

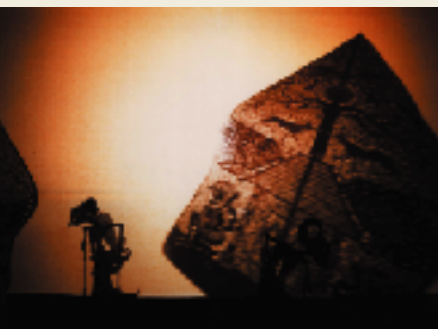
UNESCO Second Proclamation of Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity

28 oral and intangible heritage out of 56 candidature from over 60 Member States were proclaimed as the Masterpieces by UNESCO on 7 November 2003. This followed the First Proclamation in May 2001 (refer to the list in page 9).

Asia and the Pacific

The Royal Ballet of Cambodia—Cambodia

Recognizable by its graceful hand gestures and stunning costumes, the Royal Ballet of Cambodia or Khmer classical dance has been closely associated with the royal court for over one thousand years.



Wayang Puppet Theatre (courtesy of Nippon Wayang Kyokai)



The Pansori Epic Chant (courtesy of Korea National Tourism Organization)

Lakalaka, Dances and Sung Speeches of Tonga—Tonga

Widely considered the national dance of Tonga, this complex tradition, *Lakalaka*, blends oratory skills, legend and lore, musical composition and choreography.

Vanuatu Sand Drawing—Vanuatu

Vanuatu's sand drawing tradition is not merely a time-honoured artistic expression, but a veritable means of communication indigenous to the central and northern islands of the archipelago.



Vanuatu Sand Drawing © Erica Pitt



Nha Nhac (courtesy of Yamaguti Osamu)



The Art of Guqin Music © Music Research Institute of Chinese Academy of Arts

The Art of Guqin Music—China

The seven-stringed zither or *guqin* has been played in China for 3,000 years. *Guqin* playing represents China's most developed solo musical instrument tradition.

The Tradition of Vedic Chanting—India

Expressed in elegant Vedic language, the ancestor of classical Sanskrit, the verses of the Vedas were traditionally chanted during sacred rituals and ceremonies and recited daily in the Vedic communities.

Wayang Puppet Theatre—Indonesia

This ancient form of storytelling is performed by a master puppeteer (*dalang*) who manipulates the puppets while singers and musicians play complex melodies on bronze instruments and gamelan drums.

Ningyo Johruri Bunraku Puppet Theatre—Japan

One of Japan's leading traditional stage arts, the professional puppet theatre *ningyo johruri bunraku*, is a unique blend of sung narrative, instrumental accompaniment and puppet drama.



Bunraku Puppet Theatre (courtesy of Agency of Cultural Affairs)

The Art of the Akyns, Kyrgyz Epic Tellers—Kyrgyzstan

As the preferred form of cultural expression of the nomadic Kyrgyz people, the *Akyns'* storytelling art combines singing and performing, improvising and musical composing that have been transmitted orally over the centuries.

The Traditional Music of the Morin Khuur—Mongolia

For more than seven centuries, the cherished two-string horsehead fiddle called *morin khuur* has figured prominently in the culture of Mongolia's nomad population.



The Morin Khuur © Rinchenonm Gombojav

The Pansori Epic Chant—Rep. of Korea

Pansori is a form of musical storytelling performed by a vocalist with drum accompaniment. It is one of the most unique expressions of Korea's rich performing arts tradition and embraces both elite and folk culture.

Nha Nhac, Vietnamese Court Music—Viet Nam

Meaning "elegant music", *nha nhac* refers to the Vietnamese court music performed at annual ceremonies, including anniversaries and religious holidays, as well as special events such as coronations, funerals or official receptions.

Shashmaqom Music—Tajikistan, Uzbekistan (Multinational)

Shashmaqom is a unique fusion of vocal and instrumental music, melodic and rhythmic idioms, literature and aesthetic concepts. Comprising several local Maqom repertoires, it is performed solo or by a singing ensemble and an orchestra of bow, string, percussion and wind instruments.

Africa

Woodcrafting Knowledge of the Zafimaniry—Madagascar
The Oral Traditions of the Aka Pygmies of Central Africa—Central African Republic

Arab States

The Al-Sirah al-Hilaliyya Epic—Egypt
Iraqi Maqam—Iraq
Songs of Sanaa—Yemen

Europe

The Carnival of Binche—Belgium
The Arts of the Meddah, Public Storytellers—Turkey
Azerbaijani Mugham—Azerbaijan
The Kihnu Cultural Space—Estonia

Latin America/ Caribbean

The Andean Cosmovision of the Kallawaya—Bolivia
The Oral and Graphic Expressions of the Wajapi—Brazil
The Carnival of Barranquilla—Colombia
La Tumba Francesa, Music of the Oriente Brotherhood—Cuba
The Maroon Heritage of Moore Town—Jamaica
The Indigenous Festivity dedicated to the Dead—Mexico

Multinational

The Baltic Song and Dance Celebrations—Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania