

Distinctive Features

	Chinese	Indian	Japanese	Arab	Latin American	Indonesian	African
Melody	Most important element of an composition Pentatonic scale – no dissonance	Raga Improvised Pitch bend Ornamentation	Programmatic music Vocal music	Narrow range (4 th /5 th)	Salsa = theme plus improvisation Tango = ballroom origins	Nuclear theme Repetitive cells	Pentatonic
Rhythm	Percussion instruments emphasise off beats	Tala	Percussion instruments outline strong points in the music	Iqu'at	Salsa = Son clave (5-stroke rhythm over 2 bars); syncopation Tango = dotted rhythms/triplets	Gongan = 4 beat cycles	Polyrhythmic Syncopation
Texture	Heterophonic	Melody and accompaniment	Heterophonic	Heterophonic	Melody and accompaniment	Overall = polyphonic Melody = heterophonic (nuclear theme + panerusan)	Drumming = polyphonic
Structure	-	Alap – Jhor - Jhalla	Jo – Ha – Kyu Through-composed	Call and response	Salsa: Verse (lead singer/instrumentalist) - Break - Montuno (call and response) Tango: Verse-Chorus	Through composed	Call and response
Tonality/Harmony	Pentatonic scale No dissonances No chordal harmony	Raga No fixed pitch Drone	Ryo (Lydian mode – major) Ritsu (Dorian mode – minor) No chordal harmony	Maqam Quarter tones No fixed pitch No chordal harmony	Tonic-dominant Salsa = usually major key Tango = minor key	No fixed pitch Scales: Slendro and Pelog No harmony	Pentatonic scale No fixed pitch Melodies harmonised in 3rds/6ths
Anything else?	PREPARED TOPIC – SEE NOTES	Oral tradition Guru teaching practice	Gagaku – court music Notated and memorised = no improvisation	Art music, folk songs, dance music Call and response Oral tradition Mainly vocal	Improvised sections		Master drummer Talking drums

Instruments

	Chinese	Indian	Japanese	Arab	Latin American	Indonesian	African
Plucked string	Ch'in (pipa) 	Sitar Sarod Tambura 	Biwa Shamisen Koto 	Ud Buzuq (lute) 	Salsa Big band front line: trumpets, saxophones + Latin percussion: timbales, clave, guiro, congas  	Balungan = saron family (metallophone); nuclear theme 	Djembe 
Bowed string	Erh-hu 	Sarangi 	Kokyu 	Rabab Violin 		Interpunctuating = Gongs eg. gong ageng (largest) and kempul (medium-sized) – suspended from a frame; kenong, kempyang and ketuk all rest flat on cords. 	Talking drum/dun-dun Mbira (thumb piano) 
Flute	Dizi (hsiao/ti-tzu) 	Basuri 	Ryuteki (horizontally-blown) Komabue (short Korean) Shakuhachi (end-blown) 	Nay 			
Oboe	Tou-kan	Shenai 	Hickiriki 	Oboe	Tango Violin Double Bass Piano Bandoneon 	Panerusan = gender family (similar to orchestral xylophones but bronze keys); bonang family (gong-chimes); gambang (wooden xylophone); celempung (zither); rabab (2-string bowed); suling (end-blown flute). 	Balaphon (xylophone) 
Other woodwind	Sheng 		Sho 	Mizwad (bagpipes) 			Rattle
Percussion	Yün-lo Drums	Tabla 	Kakko 	Riq 			
Other...	Voice	Harmonium Santür (zither with mallets) 	Taiko 	Qanun (zither) Voice 	Samba drumming = surdo, repinique, tamborim, agogo bells ganza Other = Panpipes Tres (Spanish guitar) Flute	Rhythm = kendang gending and ketipung (conical drums); bedug (large barrel-shaped drum); keprak (wood blocks); kekrek (metal plates); kecer (small cymbals).	Kora (plucked string) 