

The Oryxophone

(An antelope horn 'world' saxophone)



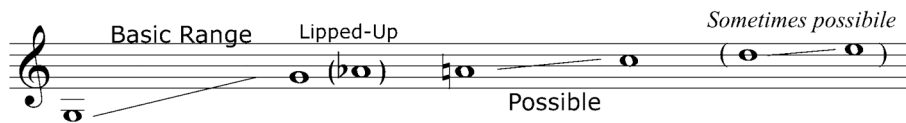
Main Key: 'C' [Fingered by closing LH holes]

Intro: The Oryxophone is unique in the whole world. It is a 'simple' [no mechanics] saxophone-like [single reed, conical bore] instrument, made from the horn of an Oryx [an African & Arabic antelope]. It allows for very expressive bends/portamento among notes.

It is basically a 'tenor'-like [lower] sounding equivalent to the Dulzaina [zurna]. Sounds somewhat similar to the Indian Naghaswaran when phrased accordingly.

Basic Range: In C, one 8ve lower than the Dulzaina:

Actual Sounds



Idiosyncrasy:

- It is a modal instrument
- Evokes very effectively mid-Eastern, Asian & African 'atmosphere'
- 'Nasal', dark, med- loud, mid-low pitched reed-like, with combined sonic elements of a clarinet, sax, E. horn & a low zurna.
- Distinctly unique, 'old' sounding personality.
- Favors legato phrasing... hence, fast/articulated passages difficult.
- Not a strongly high-harmonic spectrum content, Med. projection...
...Like in the case of the duduk, it can seat well in mid-low range of the mix if a low-mid. EQ range is 'wedge' in

Basic Scales:

Within its range, basically any mode related to 'C'

[C maj, min; A & E min; F, G maj; B Lydian], as well as all related to 'D', 'F, G Bb', 'Eb'. Db [C#] & other 'far' keys to 'C' are not work well in this horn.

Avoid:

- Passages around the 'break' [end of 1st. register into the 2nd...]
- Extreme dynamics & repeated articulations difficult.

