

10/14/10 9:34 AM

Music in Latin America

- Thomas Turino (Excursions in World Music)

Mestizo Music

- Mestizo – used to be a racial term to mean person of mixed Amerindian and European ethnicity, but today refers more to the blending of the beliefs and cultural practices of those areas.
 - The Mestizo music is characterized by:
 - European scales and harmonies
 - Strophic song forms
 - Complex rhythms using polyrhythms
 - Mestizo music will vary depending on the geographical or cultural group (different combinations of European/Amerindian musics create distinct subgenres)
- Wayno mestizo –
 - song-dance genre
 - strophic texts
 - AABB form
 - Duple meter – rhythm is dotted or tripleted
- Play example CD 3 Track 3 with listening guide

More mestizo

- The European influence is very evident with the addition of the guitar
- The guitar has been incorporated into many mestizo ensembles
- Most recently, electronic instruments have been incorporated.
- European scales and harmonies have also infiltrated.
- Sesquialtera – rhythm characterized by combining triple and duple meters
- Kena – Andean end-notched flute that predates the arrival of the Spaniards to the continent

Major Peruvian Mestizo genres

- Wayno
- Marinera – song-dance music with sesquialtera rhythm

- Yaraví – slow sad and lyrical. Used to serenade a lover or express deep emotion (often unrequited love)

Mestizo music in Mexico

Mestizo Jarocho ensemble

- Musical group from rural, southern Mexican state of Veracruz.
- Instruments include
 - A large harp
 - Requinto – 4 stringed guitar
 - Jaranas – small 8 stringed guitar (one or more)
- Mainly plays in the Son Mestizo genre

Mariachi

- Instruments: two or more violins
- Vihuela
- Guitarrón
- Two trumpets
- Various guitars
- Originally from Jalisco Mexico
 - Plays various styles of music
 - Canciones Rancheras – country songs
 - Corridos – Mexican ballads usually on historical or topical themes

Conjuntos Nortenos

- Popular dance band associated with northern Mexico
 - Features:
 - Three-row button accordion
 - Banjo sexto (12 string guitar)
 - Bass
 - Drums

Marimba bands

- Wooden xylophone
- Originally came from Africa and originally tuned pentatonically
- Today, they are tuned like a western scale

Aymara and Siku Panpipe Ensembles

Questions for students to pay attention to:

- What are the attitudes of the boys at the beginning of the clip?
- What do the reactions of the bystanders watching say about their perception of the music?
- What kind of sense of community is displayed between the two ensembles?

Play: South Park "Pandemic" begin at 3:04

The Aymara of Southern Peru

- Located in the Andean Highlands
- While the Aymara people have mixed with the mestizos, their music has remained predominately autonomous.

Instruments

- Siku – Panpipes.
- Pinkillus – vertical flutes with a recorder-like mouthpiece.
- Tarkas – similar to pinkillus.
- Wankara and Bombos – large double-headed bass drums.
- Cajas – drums with snares.

Festivals and Celebrations

- Music is an essential part to these celebrations.
- Celebrations can include:
 - Local Aymara deities.
 - Weddings, first haircuts.
 - Catholic holidays.
 - Ancestors.
 - Building Projects.

Community Music

- Ensembles can include players with wide ranges of skill.
- Each member is valued equally.

- There are no soloists.
- The ensembles are taught to play with one sound.

Siku Cooperative Style

- Siku players each have 7 notes of a 14 note scale.
- They play them in an interlocking (hocket) style.
- Each group of siku players has pairs of two players.
- Siku Ensembles are only comprised of men. Women sing and dance.

Question: How did South Park address the sense of community in Peruvian music? How did their bystander characters reflect an opinion of the general American population?

The Suya Indians of Brazil

- Music is similar to the Aymara but with a couple key differences
 - Pieces are attributed to individuals, whereas the Aymara are collective
 - Different singers have different parts, often happening simultaneously.

African American Musical Values and Styles

- Influences from Africa include
 - Instruments (the ones below are specific to a Currulao Ensemble)
 - Currulao - the Marimba – wooden keys with bamboo resonators, 28 keys in this region
 - Single headed drums similar to congas
 - Bombo drums – deep two headed drums
 - Bamboo shakers
 - Ostinato with improvised variations
 - Interlocking rhythmic parts
 - Accompanies solo singer with call and response format
- The Marimbula
 - A large box lamellaphone similar to an Africa mbira, but much larger