

TRADITIONAL CHORDOPHONES OF THE IFUGAO: A LOOK INTO THE POTENTIALS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDIES IN THE PHILIPPINES

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Abstract

With a musical system that is deeply rooted in oral tradition, the study of something more tangible such as material culture is crucial in advancing ethnomusicology in the Philippines. Although music-related artifacts are yet to be explored fully in Philippine archaeology, materials from indigenous cultures particularly musical instruments that were archived at the turn of the century, present perspectives on the early music in the Philippines. This paper explores the traditional chordophones of the Ifugao and how analysis of materials such as these provide insights and directions to the specialist study of archaeomusicology, and further elucidates the pre-colonial roots of music and musical instruments in the country.

Keywords: archaeomusicology, chordophone, prehistory, zither, organology

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