Bansoori





In India the Bansoori has been a mere folk instrument for a long time. Only with the dawn of the 20th century did it become a solo instrument of classical music, thanks to great musicians like Hariprasad Chaurasia.

The Bansoori is made of a long, quite thick bamboo cane, which produces very low notes due to its length. The holes are positioned quite far apart, a distance for most people almost impossible to cover. Only hard practice enables the player to stretch the fingers adequately in order to cover all the holes. Usually the Indians cover the holes with outstretched fingers instead of the fingertips which makes it easier to play. For Western people to play the Bansoori is definitely a challenge. But whoever can get the hang of it is rewarded with a warm, deep and typically Indian flute sound.

Bansooris are mostly tuned in D and E but are also available in other tunings and smaller sizes. These flutes are easier to play, but then of a higher pitch.