

In my bachelor thesis I studied how harmony, rhythm and forms can apply in ceremonial music in Central Africa, forms and rhythms that we can find in European music also but somehow different.

Firstly, I spoke about the Geographical area in Central Africa, which is divided in latitudes. And how in these latitudes since there were boundary marks, political territories involved. These territories were French Equatorial Africa, the Belgian Congo and Ruanda - Urundi, Uganda and Tanganyika.

Secondly, I speak about ceremonial music, how music, dance and drama come together. It is very strange to notice that in some of their languages they use only one word for music, dance and drama. I moved through healing, initiation, birth, marriage, hunting, and New Year and new moon ceremonies.

Furthermore, one of the most interesting parts of my thesis is the "Talking Drum", a drum that can announce important news to the tribes. For me of course is very unique but it is normal if we consider that some of these tribes have until nine pitch levels in their speech.

One of their special elements is rhythm. African hemiola style is a style that we know from early European music. Considering harmony the most interesting is "hocketus", a technique that can be described by breaking up the melodic flow into interrupted (hiccupped) fragments between two or more voices.

I continued with the melodic types and with the singing style where we can notice the absence of vibrato and the appearance of tremolo (six changes per second).

And finally, I spoke about the musical instruments they are using. Most of them are percussion and there are also some wind instruments.