



Mizmar (instrument)

In Arabic music, a ***mizmār*** (Arabic: مزمار; plural مزامير *mazāmīr*) is any single or double reed wind instrument. In Egypt, the term *mizmar* usually refers to the conical shawm that is called zurna in Turkey and Armenia.

Mizmar is also a term used for a group of musicians, usually a duo or trio, that play a *mizmar* instrument along with an accompaniment of one or two double-sided bass drums, known in Arabic as *tabl baladi* or simply *tabl*.

Mizmars are usually played in Egypt at either weddings or as an accompaniment to belly dancers. At Egyptian weddings, the Mizmar Baldi is accompanied with a belly dancer to greet the bride and groom.^[1]

In The Arabian Peninsula, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, the Palestinian Territories, and Syria, it is influenced by the Anatolian/Armenian zurna, a higher-pitched version of the *mizmar*, and may also be known in those countries as a *zamr* (زمر)^[2] or *zamour*, as well as *mizmar*. In Algeria a similar instrument is called *ghaita* or *rhaita* (غيطة).^[3] Along with belly dancing, the mizmar may accompany the dabke, a folkloric line dance done in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Palestine, and Iraq.

Mizmar



Egyptian Musicians playing the traditional mizmar (center), between ney flute and goblet drum.

Classification

Double reed

Related instruments

Connard

- Rhaita
- Suona
- Sopila
- Shawm

See also

- Mizmar (dance)

References

1. "The New Sound of Egyptian Wedding Rave Is Coming to London" (<https://www.vice.com/en/article/znwkbw/the-new-sound-of-egyptian-wedding-rave-is-coming-to-london-105>), *vice.com*
2. Berger, Shlomo; Brocke, Michael; Zwiép, Irene (2003). *Zutot 2002* (<https://books.google.com/books?id=XVpAUOIQuZEC&pg=PA133>). Dordrecht: Kluwer Academic Publishers. p. 133. ISBN 1402013248.

3. Brown, David. [Oriental Oboes and Shawms \(http://larkinam.com/Articles/ArtOrientalOboes.html\)](http://larkinam.com/Articles/ArtOrientalOboes.html) larkinam.com

External links

- [Mizmar. Dominik Photo \(http://www.dominikphoto.com/gallery2/main.php?g2_itemId=58\)](http://www.dominikphoto.com/gallery2/main.php?g2_itemId=58)
Images of the making

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