

The Grove Dictionary of
**Musical
Instruments**

Second Edition

Volume Two

Daāduā – Hymn Technology Ltd

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Lesesaal 91, 2100: 2 Ed 2

A-6227761

OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS

pieces or vibrators are woven or hung. These constructions create complex polyrhythmic tones that are picked up magnetically. The 'Weighted String' family involves pendulums; for example, the 'Anaplumb' bob consists of a spring, three vibrators at different speeds, and a large magnet. This bob hovers over another magnet, creating a repellant force. The three vibrators vie for resonance with the string and the spring. Finally, Feather's 'Roto-zithers' are circular structures of regularly spaced, tuned strings that rotate past articulating devices (which sound the strings by plucking, striking etc.) and pickups. As the strings pass the pickups, the pitches are bent by Doppler-shifting. The player can control the speed at which the strings move, causing microtonally 'pulled' tones.

Feather has a long history of solo performances and collaborative projects with John Berndt and others. His instruments were exhibited at Artscape in Baltimore in 1996 and 2002.

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Federsaitenpianoforte (Ger.: 'spring-string-pianoforte'). Piano invented by Wilhelm (Vilmos) Schwab of Pest about 1840. It had steel 'strings' bent into serpentine form, and thus shorter scaling; its other special advantage was that it remained in tune for a long time. Schwab (c1785–1856) obtained his master's licence in 1814 and employed other piano makers including Johann Lehner, Johann Stock, and Franz Zobel to produce up to 35 instruments annually. Conventional pianos of Schwab's are preserved in the Hungarian National Museum, Collection of Musical Instruments. See E. Fontana: 'Ein ungarischer Klavierbauer: Wilhelm Schwab', *Zur Geschichte des Hammerklaviers. Michaelsteiner Konferenzberichte*, vol.1 (Michaelstein, 1996), 69–76.

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Feko. Ring flute of Flores, Indonesia, morphologically similar to the Javanese and Balinese *suling*. (Nowadays in Flores '*suling*' refers primarily to bamboo transverse flutes introduced by Christian missionaries.) It is made from a bamboo tube, open at the bottom and closed with a node at the top. A small wedge-shaped hole is cut in the node, together with a small opening just below it, and this is partly covered by a narrow bamboo or rattan ring that guides the player's breath down the slit between the hole and the ring. The instrument is called *nuren* or *feko* in the Larantuka and Lio areas, *klekor* in the Riangwulu area, *glekor* in the Sikka area, and *sunding* in the Manggarai area. In the Riangwulu, Djopu, and Manggarai areas it is sometimes called the *fekor* and ranges from 25 to 37 cm long, having three to six fingerholes. In the eastern and central areas of Flores the flutes are between 30 and 49 cm long and have five or six fingerholes. Flutes in the western region tend to be from 64 to 71 cm long and have three to six fingerholes. In the central Wolowaru area *feko* can refer

either to ring flutes or transverse flutes; both types are often performed with *genda* frame drums and *serbung* 'blown gongs' to accompany a shawl dance.

Some instruments have a 'bell' made of a coconut leaf wound into a spiral, attached to the open end. The feko is played singly, in pairs or within larger ensembles. In eastern Flores a player sometimes plays two instruments together, holding them at an acute angle: one of the pair has seven fingerholes, is about 39 cm long and is called 'the woman', the other has five fingerholes, is about 36 cm long and is called 'the man'.

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ANDREW C. MCGRAW

Felah. Vessel flute of the Kabre people of north Togo. It is made from baked clay and is used ceremonially in a set of three as ostinato accompaniment to music of end-blown flutes in the Kabre rain dance.

Felchlin. Swiss family of woodwind instrument makers.

Georg Caspar (*b* Arth, Switzerland, 23 April 1773; *d* Walchwil, Switzerland, 12 July 1842) possibly trained with Schuler in Schwyz. He worked in Arth, probably in Strasbourg, and then in Berne, where he arrived by 1810. In 1823 he was in Schwyz, where he wrote an accusation against the dealer Zeugheer in Zurich, who used his signature illegally. Joseph Karl (Charles) Anton (*b* Arth, Switzerland, 18 Feb 1801; *d* Zug, Switzerland, 23 Nov 1855) trained presumably with his uncle Caspar, who had no children. He was a journeyman with Johann Georg Braun in Mannheim, where he wrote an instructive letter about woodwind instrument making in 1826. He moved to Berne after 1833 and participated in exhibitions there in 1836 (flute) and 1848 (silver medal for basset horn and clarinet), and in London in 1851 (flute, clarinet, bass clarinet). In 1852/3 he relocated to Zug. Charles's son Joseph Aloys Carl Dominik (*b* Berne, Switzerland, 25 Jan 1838; *d* Zug, Switzerland, 27 May 1885) most likely trained with his father, and at age 17, after Charles's death, continued production in Zug. About 40 signed woodwinds by the Felchlin family are preserved, the majority made by Caspar und Charles in Berne, the others in Arth, Strasbourg, Schwyz, and Zug. These include fifes, flutes, clarinets, a walking-stick flute, a walking-stick clarinet, a basset horn, and bassoons. Two five-key clarinets are marked 'Dobner & Felklin' and 'Felklin & Dobner' (respectively) 'à Strasbourg', suggesting a possible relationship between Caspar Felchlin and the dealer Dobner.

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ADRIAN VON STEIGER

Felgemaker. American firm of organ builders. In 1865 Abraham B. Felgemaker (*b* 16 July 1836; *d* Erie, PA, 16 Oct 1905), son of a Dutch physician, established a