

# Workshop



## MUSIC

**Target group** children or adults

**Group size** max 20 people

**How much time?** 2 hours

### preparation

**How much time?** 1 hour

**Which material?** a sound system

### objectives



Music can be used in intercultural workshop, especially when we work with children.

Intercultural workshops with music can be useful to promote and encourage consciousness and communication, because they nullify language barriers.

Through the Music we can discover our personal identity, but, at the same time, we can feel like others.

John Blacking, an English anthropologist, in his main work "How Musical is man?", wrote: "Music production can help us to prove that men are creatures potentially better than most societies allow them to be".

So Music is a language. Not a language in strict meaning, because it needs a context, to acquire sense, meaning.

Music expresses a symbolic meaning, symbolizes feelings and emotions.

So we can consider it as a metaphorical language.

So: can we consider Music as a universal language?

For many years, the musicology's discipline tried to find some universal aspects in music. But it met failures, because rhythms, scales, musical instruments are not universal.

When Anthropology meets Musicology, the turn of mind changes: they find universal in music: human behaviour.

John Blacking said that Music has two strata (layers): one is that on the surface, that includes scales, rhythms, instruments, so the audible products of music. The other stratum, the deep stratum, are the psychological and biological conditions that allow men to do music.

Man is music maker.

So, music is not only a series of sounds.

It is emblem of positive feelings, join people, is a symbol of emotions, valour,...

So the didactics of music can become intercultural if it elaborates programs in which children discover what is universal in doing music, for all men, and, at the same time, discover the extraordinary diversity, in which time and place.

#### how to do it

All people must have the opportunity to do music.

We have to rethink to the idea of music, especially in schools.

It's not enough present different musics: you can run the risk of fall into the exotism.

We have to elaborate interdisciplinary programs.

Music must become the place in which we try new relationships, a place of research, of play, of imagination.

We have to work with 3 pedagogical indicator: the game, the improvisation and the narration.

The game because we learn better if we play and playing we use more competences, we pay attention.

The improvvisation because it allow a better exploration of sounding matter

The narration, because it allow to think about us and situations. It help us to be counsciuous of our identity.

#### important to know

We can work on many elements:

- functions of music
- musical instruments
- the soundscape
- the voice
- the music with the body