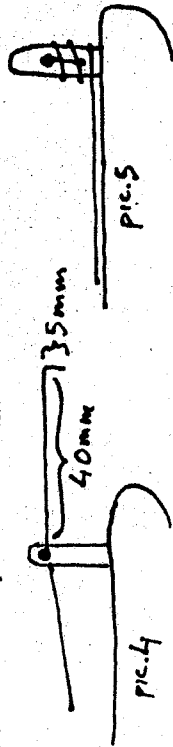


THE FIRST TUNING

In order for the lyre to hold its pitch as long as possible after tuning, it is important that the very first tuning is done in the following manner; first tune all of the strings to their right pitch. Then press down relatively hard with your finger in the middle of each string. It should flex 6 - 7 mm (1/4 inch). The tones will now have become lower, because the strings stretch and the lyrebody bends slightly under the string-tension. Now, repeat the procedure until the strings stand the pressure of your finger, without losing their pitch.

CHANGING THE STRINGS

The strings are changed either when they no longer hold a clear tone or when they have broken. When you change a broken string you must not forget to unscrew the tuning pin as many turns as it has been tightened. This will be about three or three and a half turns. The tuning pins have left hand threads, which means that they screw out clockwise, and in counterclockwise. When the new string is placed on the lyre, it is attached to the pin as shown in pic. 4 and wound up as in pic. 5.



AURIS

Auris pentatonic childrens lyre is made in Hagadal smickeri - Järna - Sweden, where also the following instruments are produced:

diatonic lyre	12 stringed	a - e''
soprano lyre	35 stringed	e - d'''
alto lyre	41 stringed	c - e''' also called sololyre
tenor lyre	42 stringed	C - f''

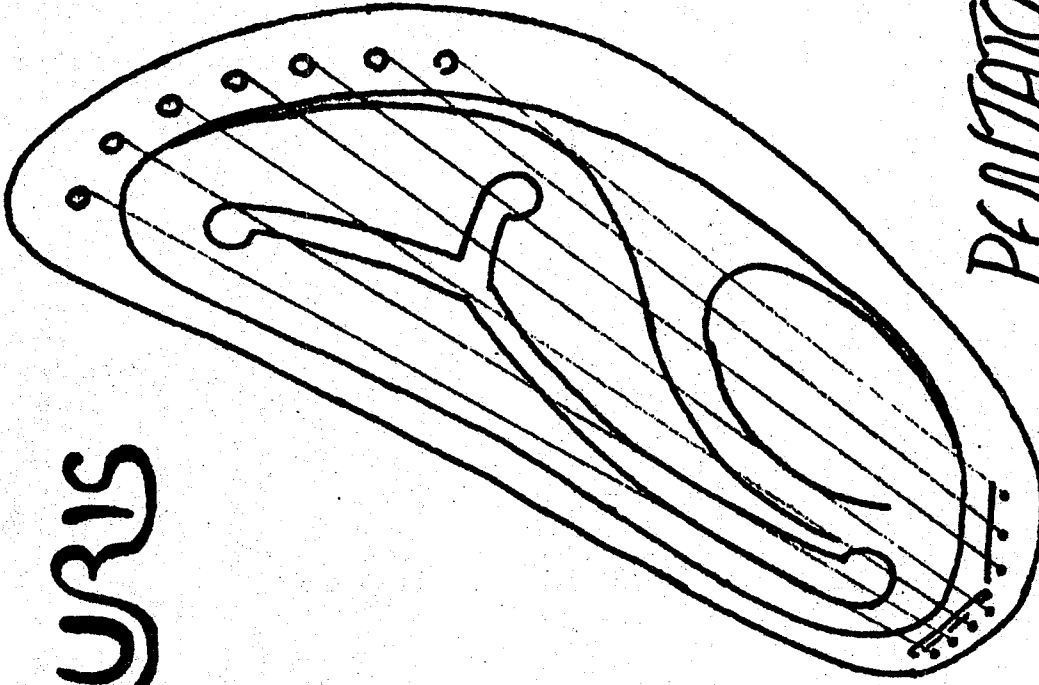
bowbass - a twostringed (G + d) string instrument, the size of a cello. It is played by two to four persons. The two functions; to bow and to grip are here divided. It is used both in music therapy and schools.

Specially designed models can even be crafted.

For closer information please contact:

AURIS MUSIK AB
 MULNBOV. 27 15332 JARNA
 SWEDEN SCHWEDEN
 ☎ +46-8-55174139 FAX 4868

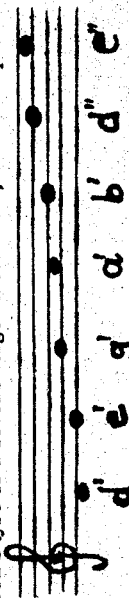
Auris



**PENTATONIC
 CHILDREN'S LYRE**

THE PENTATONIC SCALE

Auris children's lyre is a sevenstringed instrument, tuned in a pentatonic scale.



This scale spans over five whole tonesteps and is built up by an open fifthtuning. This character often gives rise to a descending musical motive, one could say it is a descending scale. This can often be noticed in folkmusic from different parts of the world, where this scale is used.

The five-tone scale is the very first basis for man's musical experience. It is the child's "own" scale. Who has not heard this little teasing melody sung by children, with the text varied from place to place:



For this reason it is the adult's obvious companion in the work with children. From infancy up to the third grade, this scale meets the child's inner need. The instrument is meant to be a simple tool, with which, through games, playing together and listening, the child can learn music in its fullest meaning.

THE LYRE

The aim has been to create a lyre with a clear and light-filled sound, carried by the material's own tone quality. To achieve this the strings are relatively thick and tightly strung, which is needed so that the whole body of the lyre will be penetrated and resound with the tone's movement. From the balance between the string's tension and thickness and the material's hardness and form, comes the lyre's voice. It is made out of maple wood.

The children's lyre has been developed through a mutual work between Hans G Klose - music therapist, Pär Ahlbom - music teacher and Kjell Andersson - instrument maker.

HOW TO HOLD AND PLAY

The instrument is made to be held in the left hand (pic 1); the carved recess on the back gives the thumb a good hold. When held this way, the longer strings are nearest to the body, while the shorter are furthest away. This placement of the strings was made so that there will be a correlation between the child's handmovement, while playing, and the ascension - descension of the scale, i. e. when the hand is in a movement away from the body, the tones rise or become lighter and when the hand draws in towards the body, the tones descend or darken. The child experiences the lighter tones lying farther away in the periphery and the darker tones nearer to itself. Through this bodily experience of the essential laws of music, the child is concretely oriented in the world around.

The left hand grip gives the player freedom to dance and to move the lyre to the music. It also makes it possible to practise finger and chordplaying.

For two handed playing the lyre can be laid across the knees (pic. 2).

Those who want to deepen the rhythmic element can hold the lyre in both hands and play with the thumbs (pic. 3). To stress the beat and dampen the tone, a strip of paper can be woven into the strings near the bridge.

To achieve certain musical qualities the lyre can even be played with a pick.

Droneplaying - a continuous toning to an improvised or composed melody. In drone-playing the lyre is held as shown in pic. 1. The strings are gently strummed in a sweeping movement towards or away from the body with the right hand and forearm. Preferably use the long, ring or little finger; the indexfinger, due to its stiffness, often gives a raw tone. Swinging the lyre between the strokes allows the tone to become "larger".

The lyre can be tuned so that a great freedom for improvisation is obtained or so that a more decided major or minor character arises (see "different tunings").

In spite of its simplicity, the instrument gives many possibilities, in melody and chord playing, accompaniment to solo and choir singing and in improvisation to an open chord. With many lyres in a group you can create chord melodies by letting the children pass different dronechords on to one another. All can play in unison, in different key or in canon. The musical games can be varied as long as your fantasy lasts.

How wonderfully the child sleeps after a wild day's play, to the calming lyre tone!



DIFFERENT TUNINGS

A pure pentatonic scale is most easily obtained in the following way; the middle string is tuned to a' with the help of a tuningfork or an instrument with a stable pitch.

Then the lowest string is tuned to d', which is the interval of a fifth below a' and the highest string is tuned to e'' a fifth above a'. The octaves d' and e' are then given. The two tones left g' and b' are tuned in fourths d' - g' and b' - e''. The tuning can be checked by playing the triads e'' - b' - g' (e minor), d'' - a' - e' (e sus 7) and b' - g' - d' (g major). When these harmonizes, the lyre is well tuned.

If it is difficult for you to hear the intervals, the lyre can of course be tuned tone by tone with the help of another instrument, for example a piano or a flute. In time one comes to know the right tuning by ear.

Each string can be tuned one and a half tone higher than its normal pitch. This gives a great freedom to experiment with different scales. Here are some examples in which we get acquainted with the music of various cultures. These scales are not 100 % genuine but are meant as an inspiration for your own attempts. Not all of these are within the pentatonic structure.

India	Basic pentatone - Europe - China					Africa - America (the blues)					
	d'	e'	g'	a'	b'	d''	e''				
Japan			f'								
Balkan	d'	d''	f''	g'	a'	c'(b)	d'(c)				
Dronescales major character	d'	d'	f''	f''	f''	f''	d''	d''	d''	d''	d''
minor character	d'	d'	f'	f'	f'	f'	d''	d''	d''	d''	d''
free character	d'	d'	a'	a'	a'	a'	d''	d''	d''	d''	d''