

YR 11

CALYPSO & SAMBA MUSIC

AUTUMN 2

SAMBA MUSIC




CONTEXT:

- From Brazil
- West African instruments and features due to slave trade
- Large groups of Samba musicians and dancers are called Samba Schools; the percussion section is called the '**Bateria**', and the music they play is called the '**Batucada**'
- Samba is performed at Brazilian Carnivals

MUSICAL FEATURES/VOCABULARY

In 2/4 or 4/4	Accents – emphasised notes
Fast tempo	Syncopation – off beat/in between the beats
Major key	Call and Response – question and answer
Ostinatos – repeated patterns	Breaks – break in texture
Polyrhythms – many rhythms at once	Emphasis on beat 2 – accenting beat 2
Cross rhythms – conflicting rhythms	Bateria –percussion group
Complex texture –lots of layers	Batucada - percussion music

INSTRUMENTS

Surdo 	Large resonant bass drum played with stick and hand; comes in different sizes	Sets basic beat, largest often used to emphasise the second beat of the bar
Caixa (kayshah) 	Snare drum, played with pair of sticks	Plays faster rhythms and accents some notes
Repinique 	High pitched, like tom tom, played by leader	Used for solo rhythms in call and response sections
Cuica (kweekal) 	Hheld horizontally, large pitch range; has wooden stick inside attached to skin which player rubs with wet cloth; pitch varied by altering pressure on skin of drum	Cultural importance and adds variety of timbre – if not present, often imitated by singers
Tamborim 	Small drum, high pitched, played with one beater	Syncopated rhythms – often clave rhythm
Agogo 	Double cow bell with two different pitches, played with stick	Adds pitch, can play quicker rhythms
Apito de samba 	Two-toned whistle, played by leader	Used by leader to control the performance by setting tempo and signalling changes between sections

Shakers, Scrapers and Tambourines also added.

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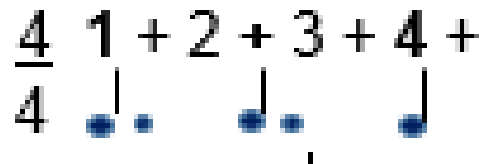
CONTEXT:

- Calypso is a type of traditional music from the twin islands of Trinidad and Tobago in the Caribbean.
- Origins in the work songs of African slaves – used for communication with clever and witty lyrics
- Further influences from Spain, France & Britain who all ruled the island at some point
- It consists of mostly songs, where music & lyrics are of equal importance
- Lyrics often tell a story or comment on society, culture or politics; the lyrics can be funny or mocking and are often improvised.
- The French brought over the tradition of a yearly Carnival; still held annually today and Calypso music plays a major part, with competitions and prizes

MUSICAL FEATURES

Syncopation
 Simple harmony (mostly primary chords)
 Short phrases
 Melody harmonised in 3rds
 Use of call and response
 Melody and accompaniment or sometimes polyphonic
 2/4 or 4/4

CALYPSO RHYTHM:



INSTRUMENTS

Steel pans		Bongos	
Guitar (electric and acoustic)		Congas	
Bass guitar		Maracas	
Brass (trumpets & trombones)		Claves	
Woodwind (clarinets and saxophones)		Drum kit	