



Music of Nature

Interdisciplinary Cultural Mediation Model

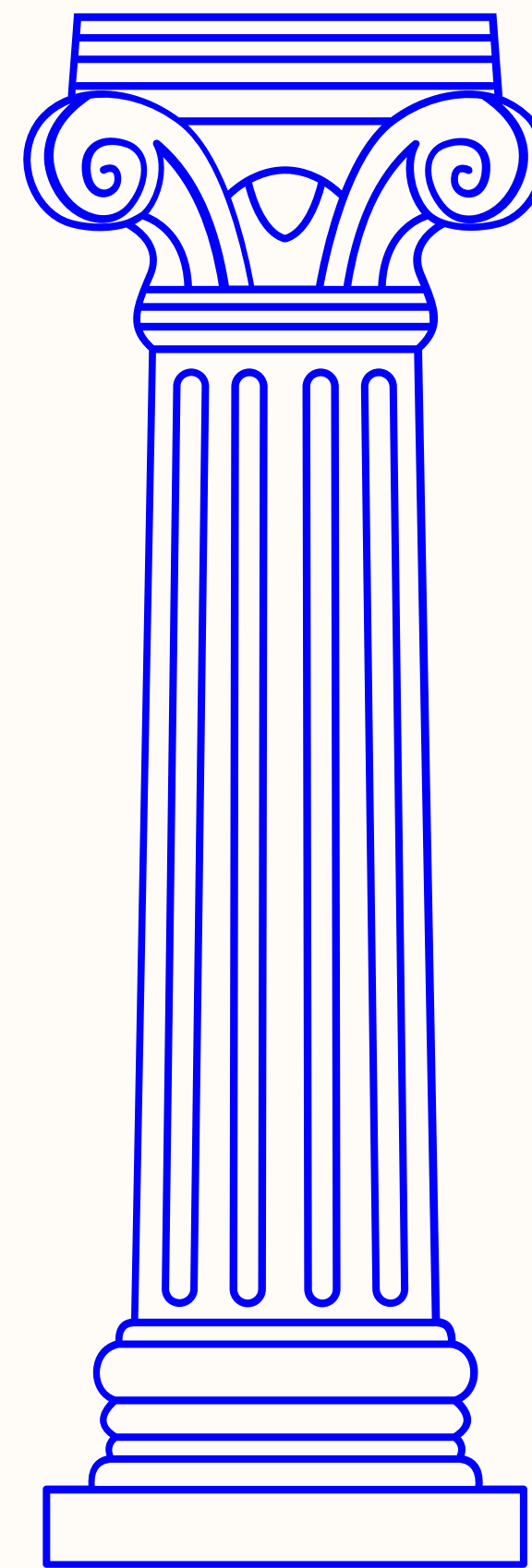


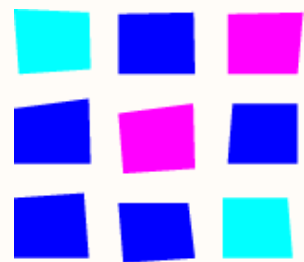


History of the cultural subject linked to a specific element of European heritage

As evolutionary biology teaches us, the link between music and nature is deep and intrinsic these two disciplines do not exclude one another, but rather enrich each other. The very first instruments were entirely natural in origin and essential for communication and the development of early human societies.

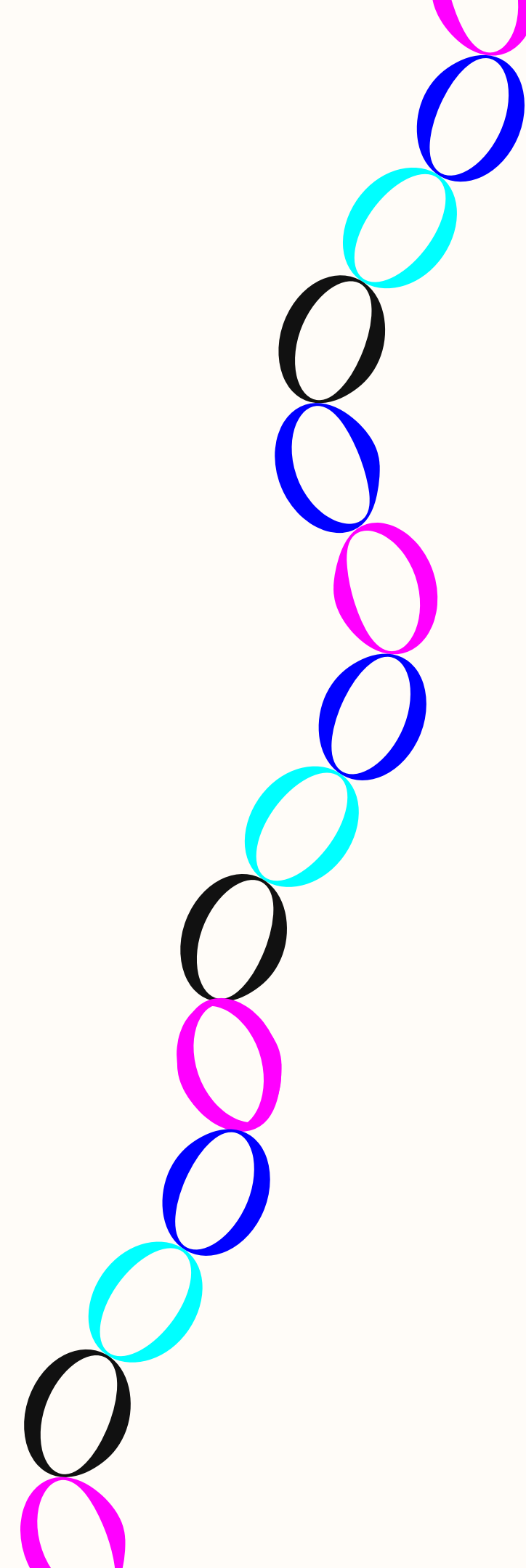
The journey of musical evolution starts here and gradually becomes more complex, giving way to increasingly refined and modern explorations. We take as examples some natural-origin instruments still in use today: ratchets, conch shell trumpets, maracas. These instruments tell us not only about the cultural history of a community but also about the natural environment that shaped it.

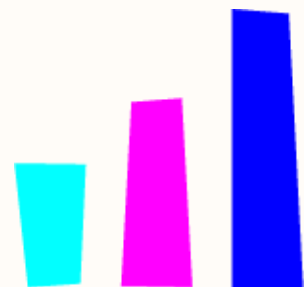




Link to active citizenship

A non-competitive learning space encourages participants to think critically, express themselves, and collaborate, building the confidence and agency needed to engage actively in society.

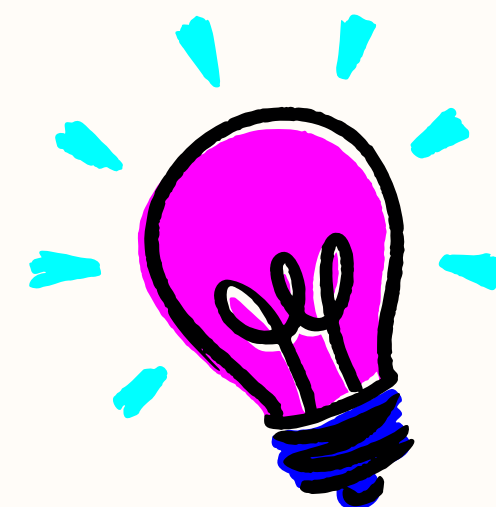


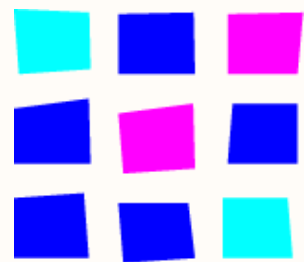


Innovative aspect of the activity

By analysing the science and ethology of music, we can better understand patterns we often take for granted. This workshop is structured as a Reggio-inspired atelier, where participants are free to explore each station at their own pace and rhythm.

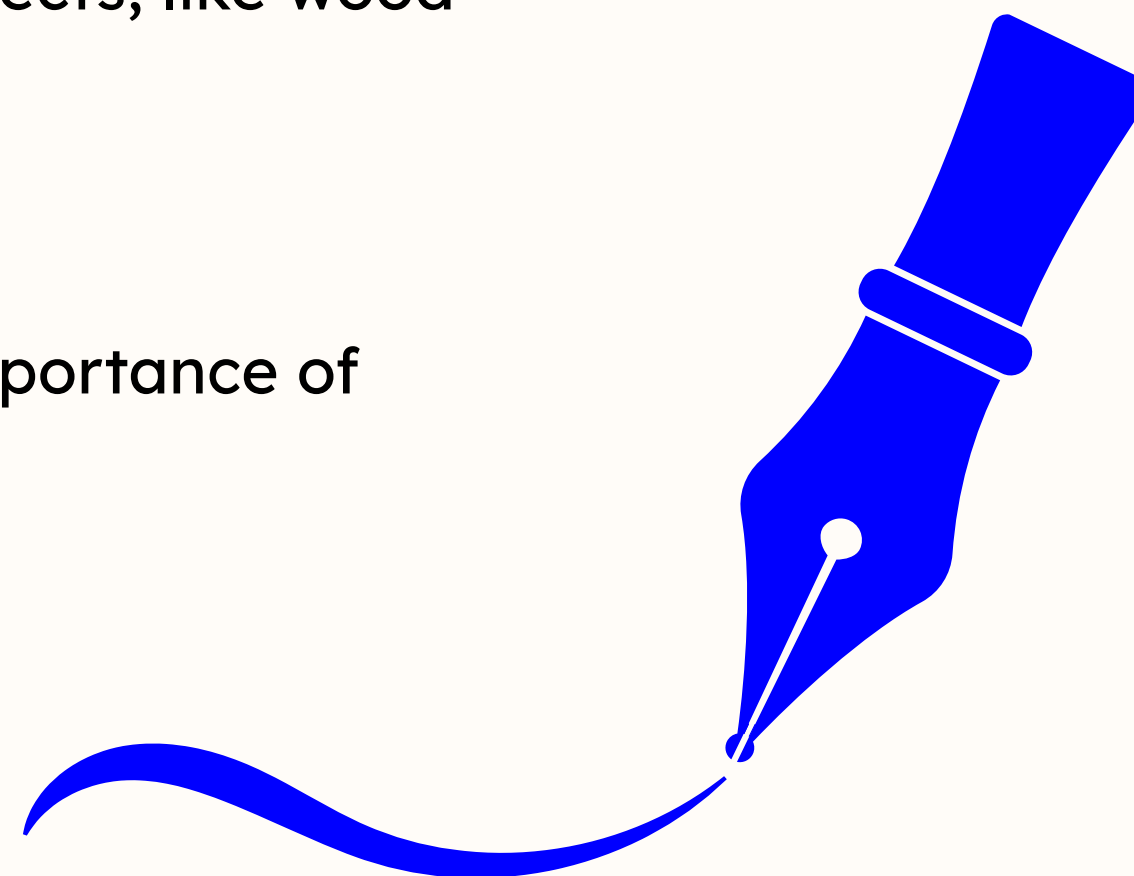
In the end, participants can choose to build their own instrument or record the sounds they create during the session.





Specific subjects developed

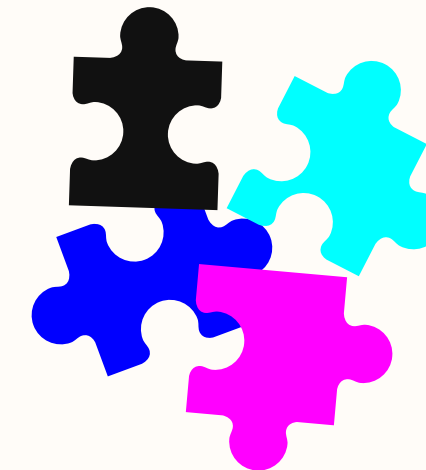
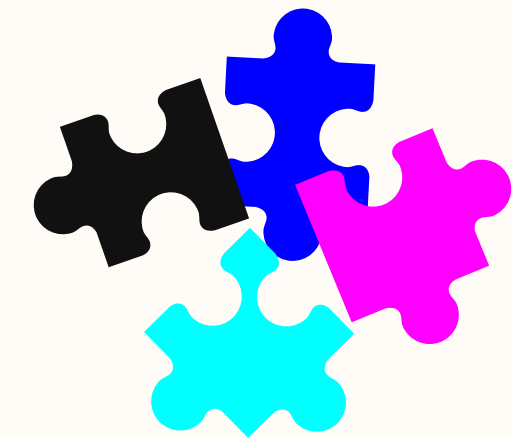
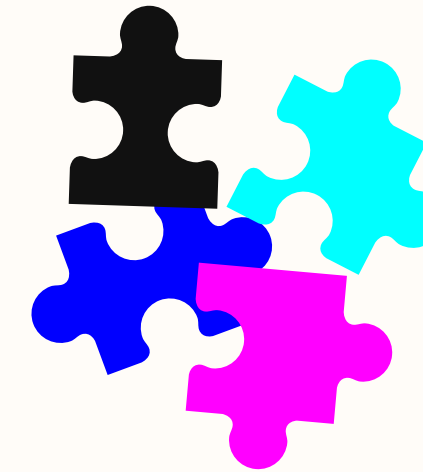
- Music: using conventional and unconventional instruments (for example we used glasses full of water and play them with a stick).
- Science: we talk about some instruments made of natural objects, like wood instruments, self-made shell instruments, etc.
- Physic: how the sound wave work.
- Art and history: they will have more information about the importance of music and its influence on human history.

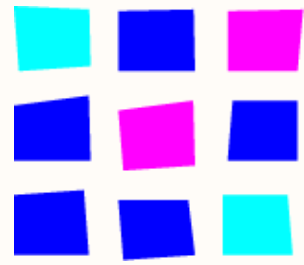




Accessibility

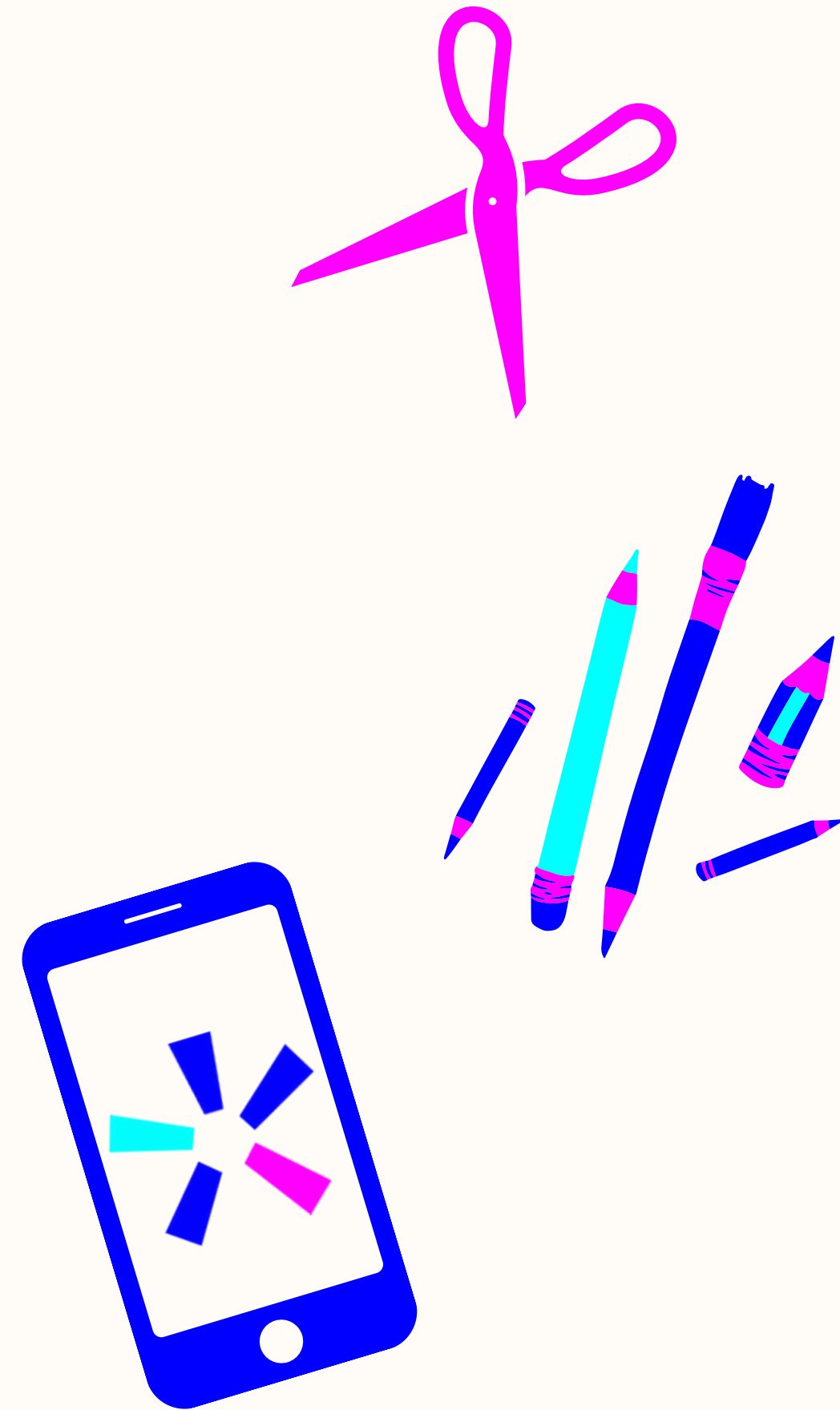
The workshop is open and accessible to all. It can be fully adapted and revised based on participants' needs. Even people with hearing impairments can engage through tactile and visual experiences by touching instruments and feeling the vibrations, they produce.

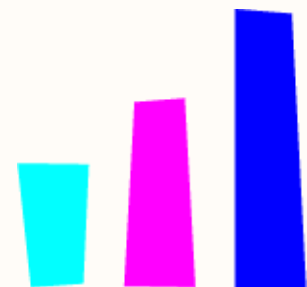




Materials required

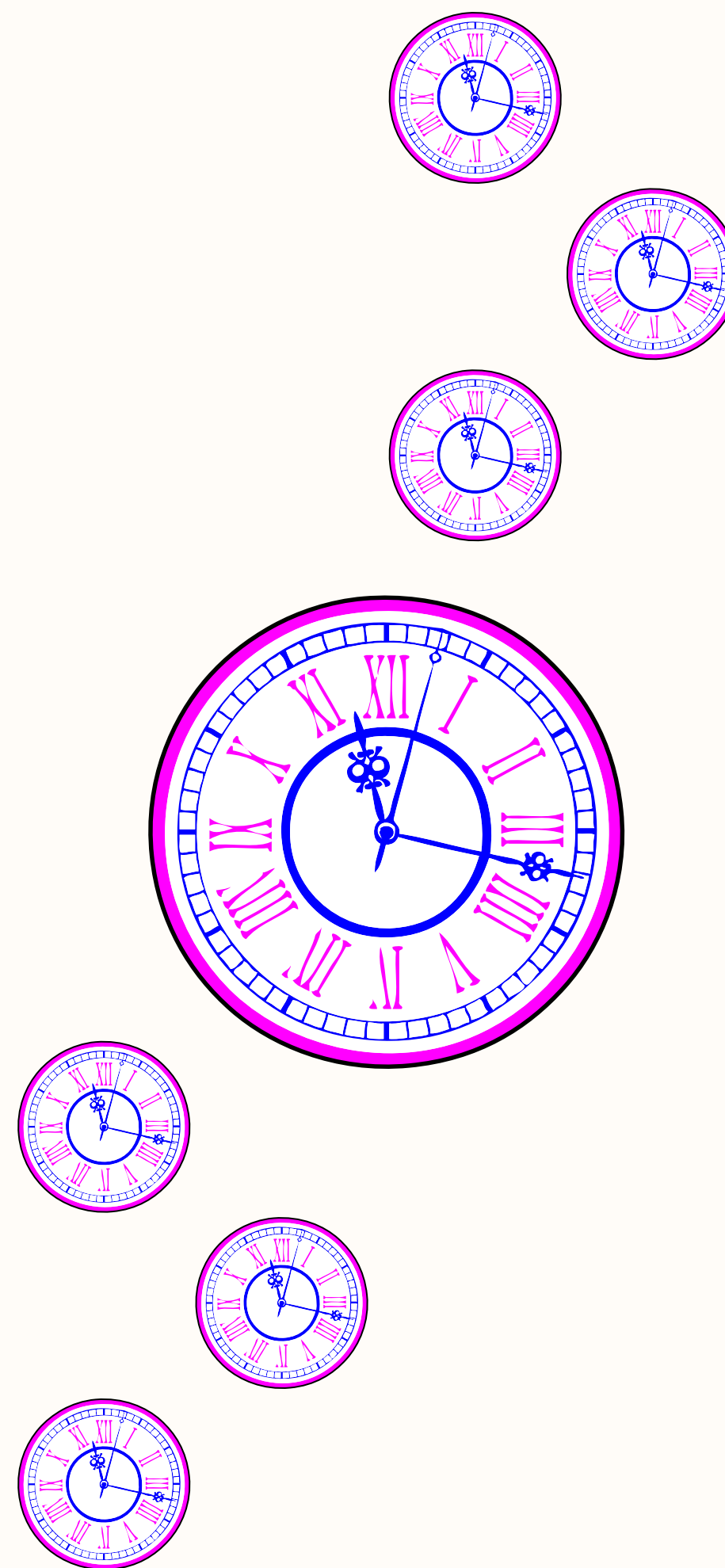
- Natural and historical artefacts,
- recycled objects
- sensory and creative materials.

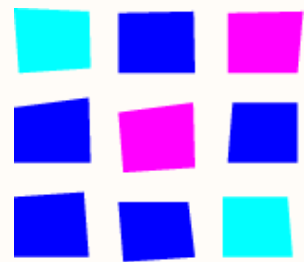




Duration of the activity

- 2-3 h





Description of the activity

The experience is divided into multiple stations, which participants can approach autonomously. Clear written instructions are provided, but no fixed guidance is given, participants are free to experiment and explore.

On the first photo for example we use specdrums ring to play the shell! Spectrums ring, connected with a smartphone, make a different sound when they touch different colors. So we use natural object “to play” and colored glasses.

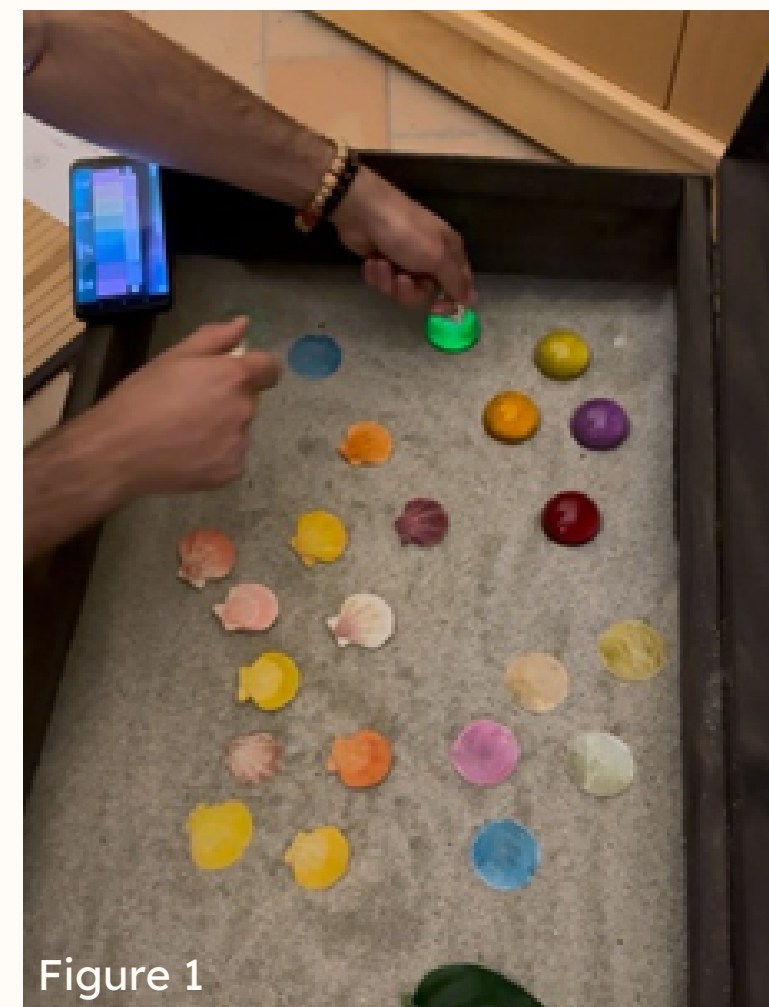
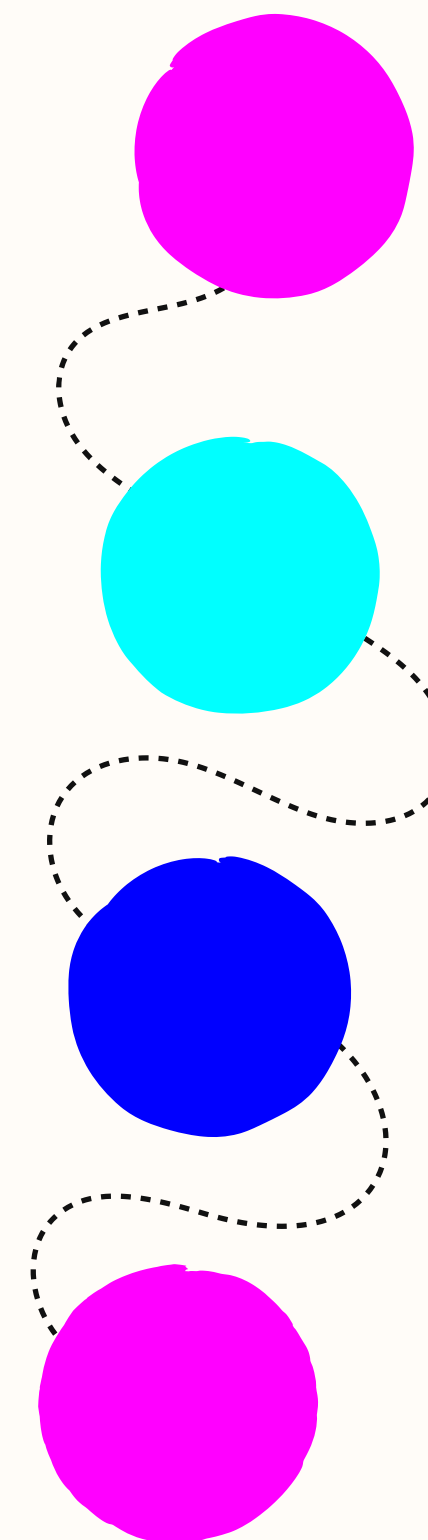


Figure 1



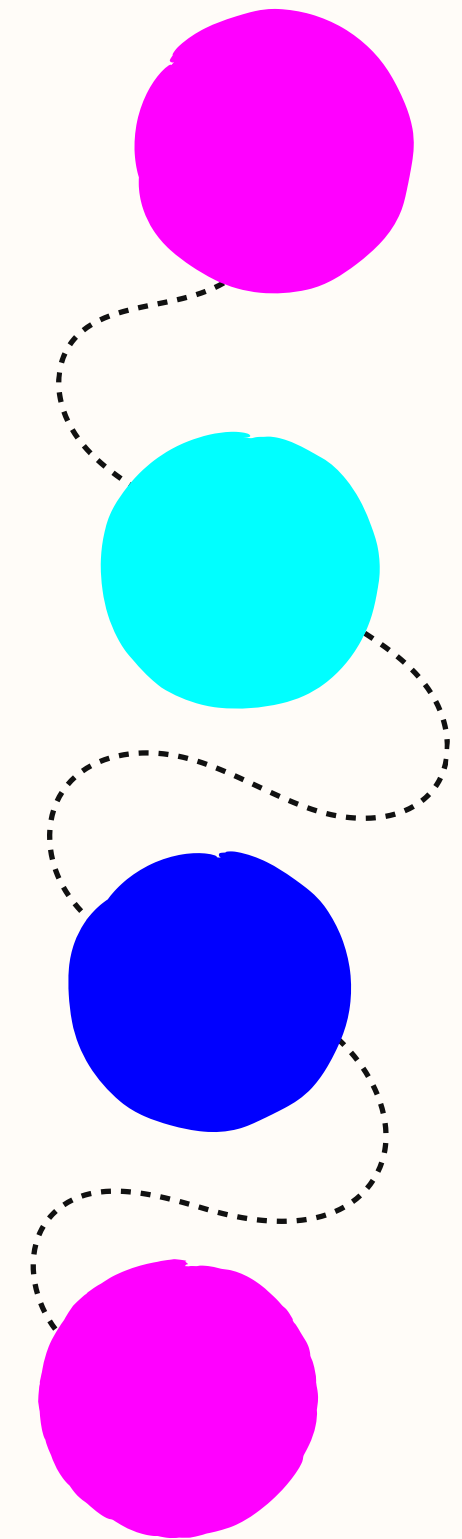
The initial stations introduce the physics of sound (Fig. 2)—how sound waves work, how they are produced, and how they can evoke different emotions. Other stations contain natural instruments with historical references (Fig. 3) or objects designed to be played and its personal story too, maybe this object has a story to tell us! A professional musician invites participants to join a collective drone, using the first instrument ever created: the human voice.



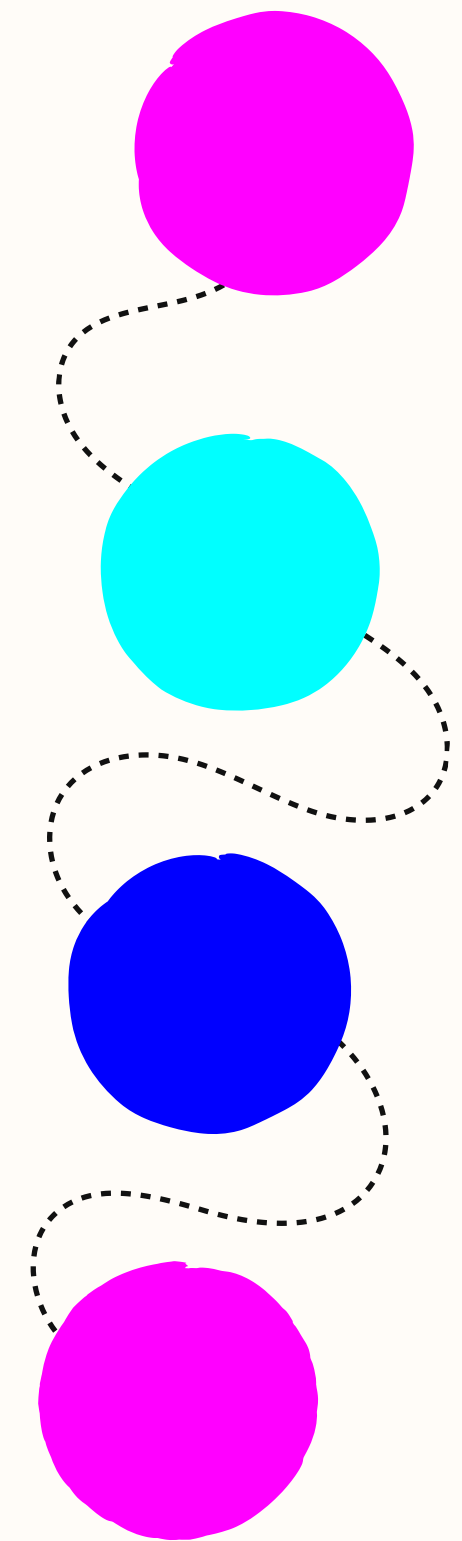
Figure 2



Figure 3



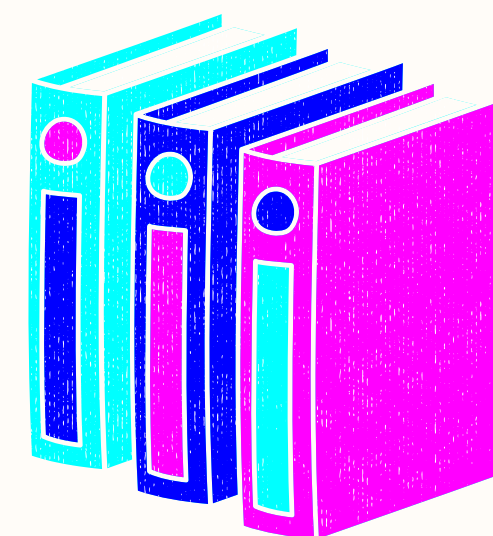
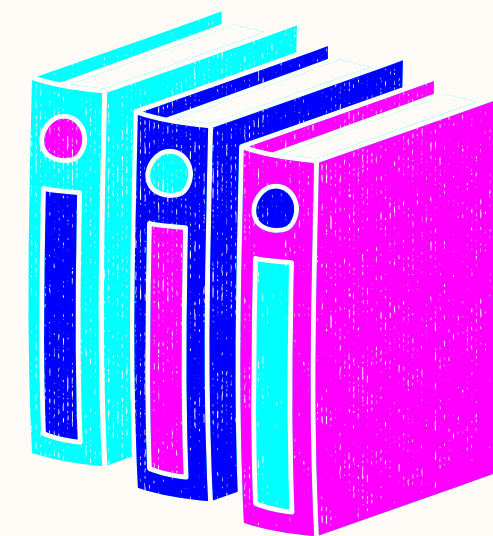
Participants are then encouraged to build instruments such as ratchets or maracas using natural elements or upcycled materials (Fig.4). Since most of the instruments are percussion-based, participants can connect more easily with rhythm and sound without worrying about pitch or technique, lowering the barriers to creative engagement.





To go further & Resources

The recorded sounds can also be used by the musician to create an ambient track, demonstrating the importance of post-production in contemporary music. This activity is highly modular and repeatable, and can be easily renewed each time by simply introducing different instruments, materials, or soundscapes.



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