
Subject: Unusual Instruments

Posted by [PianoGrrl](#) on Mon, 30 Jan 2017 14:59:53 GMT

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I was looking through my David Bowie albums and found that the weird sound in Space Oddity was created by something called a Stylophone. I'd never heard of one before, but I looked it up on wiki and it got me thinking. What other instruments have kind of dropped out of use, or been forgotten?

Subject: Re: Unusual Instruments

Posted by [Azuri](#) on Mon, 30 Jan 2017 19:46:09 GMT

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7sfBcWvVUbs>

This is a Nyckelharpa. The link above shows it being played. It is a keyed string instrument and makes a very unique sound.

Something I'm sure Bowie would have appreciated.

File Attachments

1) [NYCK.JPG](#), downloaded 1402 times

Subject: Re: Unusual Instruments

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Tue, 31 Jan 2017 16:00:09 GMT

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I always thought the Armonica was interesting.

And of course, the Theramin.

Subject: Re: Unusual Instruments

Posted by [Silver](#) on Wed, 01 Feb 2017 16:24:25 GMT

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So the Armonica was first played by Marianne Davies in London? I wonder if Ray Davies of The Kinks is related somehow?

I never knew Franklin was so into music that he invented his own instrument. That's cool to know.

Subject: Re: Unusual Instruments
Posted by [PianoGrrl](#) on Mon, 06 Feb 2017 09:58:08 GMT
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I thought the harpiscord was rare, but I've never heard of these instruments before. The Theremin looks really really bizarre, and an instrument played without touching it feels like something that should have been built in this century, not nearly a hundred years old!

Subject: Re: Unusual Instruments
Posted by [vhfspeaks](#) on Sat, 11 Feb 2017 08:55:35 GMT
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I remember seeing on some old country videos someone playing something that looked like a table with strings across it, rather like a guitar turned on its side strings upwards with an underslung soundbox and a winding handle for tightening them. It seems to be a rare instrument, because I can't find it anywhere! What is it called, because trying to look it up is driving me insane.

Subject: Re: Unusual Instruments
Posted by [Tadtone](#) on Sat, 11 Feb 2017 18:46:32 GMT
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vhfspeaks wrote on Sat, 11 February 2017 02:55 I remember seeing on some old country videos someone playing something that looked like a table with strings across it, rather like a guitar turned on its side strings upwards with an underslung soundbox and a winding handle for tightening them. It seems to be a rare instrument, because I can't find it anywhere! What is it called, because trying to look it up is driving me insane. Do you mean a pedal steel guitar? They're common in country music, just not really anywhere else, so I'd guess you don't listen to that much country. Hope that helps your sanity!

Subject: Re: Unusual Instruments
Posted by [vhfspeaks](#) on Thu, 16 Feb 2017 21:13:31 GMT
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Thank you for saving my sanity! That's it, although I never knew it was common in country and it looks very different on a 1950's TV clip. You live and learn.
