## ANDEAN MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS OF PERU

By: Rodolfo Schimon rsch934@gmail.com



Music in pre-Hispanic Peru is mainly based on the invention and use of musical instruments. It is known that antaras y zampoñas, have been the main sound artifacts that have given life to Andean music. They were made of various materials for their manufacture such as reeds y bird bones. The Caral antara dates back to 5000 years a.C.

The whistling glass, belonging to of aerophone group instruments, is a wind instrument typical pre-Columbian of America. They were built of pottery and it is conjectured that they had ceremonial use due to refinement the of their manufacture. It usually has geometric decorations, painted on its surface, with vegetable, animal or human motifs. It consists of two chambers, interconnected in such a way as to allow air to travel from the blow tube to the whistle airduct





Indigenous man playing the quena.

The Quena is a bevel-shaped wind instrument, similar to a flute. It is one of the oldest instruments used in Peru. Today it is one of the most popular instruments of Andean folk music ensembles. The sound is regulated through seven fingering holes, six at the front and one at the back, for the thumb. The sound obtained is lower if the length of the resonator tube is longer.



The Punkuri huayllaquepa is a kind of trumpet made from the shell of a marine mollusk. So far, the oldest in the Americas. Their presence is in ceremonial centers. It dates back to 3000 B.C. In the Southern Andes, it is known by the name of: pututo (conch).



It is an important pre-Columbian musical instrument, dating back 2,500 years. In the vestiges of the Nazca culture, there are chromatic ceramic antaras and knowledge of acoustics and physics. We can point to the nazcas as the most advanced musicians in all of America in their time. The specimens distributed in museums in Peru and around the world show the great finish they achieved, not only in ceramics, but also in musical scales.



Also called tinya or wancar. It is an Andean percussion instrument, similar to a drum, whose use is widespread in the Andean area. It is constructed from very fine rawhides, giving it a vibrant, high-pitched sound. It has a mystical origin and was used exclusively in spiritual rituals.





The zampoña is a wind instrument of the Pan flute family, composed of pipes like flutes, open at one end and closed at the other, arranged vertically in two rows, all of different lengths diameters, which determines the sound of each one when blown by the pipe or executor of said flute. The zampoña is one of the most representative instruments of Andean cultures.