

The Museum of Amazing Musical Instruments - The Hang drum

The Hang is a very special and very rare instrument. It's more than just a drum, it's a musical phenomenon.

Playing the Hang drum encourages musical exploration, creation, listening and special sensitivity. Some even say it creates inner peace, others gain a new perspective on music making when they play the Hang.

The Hang drum comes from Switzerland. They have been made since the year 2000 - in fact, hang drums are the first instrument to have been invented in the 21st century.

Hangs are made by a husband and wife in Switzerland called Felix and Sabina. They are the only people in the world who can make a Hang drum, so getting hold of one is really difficult.

Hang drums are made of steel. Before they finished the first Hang, Felix and Sabina experimented with cowbells, gongs and cymbals to develop their own unique type of steel. The two halves of the Hang are bonded together then the notes are gently tapped into the metal with special hammers.

The hang drum is a tuned drum. This means that the notes you play on the hang are the same notes that you would hear played on a piano, a guitar, a trumpet, a violin or any other tuned instrument. My Hang is tuned to the musical scale of D minor.

The notes around the outside of the Hang are called the choir. The central note is called the 'Ding'. The big hole in the base of the hang is called the 'Gu'.

Hang means 'hand' in Swiss-German. You may only play the Hang with your hands - stick will damage the metal and it will go out of tune.

Many people enjoy the soft, mysterious sound of the Hang. But how does the sound make YOU feel?

HOW WELL DID YOU LISTEN?

The Hang drum comes from

Hang drums are made of

The notes you play on the hang are the same notes that you would hear played on a

The central note of the hang is called the

The big hole in the base of the hang is called the.....

The word Hang means in Swiss-German.

Should you play a Hang with drum sticks? (yes or no)

The shape of the hang drum makes me think of

The sound of the hang drum makes me feel.....