Bansuri

(North-Indian transverse Bamboo Flute)

Main [solo] Instrument: In the key of ‘E’
[fingered by closing upper three holes]

Sound Examples

Idiosyncrasy:
• It is a modal instrument
• ‘Alto flute’-like sounding, with a sweet, ‘liquid’, slightly ‘airy’ tone.
• Powerful, expressive vocal-like melodies
• Great bends & glissandi ['meends']
• While not having a strongly high-harmonic spectrum content, can still project fairly well (especially when using smaller instruments).

Basic Range:
[Music notation with range indicated]

Link to Basic Scales

Bansuri ‘Family’ Link

Other Observations: Non-traditional performing techniques allow very effective, powerful ‘rhythmic guitar’-like motifs, including portamento-‘air-only’ sounds.

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Bansuri
(North-Indian transverse Bamboo Flute)

Basic Scales:

Sounds:
**Bansuri ‘Family’**

**Instruments:** They go from Picc. [in ‘F’, 20 cms] to Bass [in low ‘A’, 115 cms]:

- **Picc. Bansuri Range:**
  ![Picc. Bansuri Scale]
  (difficult but possible)

- **Bass BansuriRange:**
  ![Bass Bansuri Scale]
  (possible)
  (possible)

**And its Basic Scale:**

- **Picc. Bansuri Range:**
  ![Picc. Bansuri Scale]
  (possible)

- **Bass Bansuri Range:**
  ![Bass Bansuri Scale]
  (possible)

**Bansuri family range** [from bass through picc.] (basically four octaves):

**Other Comments:**

The Bansuri is an extremely versatile instrument.

Although a direct result of North-Indian classical music, it is --acoustically-- a key-less, transverse bamboo flute!

This remarkable flexibility allows evoking other musical cultures very effectively.

- **Picc. Bansuri mp3**
- **Bass Bansuri mp3**

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