 1912 - printed to order - ill. a.o. 2 harps "





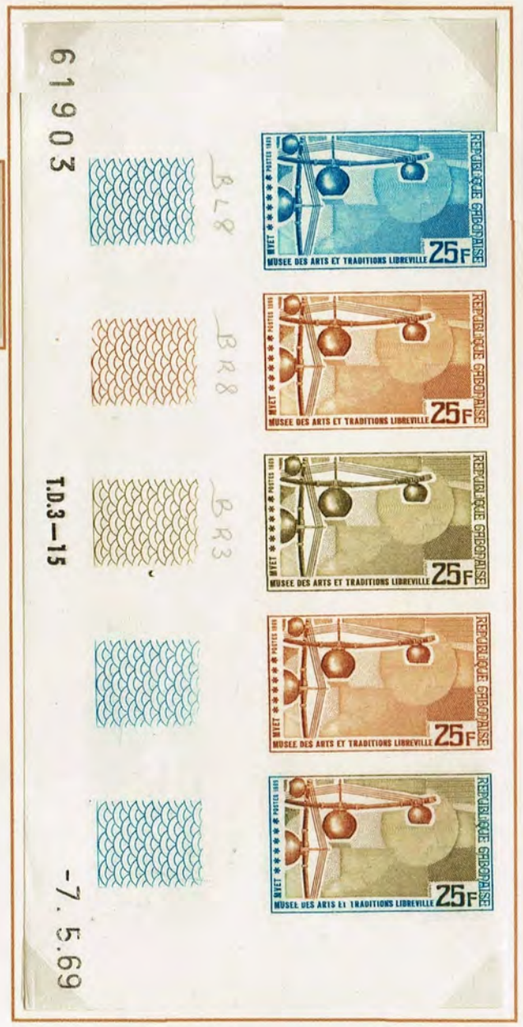


" issued stamp "

The **lyre** is a string instrument with four sides. These sides have a resonance box, two arms and a transom. The strings are attached to the front of the resonance box and run over the crest to the transom. It is one of the oldest known instruments.



" USA - 1860 - fancy cancel of Canton - ill. lyre " (C)



" Gabon - 1969 - progressive color proofs for issued stamp - ill. music bow "



" French West-Africa - 1958 - adopted artist proof in brown - signed Jean Pheulpin ill. woman plays harp "

2.4 ...by the trembling of strings

All **lutes** have a resonant trunk and a neck. The strings run from the bottom of the trunk over the entire length to the neck. Important differences can be found in trunk and neck. Also the form of the back can be changed. The lute is the ancestor of the mandolin. The difference between those two are the pair of strings.



"German Empire - 1907 - advertising letter card 5 pf. - series I Barmen - a.o. ill. mandolin "

The lute's strings are arranged in *courses*, of two strings each. The courses are numbered sequentially counted from the highest pitched, so that the chanterelle is in the first course.



" Marocco - 1975 - progressive single die proofs some accepted, some not for issued stamp lute "



" Bavaria - 1898 - printed to order - 5 pfennig - a.o. lute "



"German Empire - 1907 - advertising letter card 5 pf. - series I Barmen - a.o. ill. mandolin "

The **guitar** is a plucked string instrument with a flat back and a typical detailed hull shape. The Arabs brought it to Spain. The sound of the strings are very warm.



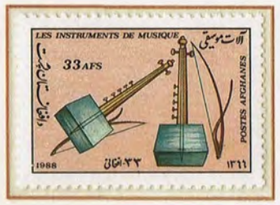
The **mandolin** a is very famous instrument in Italy. It has four to eight strings. Because of the exciting sound, the instrument almost always plays the melody.



" Italy - 1950 - advertising letter with authorization by postalpremio - serie A n° 182 - with bonded stamp of 20 lire - ill. mandolin "

2.4. ...by the trembling of strings

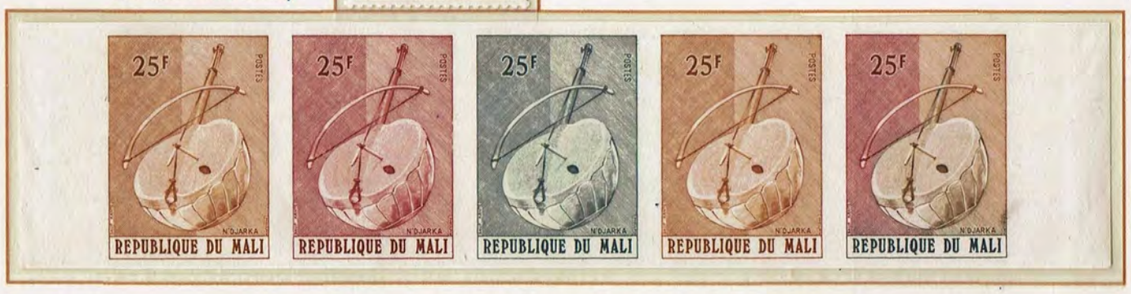
Fiddles are to be classified as string lutes. You will find folk lutes in a very different way of forms and measures. They are very popular in Asia, Africa and Europe. There are two basic forms: the **spike-lutes** with with a long and short neck. The first generally used in the Middle East , Africa and Asia, the second in Europe.



" normal issued stamp "

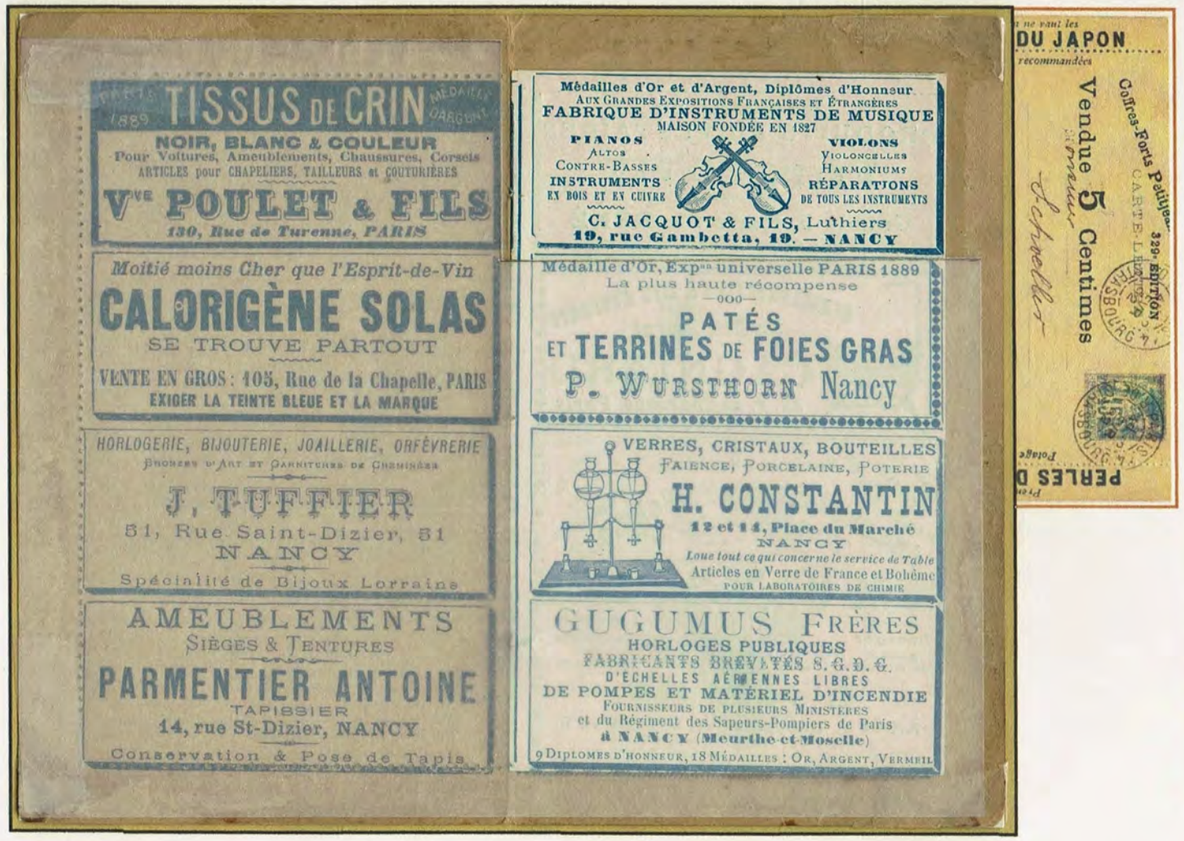






" Mali - 1973 - color proofs for issued stamp - ill. one string fiddle "

Probably one of the most well-known instruments is the **violin.** The first real violin had four strings and lateral screws, a detailed hull and F-shaped sound holes. In the 16th century they started building violins in Italy. At that time it was big business for violin makers such as the Stradivarius family. The completion of the bow and the rang of the playing technic were made in the 18th century by Vivaldi and Tartini, both violin players and composers.



The **violoncel** or **cello** is the bass of the violin family. The instrument is played by a bow. It has also a pullout support which rests on the ground. The bass is the greatest member of the violin family. It was already developed in the 16th century as a bass flute.









" Austria - 1914 -wrapper postal stationery - value 3 heller - text : a.o. violin and cello "



"Austria - 1914 - Grüssgott-letter - front stamp image Franz Joseph II - sold lower rate at 5 heller instead 10 heller - ill. violin "

2.4. ...by the trembling of strings

An important group of musical instruments of the chordophones are the **zithers**. It is an instrument consisting of many strings stretched across a thin, flat body. They are played by strumming or plucking the strings, either with the fingers.



Oberbayrische Sänger- und Schuhplatt'l-Tänzer-Gesellschaft „Allfeld".

The **harpsichord** is a musical instrument played by means of a keyboard. It produces Sound by plucked strings when a key is pressed. Some prominent composers and players were **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart** and **Johann Sebastian Bach**.





" Monaco - 1981 - color proofs in violet and ochre for issued stamps. ill. Mozart played the harpsichord"

A **hammered dulcimer** is a percussion- stringed instrument, of which the strings typically are stretched over a trapezoidal resonant sound board. This instrument is put before the musician, who, in more traditional styles, sits cross-legged on the floor. The player holds a small spoon - shaped mallet hammer in each hand to strike the strings.



" issued stamp "



" France - 1979 - state - artist proof in black - signed C. Haley - ill. a.o. hammered dulcimer "







" issued stamp "

The harpsichord is a musical instrument played by means of a keyboard, a low of revers which the player presses. When the player presses on one or more keys a mechanism is triggered which plucks one or more strings with a small quill. The whole family of similar plucked keyboard instruments, including the smaller are the virginal, muselar and spinet. The harpsichord was widely used in the Renaissance and Baroque period.



2.4. ...by the trembling of strings

The **piano**, a stringed, acoustic instrument is the most popular of the keyboards. The Medici family indicated the existence of a piano in the year 1700. The piano is a crucial instrument in western classical music, jazz blues and rock. It is also an essential tool in music education.







" USA - 1949 - red meter type Pitney Bowes R series "

Grand piano - type Grotrian - Steinweg

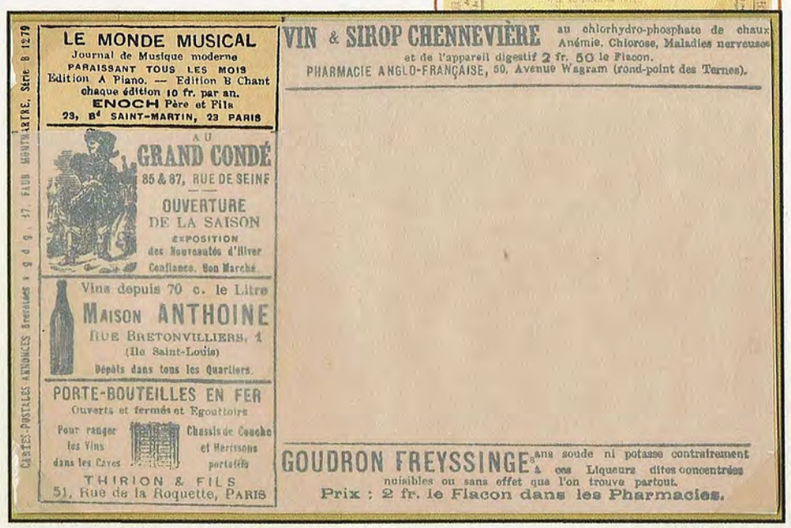


" German Empire - 1927 - 2 perforated stamps -Gr- of factory Grotrian-Steinweg in Braunschweig were made pianos "

Modern acoustic pianos have two basic configurations. The **grand piano** and the **upright piano** with various styles of each. In grand pianos the frame and the strings are horizontal, with the strings extending away from the keyboard. There are many sizes of grand and small pianos.



" precursor card - 1873 - 10 cents - circulate within the same city - all about piano "

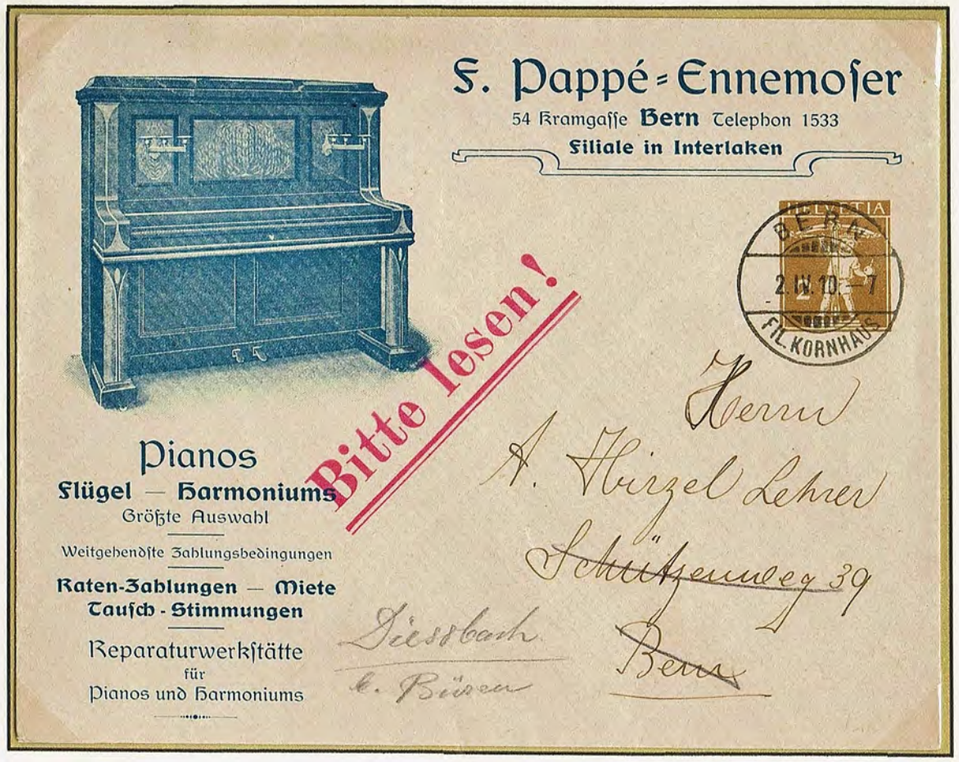


Rectangular table piano



" Tsarist Russia - 1899 - folded letter - printed to order - ill. piano "

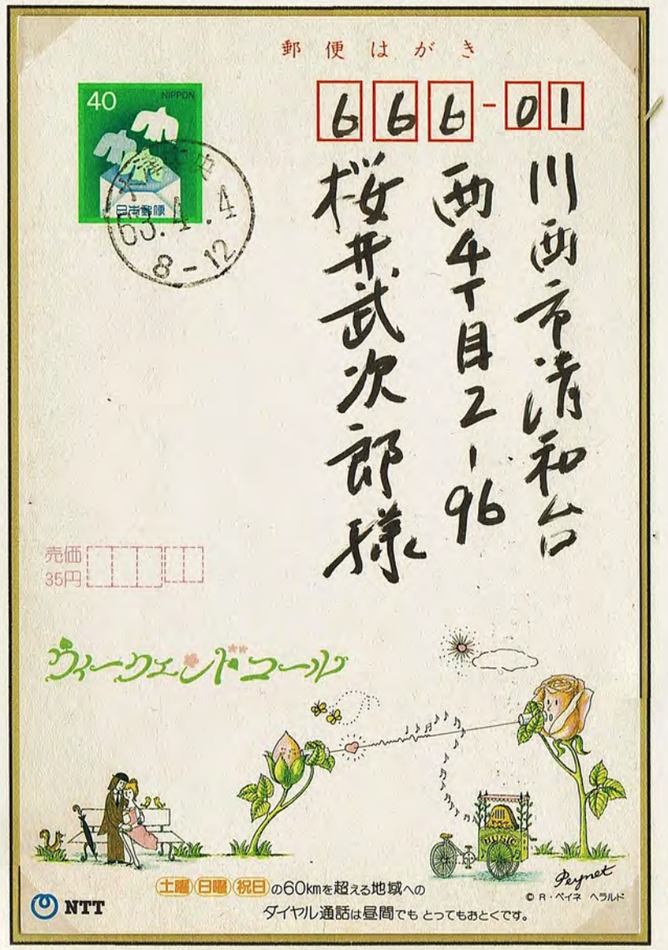
A nice buffet piano or upright piano. These pianos are more compact because the frame and strings are vertical.



" German Empire - 1927 - 2 perforated stamps -Gr- of factory Grotrian-Steinweg in Braunschweig were made pianos "

2.5. ...created electronically

At the end of the 18th century the first **musical boxes** were made by Swiss watchmakers. In the beginning of the 19th century one of the favorite house instruments was on a cylinder working music box. Later came the electric piano.





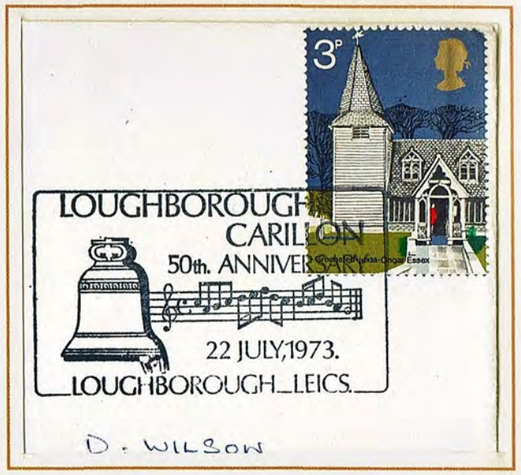




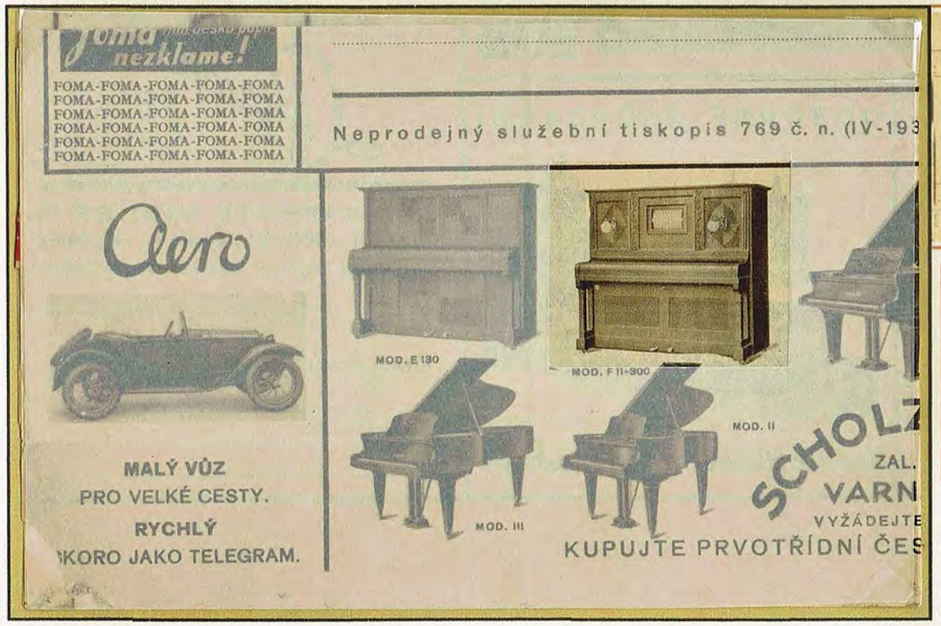
" Switzerland 1909 - postal stationery - printed to order - Welte-Mignon - specialist in electric pianos "

A carillon is the result of one of the most successful mechanical attempts to produce sounds. Above all you will find a carillon in a tower of a church or a belfry. It was developed in Northern Europe in the 13th century. The clocks are winded up by wires, levers, watches or electricity.

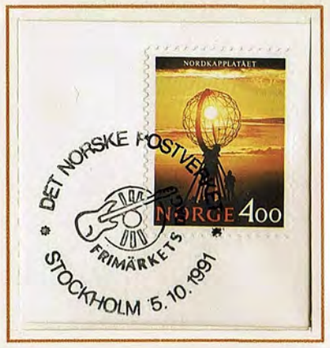




There are two groups of mechanical music makers. The first group of instruments belongs to the **hurdy-gurdy**, the second are full automatic musical instruments such as the **pianola**.









An **electric guitar** is a fretted string instrument that uses a pickup to convert the vibration of its strings. It was developed to offer resistance against the bass instruments in big bands (1930). There is a superficial comparison with the **acoustic guitar**.

Begun in 1825 the institute was very important for the professionalization of science and technology, such as the start of making electronic music.



The first electronic pianos from the late 1920s, used metal strings with a magnetic pickup, an amplifier and a loudspeaker. Electronic pianos are non-acoustic. They don't have strings or hammers, but a sort of synthesizer that simulates the piano sounds. The little buffet pianos you will also find in electronic **pianinos**.



3. Prehistoric and ancient civilizations noises

3.1. From assault weapons to musical objects

In the Stone Age birds were probably caught by means of a stone flute, made from the bones of a **deer** or reindeer, by which the sound of a bird was imitated.



" Italy - 1846 - permit to municipalities and religious orders. Condition is that sender affixed to letter. In this case municipal stamp of Codigoro "







" England - 1840 - Mulready with double cancellation December 16 from 2 stereo al 17 - Edinburgh to London - ill. reindeer "

These **bone flutes** were made from the toe phalanx from a deer or reindeer. They made multiple holes in the bone to become different sounds. Musical instruments were not invented, but they were accidentally found by using them..







Brass was invented 1700 BC. It is an alloy of cupper, tin and other metals in small amounts. Brass was a metal that could easily be used to make musical instruments. One of the instruments was the **horn**. For some of our ancestors it was a symbol of fertility.



Much later they made from some tools musical instruments such as the harp. Harps have been known since antiquity in Asia, Africa and Europe, (3500 BC.). Harps globally vary in many ways. Different may use strings of catgut(mostly from cattle and sheep). Almost all harps have a neck, resonator and strings such as the bow harps, arch harps and open harps .





" Chad - 1968 - color trials for issued stamp - ill. harp "



" Chad - 1968 - artist proof in blue - signed by Pheulpin "

3.2. *Divine sound, songs for dance and instrumental melodies from the Middle East*

In the Middle East during ceremonies music was very important. Only the women played instruments. They were as well as used for recreational purposes such as dances. The women used also the flute.



" Czechoslovakia - 1961 signed artist Proof - ill. woman plays flute "



" issued stamp "









The trumpet symbolized the power of God. In ancient Egypt trumpets were also used. For the first performance of the opera, **Aida** of Giuseppe Verdi in Egypt the original military trumpets were constructed as seen in wall paintings: These were found in excavations in the tomb of Tutankhamun. The difference in pitch was a little third.



" Italy - 1901 - semi official postal stationery was sold by the post administrations with franking for the time being. This was exclusively possible by a ministerial decree and reserved to the trade of a cultural, human and political organization "

The development of the higher cultures in the Middle East, means that the musical instruments had improved. Especially the harp was played by women in Egypt. In Israel all important events were accompanied by music. The materials used in the construction of instruments consisted of wood, animal viscera (strings).



" Netherlands - 1986 - red meter francotyp A 9000 "



" Germany - Berlin - 1986 - red meter francotyp Cc/Ccm "





" Egypt - 1946 - telegram - ill. Trumpet and lyre "

3.3. Art of the muses in classical Greece
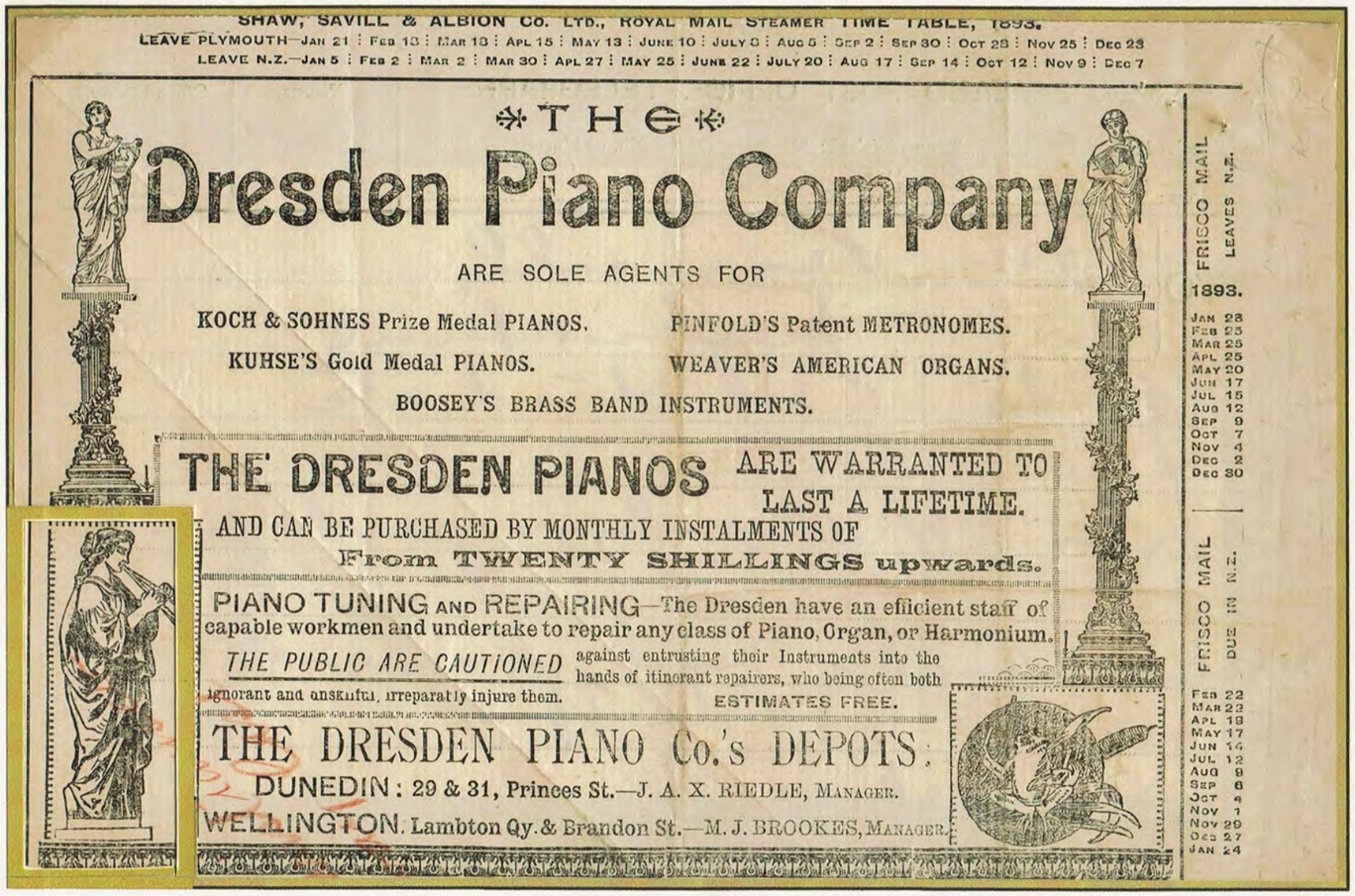
Music, dance and songs were very important for the Greeks. The best known musical instrument was the **aulos**. This instrument is still be played on Sardinia. It consists of two or three reed pipes and a single reed : **launeddas**.







The **aulos** was a wind instrument in Ancient Greece. The word aulos is Greek for tube. There were two variants. The first had two pipes, one short and one long, the second only a short pipe. Both had a double reed , so they were family of the oboe.



" New Zealand - 1893 - advertisement telegram - setting C , region - Dunedin, n° 1 - date stamp: Pahiatua, 18 Dec. 1893 - a.o. aulos player "

Greek goddesses from art and science were called muses. The muses were the supervisors of **Apollo**. **Erato** was the muse of music, anthem and lyrics and **Euterpe** for among others the flute.

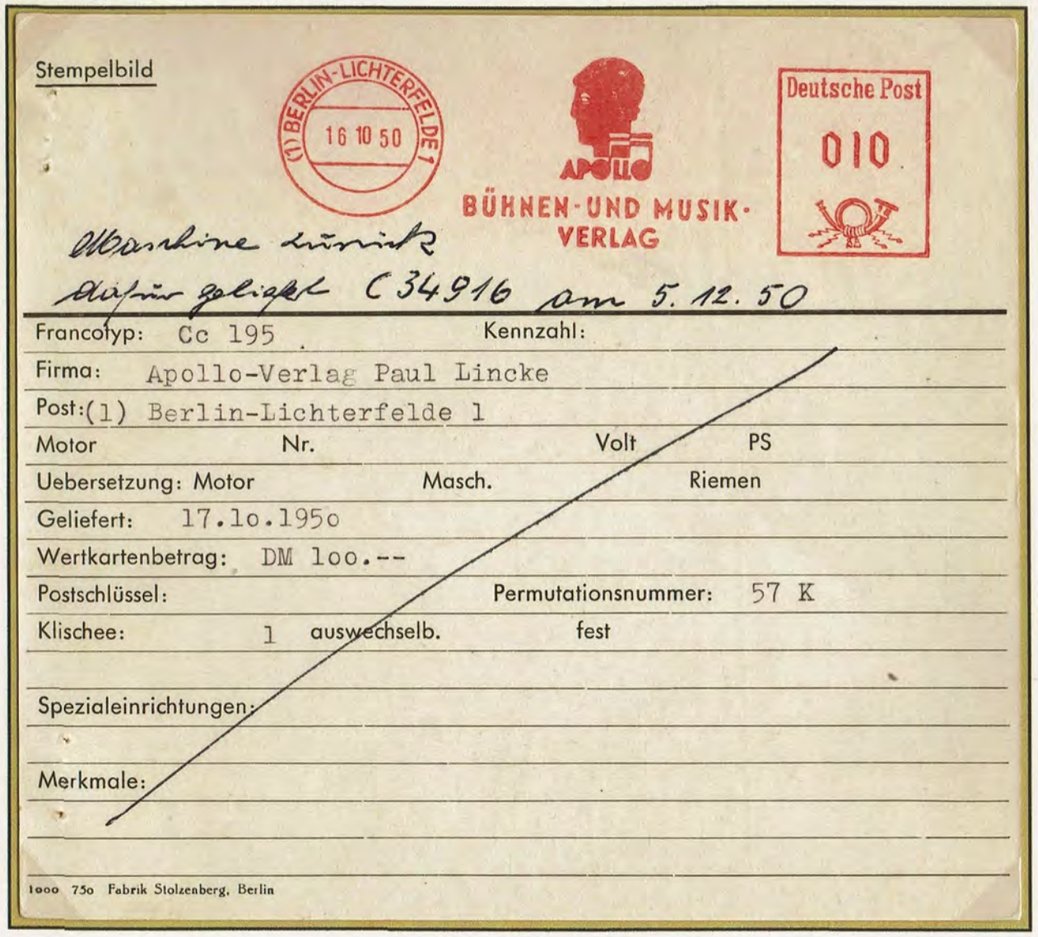








The aulos wasn't liked in the mythology. **Satyr Marsyas** was the inventor of the auloi. He challenged flute player **Apollo** for a music competition, that he lost. As punishment he was conversely hanged on a tree and was around skinned alive.



" German post - 1950 - pattern card from francotyp machine CC 195 - ill. Apollo "

3.4. *Musical life in ancient Rome*

Romans didn't play music themselves, it was outside their dignity. During sacrifices they hired Etrurians to play music. They played mainly **double oboe** and **trumpet** during the meals at home.













" France - 1895 - announced letter sold on reduced price of 10 cent - ill. Roman trumpet "

About the 3rd century BC the Romans took several points about the Greek theater. Nevertheless there were also some differences. The Greek always built the theaters against rocks or mountains. In this way they got better acoustics and besides they created natural stands. The Romans didn't always have the place for it. To build a theater Greek used stone, Romans brick and concrete. The Greek stage stood alone, by the Romans it was a closed entirely building.







" Republic of Mali - 1974 - adopted artist proof in black - signed Georges Betemps - ill. aulos player "



" issued stamp "



" normal issued stamp "



" Tunesia - 1927 - artist proof in blue and brown - signed Mourriez "



Theater of **Epidauros**, middle of the 4th century BC, famous for its acoustics. It is still in use. The stands were built against the mountain.

4. Experiences in the Far East, America and Africa

4.1. The well-known melodic talas and ragas from India

The foundation of the classical music in India was the **raga**. There were more than 200 principal ragas with their own scale. Chiefly two, or three musicians play rhythmic and tuneful ragas and talas.



" India - 2007 - color variety - dark blue omitted "



" normal issued sheet "

The real **lutes** were made in India. One of the main instruments is the **sitar**. It is a large instrument and it is played sitting. The neck extends diagonally upwards and the sound body is onion-shaped. For the most part of the time the sound is played by one string.

The **sitar** became famous in the 60s and 70s of the 20th century, grace to the flower-power community. Unique were the East- meets - West concerts with **The Beatles** and violinist **Yehudi Menuhin**.



" USA - 1965 - red meter type - Pitney Bowes "R" series "





" issued stamp "

" Malagasy - 1965 - artist proof in black for issued stamp signed by Claude Haley - ill. sitar "



The **sitar** is a string instrument from India with specific sound. It has four melody strings, two rhythm strings, and twelve to fourteen resonance strings (tarafs). The resonance strings are tuned in the using scale. The percussion instrument is the **tabla**, and it is generally used in the Hindu classical music. The instrument has a pair of colorful drums, and noises. tabla means tabl in Arabian, what means drums.







4.2. The important influence on the music from the far East and Asia

In China the sound and melody were more important than rhythm and harmony. The musical instruments such as **zithers**, **flutes**, **gongs** and percussion had an extremely great influence on the culture in Korea, Vietnam and China.



" Belgium - 1993 - red meter type neopost electronic "



The vielle (erh-hu) China



Also a typical Japanese music instrument is the **koto**, what means zither. The instrument has thirteen strings that are usually strung over thirteen movable bridges along the width of the instrument. For centuries it was the favorite instrument at the imperial court.



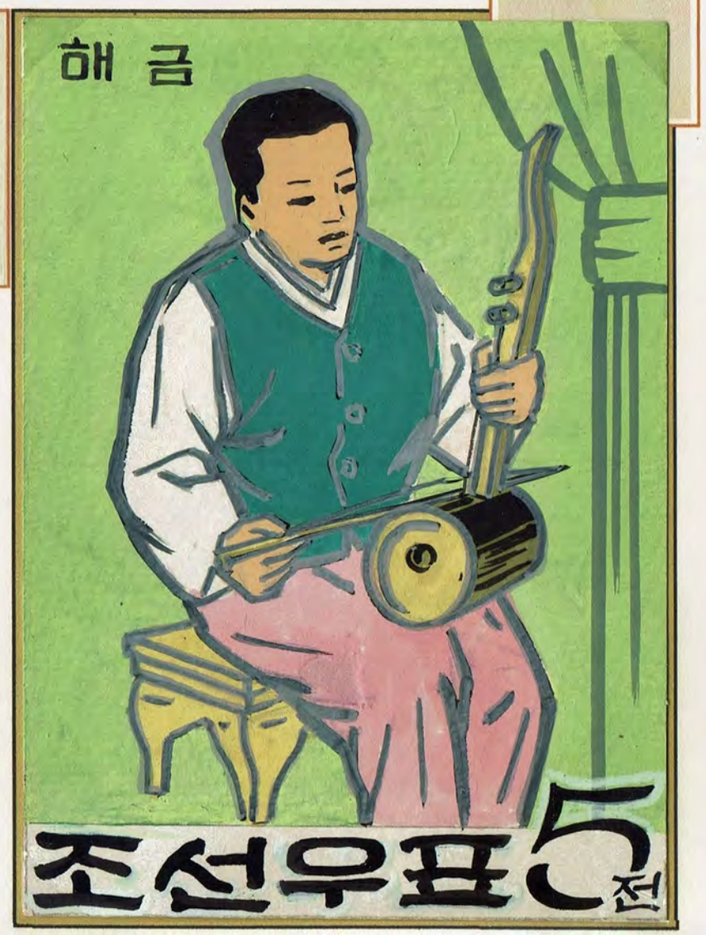








" issued stamp "



" North-Korea - 1962 - adopted and signed artwork with different value "

Only one vielle is known in Korea: the **haegeum**. It was already mentioned in the 13th century. This instrument has two strings of silk and it is held vertically on the knee by the performer and played with a bow. The **shamisen** or **sangen** is a three stringed banjo-lute.





" issued stamp "

The Javanese gong is bossed and it is played horizontally. The sound is produced through the center boss and has a tune note. In Java and Borneo the Javanese gongs are horizontally placed or hanged on a standard. In Thailand and Birma, they are set in a circle around the musician, as you can see below.



" Laos - 1957 - strip of 5 progressive color proofs of issued stamp "



4.3. Musical cultures on the American and Australian continent

In 1492 **Christopher Columbus** discovered America. That changed the cultural history of Latin America, devised in two periods: the pre and the post Columbian era. The Indians as they were called, mostly sang and were accompanied by drums. During last era the high developed civilization of Incas, Aztecs, and Mayas, was destroyed.



" Spain – 1992 – artist die proof in black numbered and signed by engraver Antonio Sanchéz "









" issued stamp "



" Peru – 1936 – color proof in bloc of 4 with control hole for issued stamp "

The Spanish tradition of string instruments is also found in North America. They started to use the **harp** and **guitar** for further development.







" color variation dark green "



The **aboriginal** music is especially based on singing, usually with dance and sometimes accompanied by musical instruments.





In southern American countries such as Peru, Bolivia, Columbia, and Mexico you will find the **flute**, and **Pan flute**, or **Pan pipe**. The last one is known for more than 2000 years.



The **banjo** is a four, five, or six stringed instrument. Early forms were fashioned by Africans in America. The banjo is frequently associated with country, folk, and bluegrass music. The banjo with the fiddle is a mainstay of American old time music.



" Cuba – 1915 – Christmas telegram – ill. banjo player "

4.4. *Penetrating African rhythms and tones for communication*

Besides the **drums** there are a lot of different musical instruments in Africa : such as the **kora** a sort of harp. String instruments as the gadje in North Africa. The lyre is wellknown in North Congo. flutes all over Africa. The tones of music for communication were very important in their culture.



" Tchad - 1965 - strip of 5 color proofs for issued stamp "



" issued stamp "

In Africa drums are used in the first place to have communication over great distances. Better known as the " tam tam " communication.



" Burundi - 1964 - artist's drawing in acrylic on artboard for 20F issued stamp "



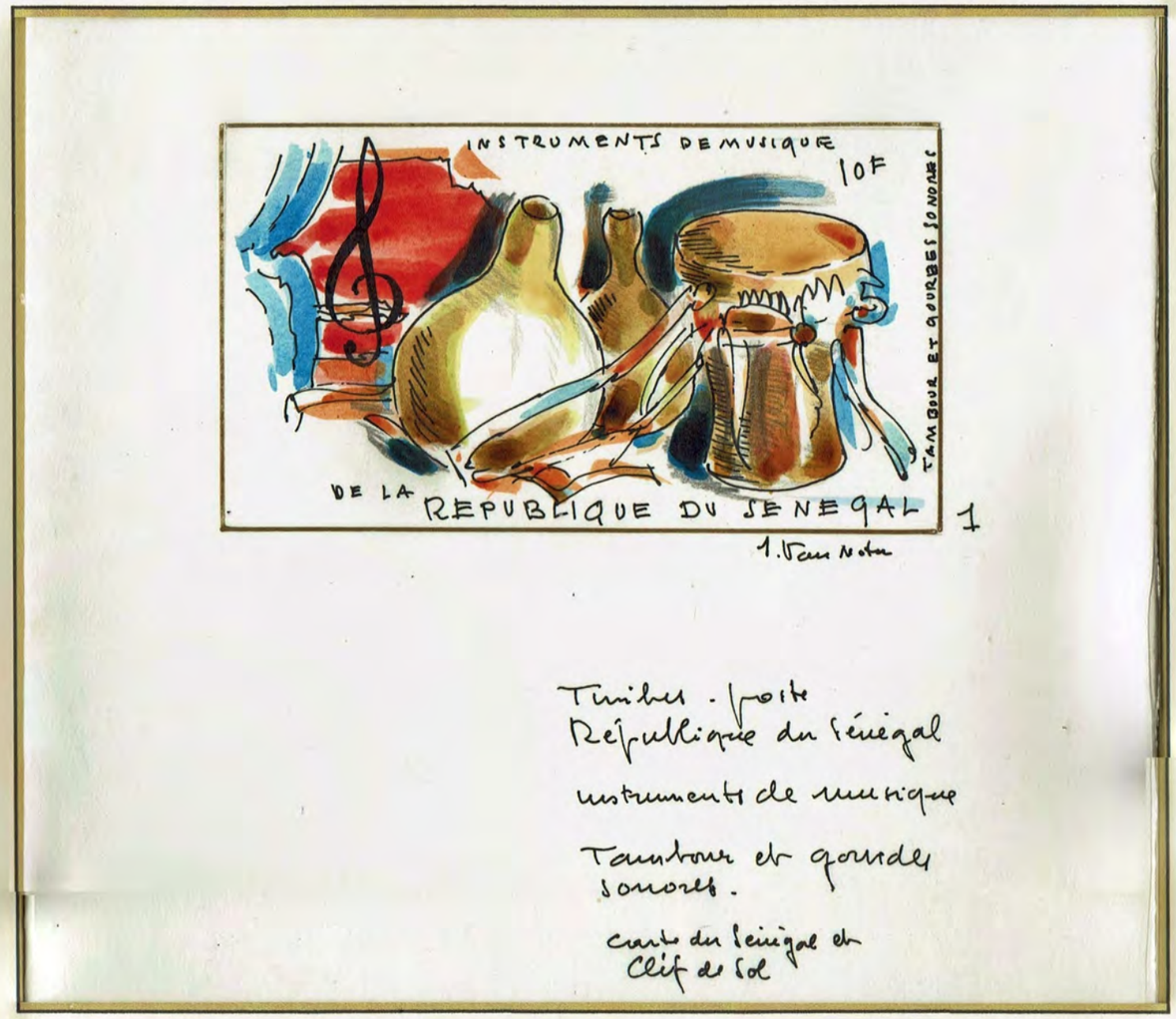
" issued stamp "







Djembé is one of the most known percussion instruments in Africa. It is made by hand. A trunk is hollowed out and covered with a goatskin. Also cylindrical drums are very popular on the African continent. The close relationship between dance and music explains why rhythm and percussion are so important in Africa.



" Senegal original watercolor of non - adopted design - signed J. Van Noten - ill. of djembé "



5. European first millennium music

5.1. Church canto, in which instruments are artistic accessory

In the Middle Ages they liked to sing. Most of the songs were sung at royal courts and in churches. The Middle Age music is called **classic music** and that between 500 and 1400. At the time of **Charlemagne**, the liturgical music was ordained and then bundled. At that time we thank the bundling of Gregorian music and the neumes scripture.



" Belgium - 1946 - proof of finished mold without value designation on cream paper - in ardoise for issued stamp - signed Jean De Bast "

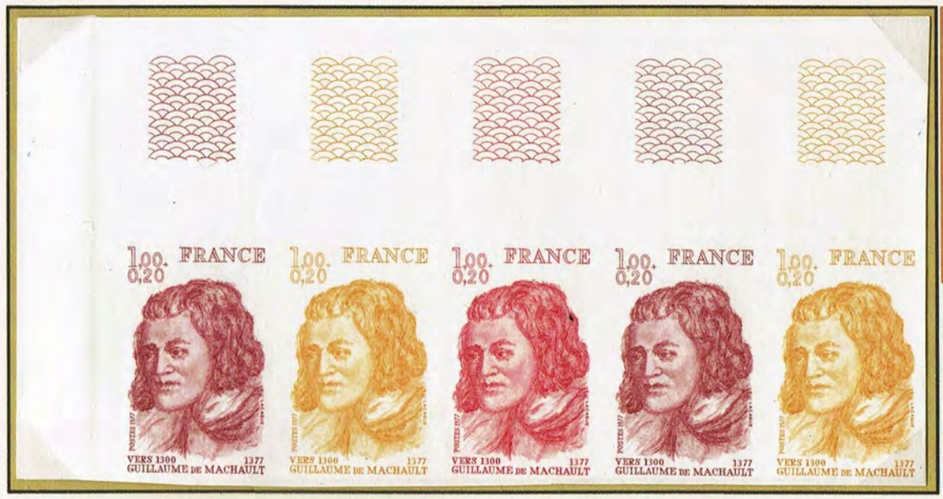


" Belgium - 1946 - proof in black without value designation for issued stamp "



" normal issued stamp "

From the 11th century the **polyphony also developed**. A new profession was born in the history of the classical music: composer. More development of the polyphony style was brought by **Guillaume de Machault** in the 14th century. The word neume is Greek for breathing. A neume is a sign identifying the melody line with a sung syllable.



" France - 1977 - progressive color proofs of issued stamp - ill. Guillaume de Machault "



" issued stamp "







In the Middle Ages the urban residents had the needs to express more and more their church services. The polyphonic music was one of the options. The chapel masters of **Notre Dame** in Paris played an important role in the development of the polyphony. Also **Heinrich Schütz** was a strong supporter of the counterpoint.









" France - postal stationery H1 - proof - type stamp Buffon without value - ill. Notre Dame " (C.)

5.2. *From " a capella " to instrumental try*

Guido of Arezzo (ap. 991 – after 1033) contributed in a fundamental way to the development of music notation, by solving a problem of music theory and practice which musicians themselves had been breaking their heads for years. He invented the modern musical notation that is still in use. He introduced also the diatonic hexachord **do – la**. Therefore he used the first six lines of a hymn. These were **ut, re, mi, fa, sol, la**. Later **ut** was replaced by **do**.













From the 11th till the 14th century there was a new and powerful music style in the world of the knights. In the South of France the **trouvères** and **troubadours** (Provence) made their entrance and they quickly spread throughout Europe. They didn't bring the songs in ecclesiastical Latin, but in their own language. The songs were generally accompanied by **harps**, **lutes** and **fiddles**.



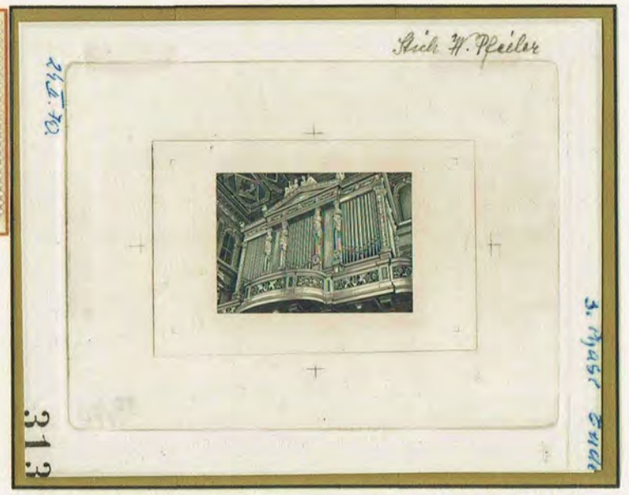


For certain one is that church music was accompanied by the **organ**. Other musical instruments were used as well, but how they implemented them in the picture is not known. There was almost no clue of it.



" issued stamp "





Austria – 1970 – 3rd and final phase of the black and white artist proof – signed H. Pfeiler – ill. church organ "



" Germany – 1990 – red meter type Postalia "D2/D3 " "



6. From minstrel poetry to the swinging sounds of today

6.1. Ode to the (post) man

During the 18th and the 19th century the horn was chiefly used as a signal instrument. It was used by the postman on a horse drawn stagecoach (postilion). The arrival was announced by blowing the horn, so the people get their mail.

A **horn** is a small copper brass instrument that doesn't have valves. On a horn only natural tones can be played by blowing over.



" Since 1792 the Kingdom of Sardinia required the payment of a postal tax. From December 1818 three bluish-green "Cavallini" were used. These were priced at 15c for delivery for up to 15 miles, 25c for up to 35 miles and 50c for an unlimited distance. "



" Argentina – 1948 – color proofs in green of issued stamp "



" normal issued stamp "



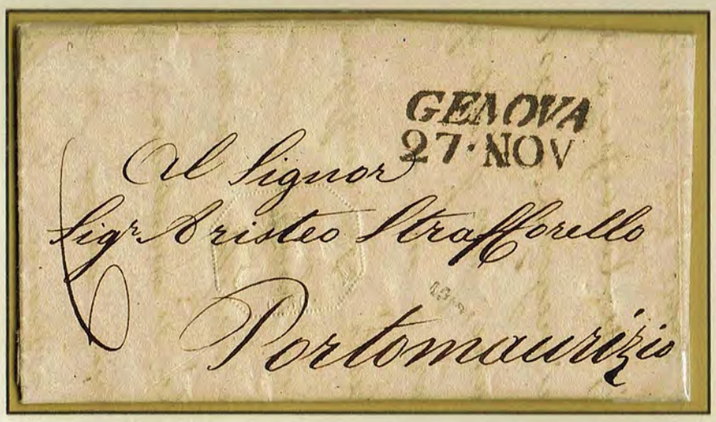
" normal issued stamp "



" major error – shifted color and miss perforation "

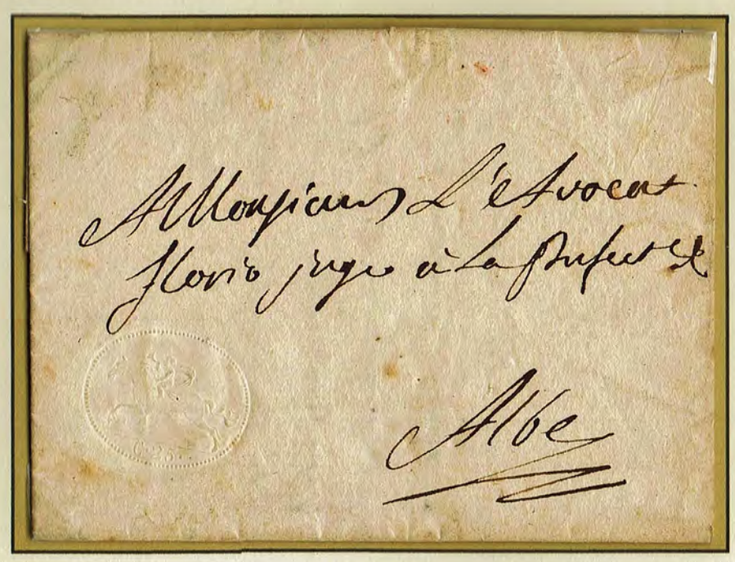


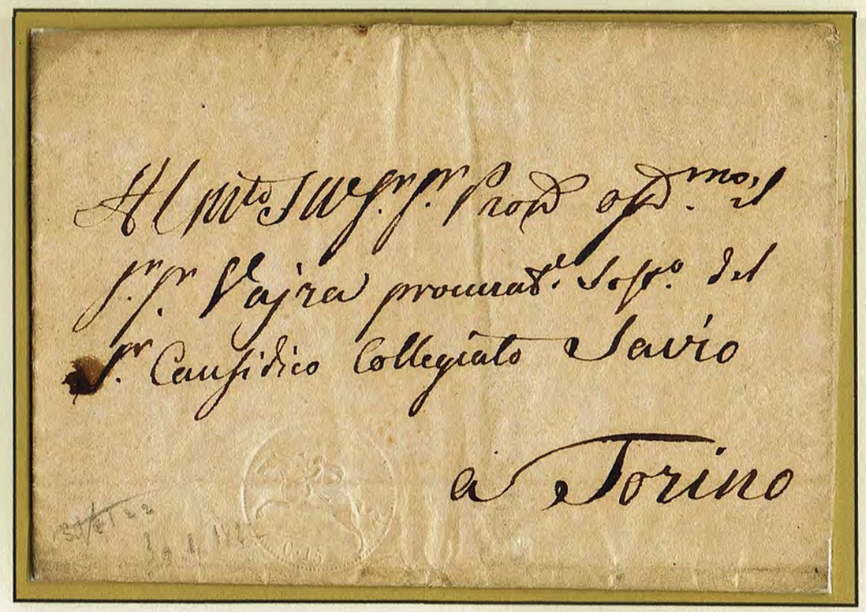
The postman on his horse the so called the postilion, was arriving. The people could hear him from far away, because he blew different times on his horn. After delivery of the post he continued his road to the next postal stop. Before leaving he blew several times on his horn to announce his departure. Then he slowly disappeared to another destination...





-Copy - embossing, visualized in black-





" The bluish-green Cavallini were replaced by embossing, because of too many fakes. These were issued and sold by the post in order to make no further use of its services. Cavallini are considered forerunners of the postal stationery.

6.1. Ode to the (post)man

The horn, a brass instrument, was especially in the beginning a signal instrument. This instrument was not only used for announcing mail delivery, but also for hunting.



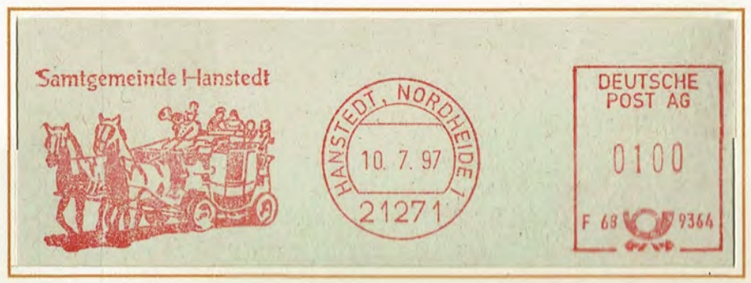
" German Empire - 1933 - red meter type francotyp C "



The sound of the horn is raw and stark. This brass instrument only had one sound. The length of the punches was equal. They also could be played long and short. It certainly didn't sound like music to your ears. The combination of punches made the signal.



" German Empire - 1925 - printed to order - ill. postman with horn "





" The Netherlands - 1789 - letter from Delft to Rotterdam (2 stuiver) and from Rotterdam (R) to Amsterdam (3 stuiver) "

The horn is beside a signal instrument also a symbol instrument. It is generally used as a symbol for the post administration.



"Finland - first 10 kopek postal stationery envelope from 1845 type II with obliteration " Helsingfors 6 sept. 1849 "

The horn frequently occurs in heraldry on coats of arms as well as logo for companies. One of the first countries with this post horn symbol that was used from the beginning were among others Sweden, Denmark and Switzerland.



" Switzerland - Geneva - 22 January 1850 (C.)
5 Cts. - black/red - Waadt 5 - stamped with red Geneva rosette "



In the distance you can hear the postman arriving, blowing on his horn. The nearer he comes, the louder the sound. When he leaves, he blows again on the horn until this sound is gone...



" Sweden - 1886 - post horn on the back in different positions and shades of blue "

6.2. *Intense musical activities in Europe*

Before the polyphony they usually sang solo. They were called minstrels and troubadours. They went from one village to another. Sometimes they were paid by their employer who was chiefly employed to the nobility. A famous minstrel in the Middle Ages was **Walther von der Vogelweide**.



On art works and wood sculptures the most musical instruments that were used on those days were the carried organ, the harp and the flute.



" France - 1979 - trial color proofs for issued stamp - ill.a.o. harp, flute, carried organ etc... "



" France - 1943 - perforated stamps on advertising card - EG - Editions Gallet - music editor "

The development of music during the Renaissance is especially connected to the polyphony. Some **madrigals** (a.o. polyphonic secular songs) were mentioned for voice or for viola da gamba. Flemish composers of the polyphony were a.o **Guillaume Dufay** and **Orlando di Lasso**. The most important composers of the polyphony were from Venice , among them the Fleming **Adriaan Willaert**.





The weapons of a minstrel were his texts and songs, sometimes with song or accompanied by some instrument. In these times the harp and lute were mostly used. Later in South Europe a new instrument was born. The forerunner of the lute: the mandora. In late 17th century it got the name mandolin.





" Belgium - 1895 - advertising letter card 10 cts. - sold for 5 cts.
ill. mandolin - major error - text in Italics on front cover "

6.3. *Rise of the ensemble and instrumental explosion*

There is a certain difference between the baroque period (1600 - 1750) and the Renaissance. An era of musical revival and perfection of making musical instruments started. **Strikers**, **flutes**, and **brass instruments** were elaborated refined.

At the beginning of the 17th century orchestras and composers played in noble and Regal houses. There they could pay them to play music. The first modern orchestra was formed in 1607 by the composer **Claudio Monteverdi**. Also high day for the violin makers, of which the **Stradivari** family was the most famous.
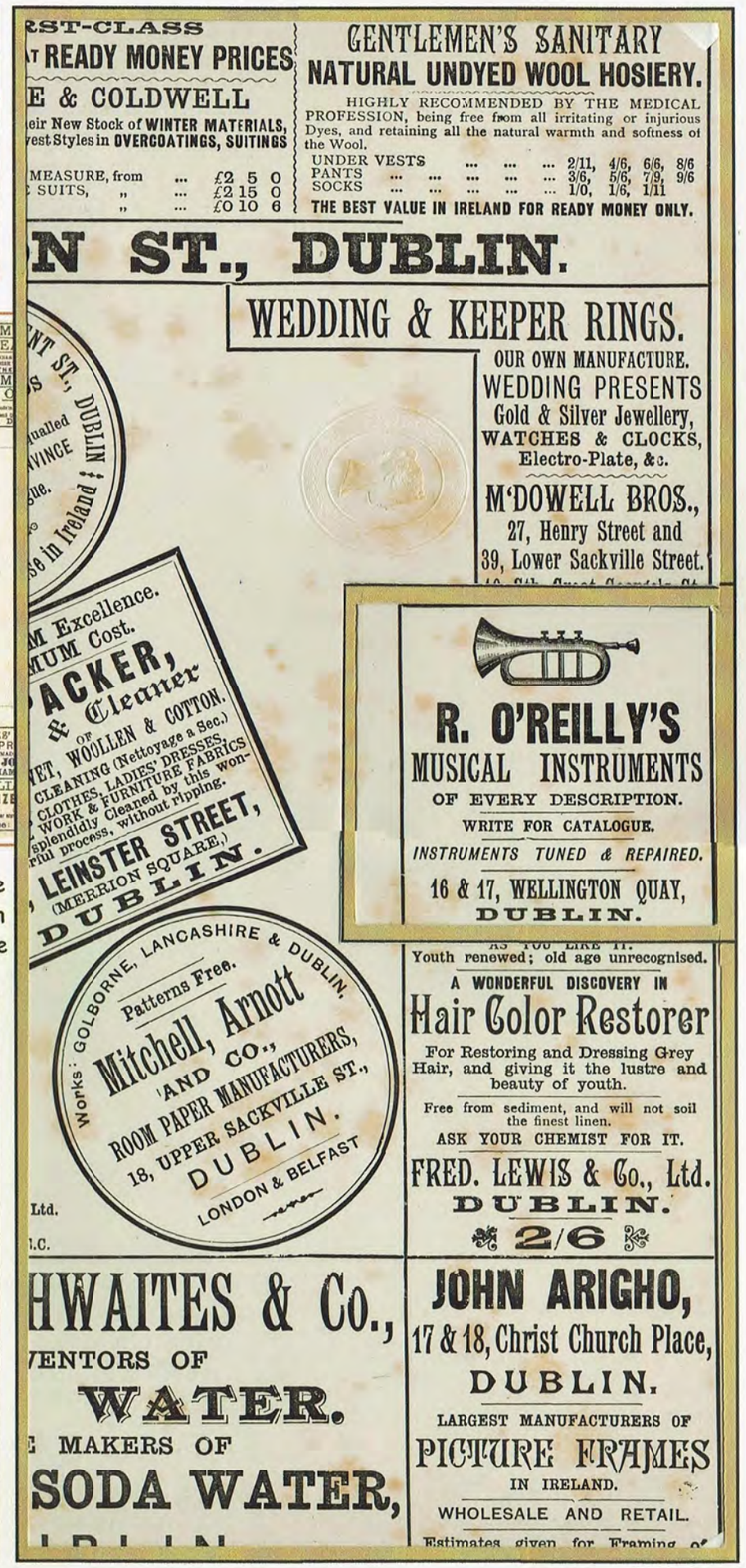




















During the 17th century the composition of the orchestra was different in several countries in Europe. In Italy, France and England were more strikers and in Germany mostly brass.





" Denmark - 1890 - postal stationery with different advertising printed on order - a.o. music store for strikers "

" Ireland - 1884 - folded letter - printed to order ill. trumpet "

6.4. The " Sturm und Drang " period conquers

During this period the romance was gaining popularity. The **chamber music** is new, because it moved to the salons and concert halls. Also the musical instruments became a final form. The **piano** was one of the most popular musical instruments.



The piano even took the place of the harpsichord as well as the organ. At that time the most important musical instrument.



One of the most beloved chamber music forms was a string quartet , formed by two violins, one voila and one cello. A piano trio exists of one piano, one violin and one cello. A lot of famous composers at that time were also good piano players as **Haydn**, **Mozart** and **Beethoven**.









" Engeland - 1978 - red meter type HA Pitney Bowes " 5000"- with missing value "





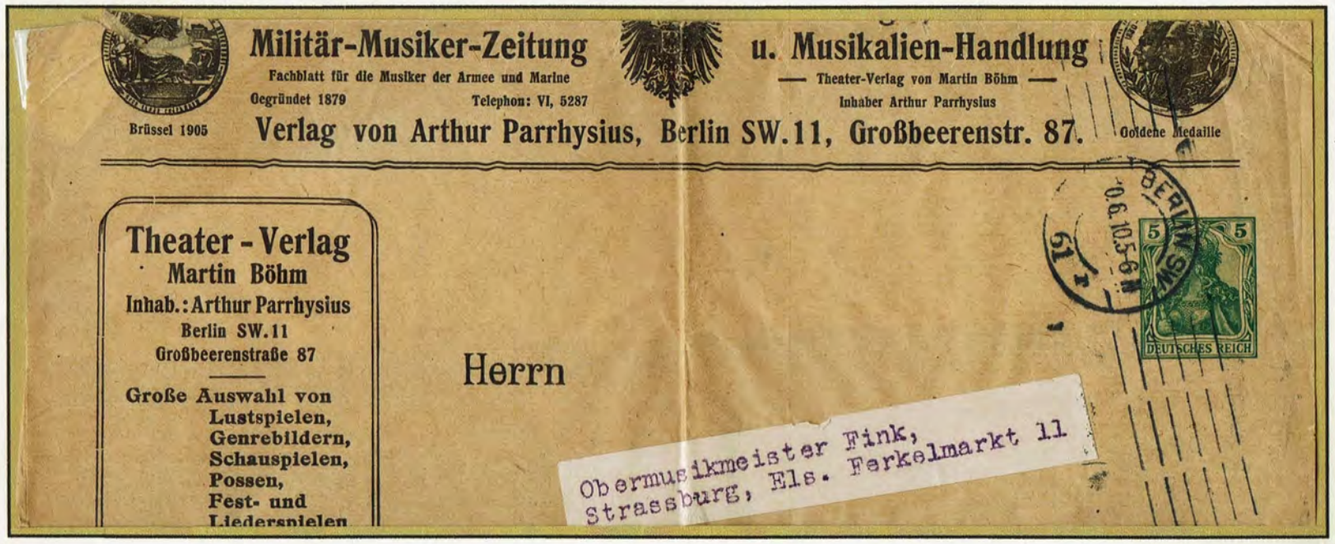
" Uruguay - 1932 - porte-timbre with 6 advertising, also piano "

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (Wolfie) was not only a virtuoso on harpsichord, but also on organ, violin and viola. But above all he was a composer. In his short life he composed more than 600 works.



6.5. *The complexity of the Romance*

The complexity of music became more and more difficult. The developments were the results of the idea of the progress of enlightenment. The notes became also more difficult and longer. That implied also that a lot of sophisticated instruments as flute and trumpet were more difficult to play.



" German Empire- 1910 - wrapper with advertising for scores and différent solo instruments "
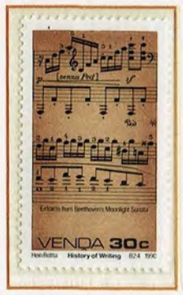
The Golden Age there was an extension of the orchestra. The length of the symphonies grew. In Europe there was extra more attention for better and new instruments. There came as well more rhythms and colors in the musical stories. The most spectacular progressing instrument was the piano with the inventing of the repetition technique. In this way the keys could be played much faster.



" Monaco - 2009 - artist proof in black - signed Elsa Catelin for issued stamp - orchestra "



" issued stamp "





Romanticism was an art movement of the 19th century. In that time of classical music, composers made more and more difficult compositions with more notes and difficult rhythms. The bars too were expanded. They made also use of 1/2, 2/3, 4/4, 4/5 and lots of note indication as shown on the letter below.



" USA - 1991 - major error - perforation is missed horizontally " (C)



" France- 1895 - red meter - postal stationery letter - 5 cent - from Bouches-du-Rhône with additional franking 1 c, 2c,3c and 4 c to prefecture to Lyon "



The composers were no longer in the service of the king, the emperor or the small court. They had to sell their own music to the public. That was likely the case for the opera composer Richard Wagner, who had to sell his own opera works such as among others " Walküre " and " Der fliegende Holländer".



6.6. *First means of communication spread the beautiful sounds*

Before the first gramophone disc was a fact, everywhere they played live. Inside theatres and outside on kiosks as shown below.





" France - 1930 - Orsay gardens and kiosk - postmark of exposition - only 2 recorded used "

Later they played also outside. On the kiosk they played sitting concerts, sometimes protected for the rain. There were also marching concerts in the streets during festivities.
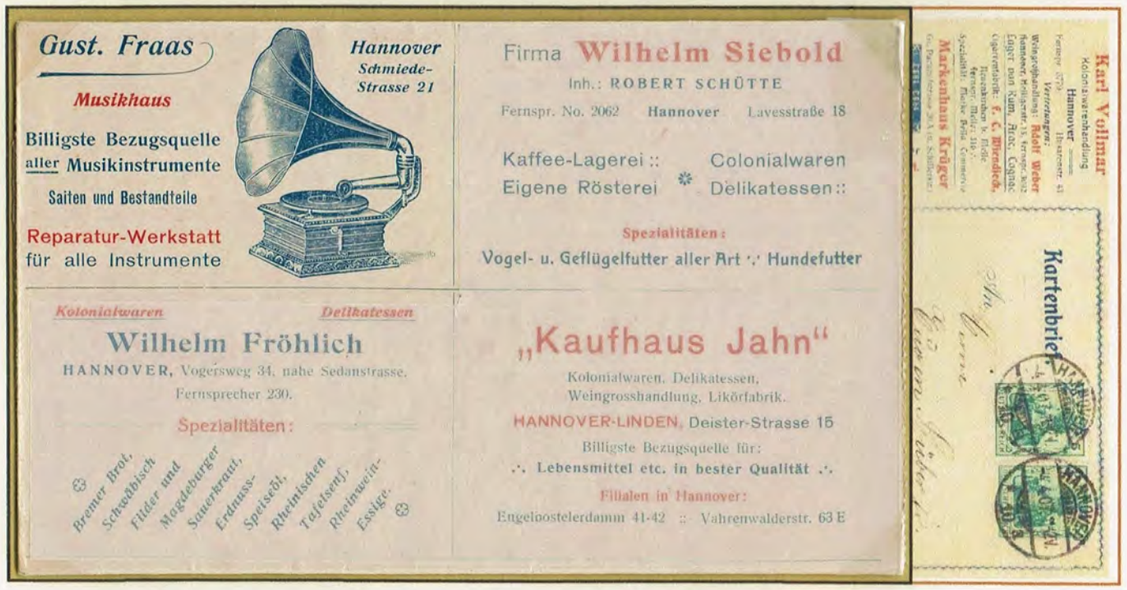












The first gramophone players had a movement type to turn on the discs. The vibrations of the horn were enhanced by the needle of the mechanism. During playback grooves were made in the gramophone disk.

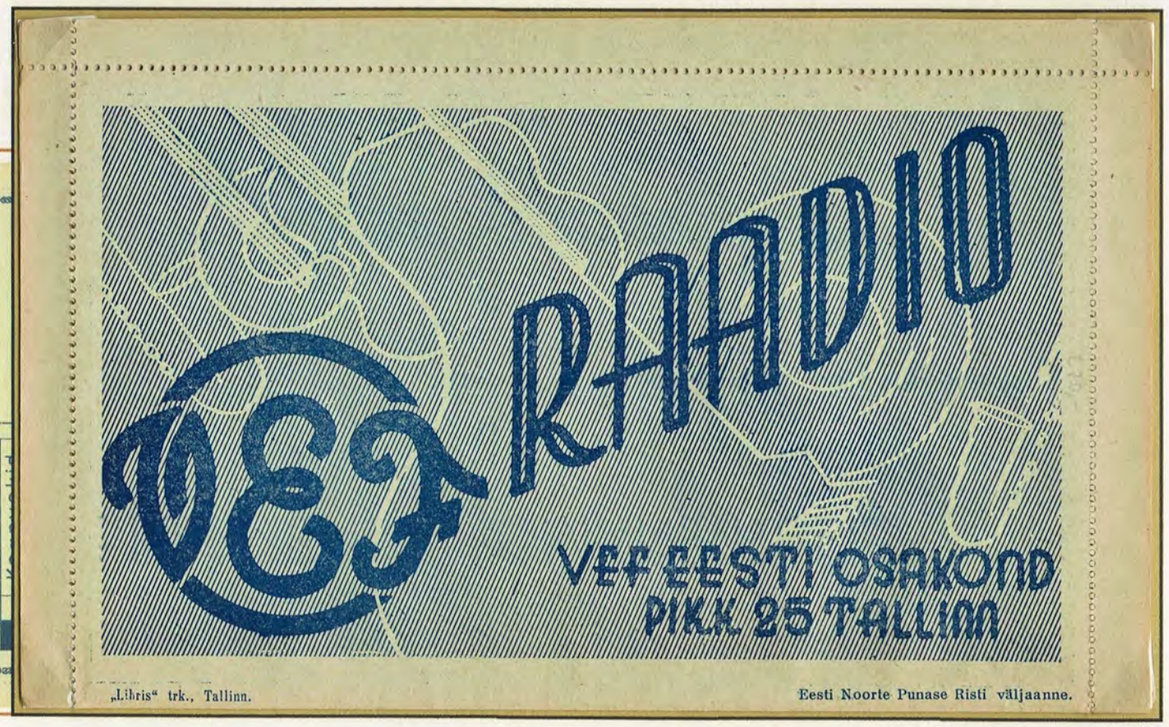






" German Empire - 1906 - advertising letter card n° 2 - Hannover - ill. gramophone player "

The radio was introduced in the 1920s. That means that radio was a free medium for the public to hear music for which they normally had to pay. In the beginning the concert houses and operas knew a relapse.



" Estonia - 1937 - letter card with private advertisement - seeria 24 - ill. radio "

6.6. First means of communication spread the beautiful sounds

In the early 19th century people had to go to the opera because there were no radios and no gramophones. A well-known playwright in that period was Victor Hugo, of whom in a later period pieces were adapted for opera. In the 20th century Georges Auric was important for writing ballets.



" issued stamp "



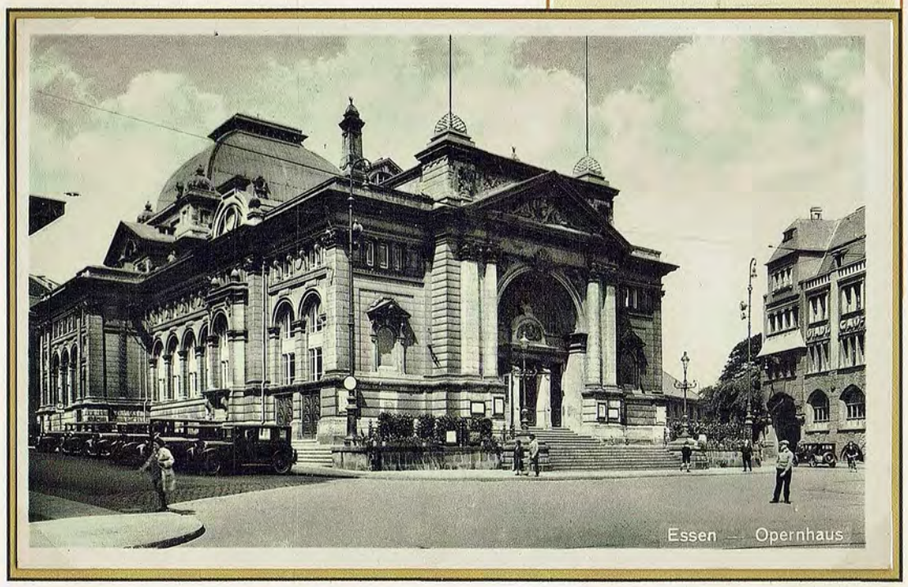
" France - 1979 - progressive color proofs
Bl, Ro and Br indicate the color
401, 212 and 615 indicate the color variation "



" France - 16 oct. 1870 - ballon monté " Le Victor Hugo " - Paris rue Saint-Honoré destination Rives "



As we have seen before, when there was no communication through gramophone or radio, the people often went to the opera. One of the highlights in the 19th century were these opera houses and their performances. Buildings were especially created to give opera performances or other comparable forms of art.



" German Empire - 1932 - printed to order - ill. opera house Essen "

In the beginning of the twentieth century the first concerts were broadcast by the radio. This means that from now on a lot of people could listen to very nice music in their seats.



" USA - 1938 - red meter - model " CA "



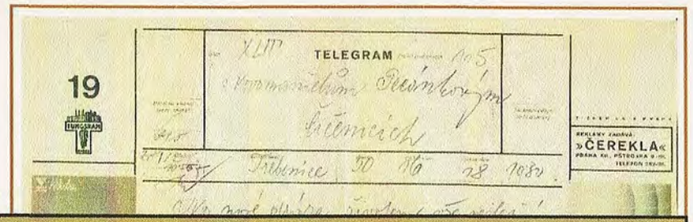


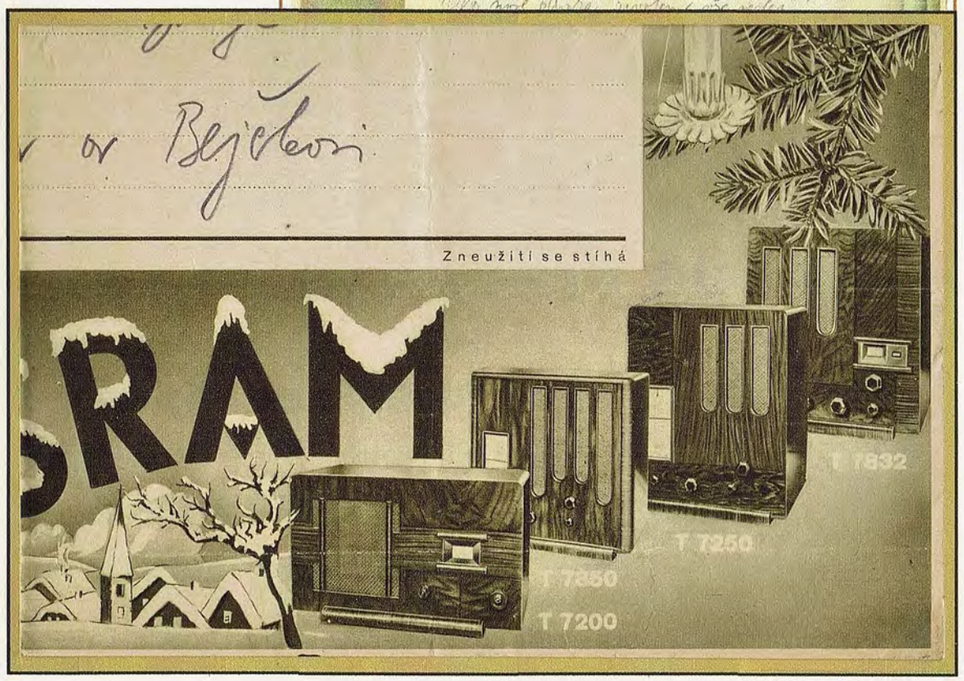
Besides the radio the pick up too was a very popular item. It was invented late 19th century by Emile Berliner. It was in use until the compact disc was coming up.





" Germany - 1965 - red meter - francotyp " Ccm "





6.7. *From classical music to contemporary songs*

20th century music described orchestral work, chamber music, solo works and electronic music. In the beginning of the century one of the most used musical instruments was the **piano**.



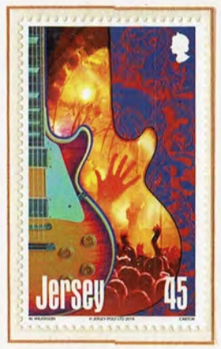
" German Empire - 1881 - folded letter printed to order - also advertising for piano "





" U.S.A. - 1938 - violet meter type Pitney Bowes HF - value 3 cents "

Before there was pop music with living legend **Elvis Presley**, and blues and jazz. The electrical guitar was especially used for rock and roll and blues. For jazz many brass instruments were used such as the **trombone**.



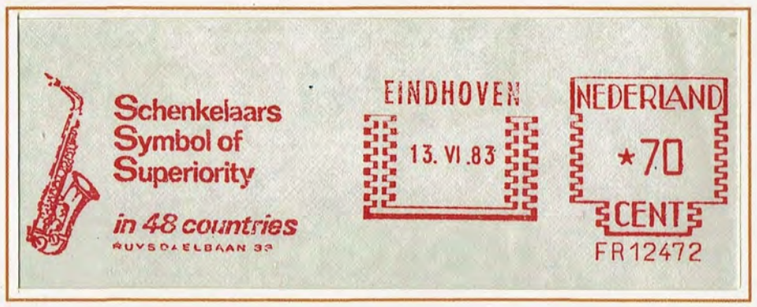




In the minimal music they worked in small ensembles. The composer Philip Glass used **organs** and **saxophones** in combination with vocalists. This music was also played by famous groups as **Pink Floyd**.











" France - 1899 - folded letter printed to order - also advertising for organs "

In those days classical music could be played together with techno, hard rock and pop music. Even all sorts of music could be played with and through each other. Nowadays they also use electro and computer instruments.





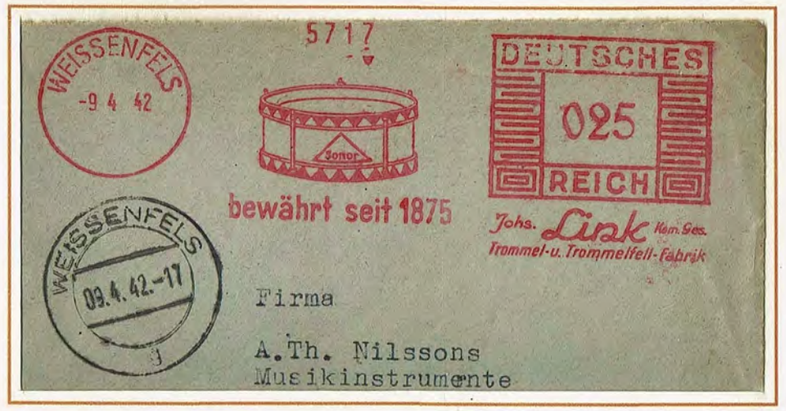
7. What is learned in this cradle is carried to the tomb

7.1. A musical childhood dream that comes true

Every child sometimes has a childhood dream and maybe he'll become a star. Everything can start with a toy instrument as present, such as a **trumpet**, or a **drum**.







" Germany - 1942 - red meter type franco B "

There are as well a lot of boys and girls who don't like a musical instrument, but they have a very good voice. So, maybe, they can start in a choir, or try to sing solo.





" Germany - 1981 - red meter type Postalia D2/D3 "

A lot of children early started with music. Chiefly in music school or sometimes in a music band, harmony, or fanfare. The choice of a musical instrument in a band is limited. There is more to offer in a harmony, or fanfare. When they don't play an instrument, they also can start to sing.



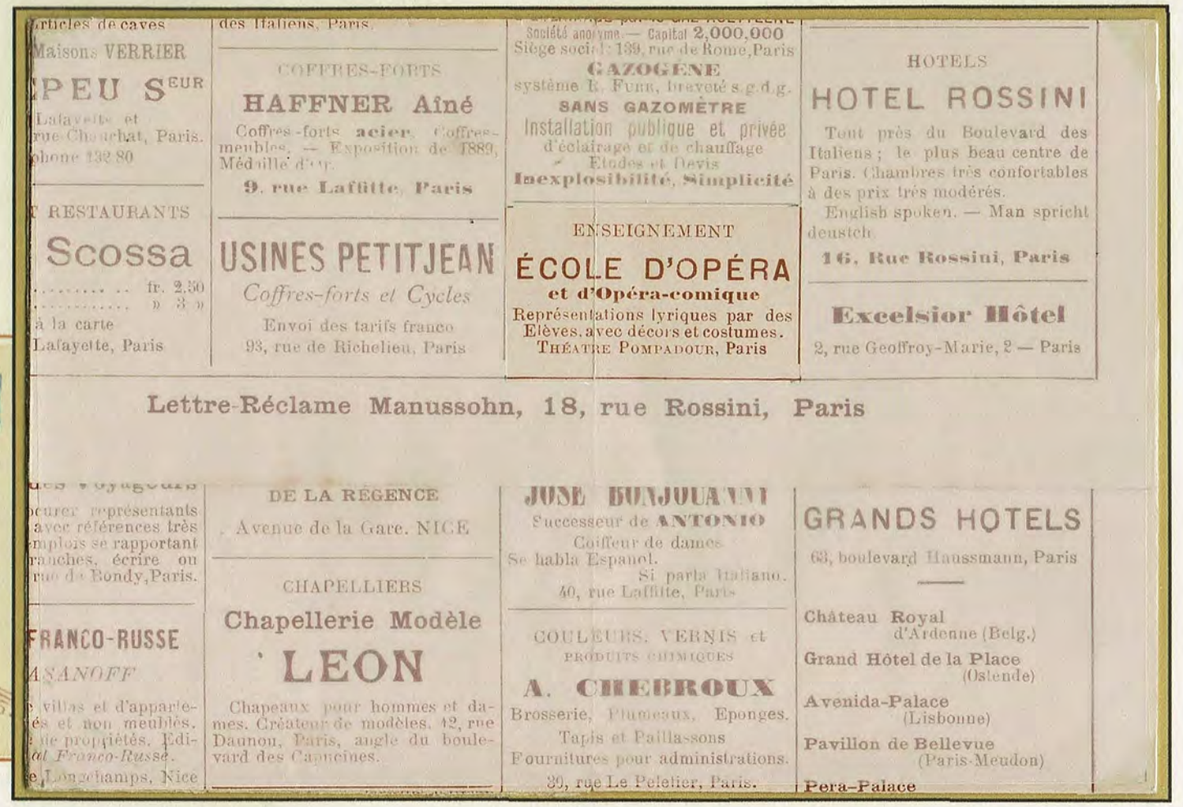


A private teacher can help the pupils to a higher level in singing and playing music.



" Belgium - 11 may 1889 - advertising-envelope sold for 8 cts instead of 10 cts - adv. music teacher "





" France - 11 October 1905 - advertising letter sold for 10 cts instead of 15 cts - adv. lyric students "

7.2. Everybody wants to become a master, few will be chosen

A lot of youngsters start a musical education at school or conservatory. Sometimes they begin to follow private lessons in a musical store.

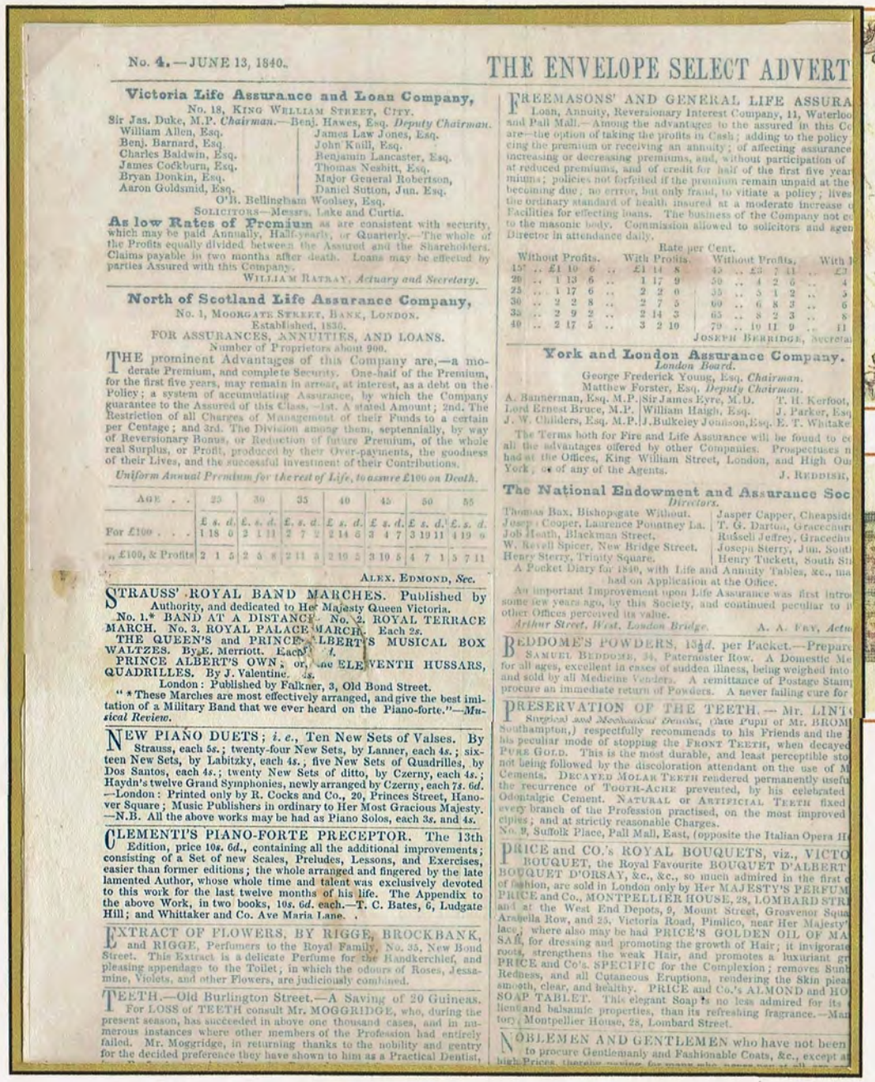




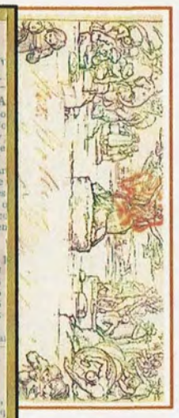
"Germany - 1913 stadtbrief - Hannover - conservatory in store itself"



It is probably a dream of all musical students to become a virtuoso in their musical profession. But before it will be so far, a lot of practice has to be done on any kind of musical instrument or voice. For a few of them it can become reality. It will not be easy to play the great master pieces of the earlier virtuosos.

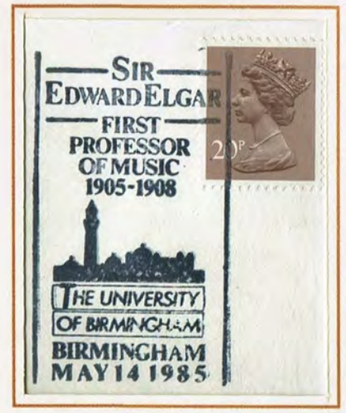


"Mulready 1d. - sent 22/07/1840 from Nottingham to London"











After the study of music theory an instrument will be chosen. The most gifted among them wioll choose a solo Instrument as **violin**, **piano** and **cello**. If they aren't succeeding in it, an alternative has to be found.



"Austria - 1967 - 3rd and final phase of the black and white artist proof - signed Otto Stefferl - with postmark of the Austrian state printing house - ill. violin"



"normal issued stamp"



"U.S.A - 1940 - violet meter type Pitney Bowes "R" serie"



"Germany - 1990 - red meter type Postalia D2/D3"

7.3. Musicians meet each other and wonder who's the best

All over the world musicians , amateurs and professionals are doing musical competitions against each other. These musical competitions already started during the youth. For example the Junior Euro Song Festival.









" issued stamp in lilac"

" Belgium - 1940 - **presentation waste** : Monochrome color proof of royals were always presented in different colors to the royal family. Not accepted colors were annulated by roller stamp. The definitive color accepted was lilac. "



In Belgium the Queen Elisabeth contest is a very well-known contest for piano, violin and vocals. Above, the audience is waiting at the virtuoso pianist. In Holland every four years the world championships take place in Kerkrade for the amateur fanfares and marching bands. Rock Werchter is a symbol for rock bands.

In the early 1920s were also vocal festivals important. Sometimes also many choirs came together to compete a contest. After the contest the singers could learn a lot of each others skills.



Besides the world championships for fanfares and marching bands in Holland there are also jazz festivals and even jazz jam sessions. Which means that the players, without knowing each other are playing music together.

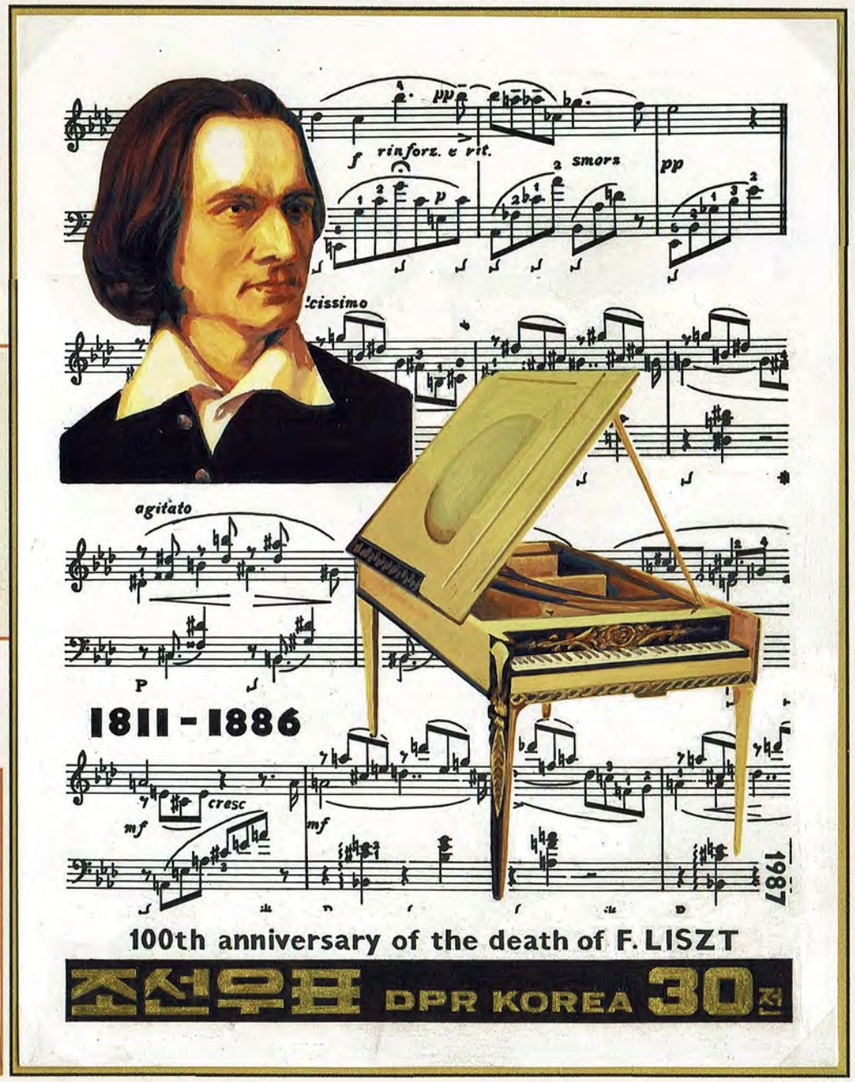






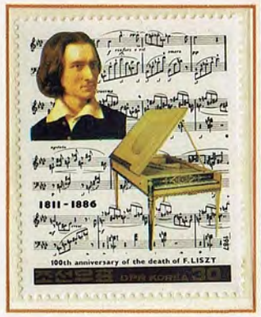


The Frédéric Chopin festival, every five years and the Franz Lizst piano concours every 3 years, are very well-known contests for young pianists. They come from all over the world to show their musical skills.





" Poland - 1947 - horizontal perforation is missing "



" normal issued stamp "

North Korea - 1987 - hand painted watercolor for issued stamp - ill. Franz Lizst "