Music of "The Seventh Continent"

A Smithsonian Folkways Lesson

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Summary:
Students will learn about the culture and music of Madagascar experientially through learning and performing a traditional song, both vocally and with a band. Students will experience singing in a new language as well as learn about the geography and history of Madagascar.

Suggested Grade Levels: 9-12
Country: Madagascar
Region: Africa
Culture Group: Malagasy
Genre: Drum Music, Chant
Instruments: Drums, Voice, Band Instruments
Language: Malagasy
Co-Curricular Areas: Social Studies
National Standards: 1, 2, 5, 6, 9

Prerequisites: None

Objectives:

- Listening (for instruments, lyrics, style and form)
- Singing (in a new language)
- Playing (rhythms and melodies)
- Performing (in the context of a new culture)
- Learning about the culture, music, people, geography, and history
- Perform Volatiana with your band and/or choir

Materials:

- *Mahafaly Song*
  http://www.folkways.si.edu/africa-south-of-the-sahara/islamica-world/music/album/smithsonian
- *Music of Malagasy - Ceremonial Song*
  http://www.folkways.si.edu/primitive-music-of-the-world/central-asia-islamica-world/album/smithsonian
- *Music of Malagasy - Drumming for a Ceremony / Music of Malagasy - Singing for Dancing (medley)*

http://www.folkways.si.edu/primitive-music-of-the-world/central-asia-islamica-world/album/smithsonian

- *Music of Malagasy - Drumming for Dancing* http://www.folkways.si.edu/primitive-music-of-the-world/central-asia-islamica-world/album/smithsonian
- *Oay Lalay (Ohe Anis!): Chant Malgache* http://www.folkways.si.edu/music-of-the-worlds-peoples-vol-1/islamica-world/album/smithsonian
- "Volatiana" transcription for band or choir (attached)
- Map of Madagascar

Lesson Segments:

1. **Learning about Madagascar Through Listening** (National Standards 6, 9)
2. **Performing Traditional Music of Madagascar** (National Standards 1, 2, 5)

1. **Learning about Madagascar**

a. Use music from Smithsonian Folkways web site (listed in the Materials section) as listening examples.
    i. While doing this, have students describe and analyze what they are listening to
        1. Listen for instrumentation
        2. Listen for prominent melodies or rhythms
        3. Listen for texture/textural changes

Assessment: Are students able to discuss the material in an age appropriate manner?

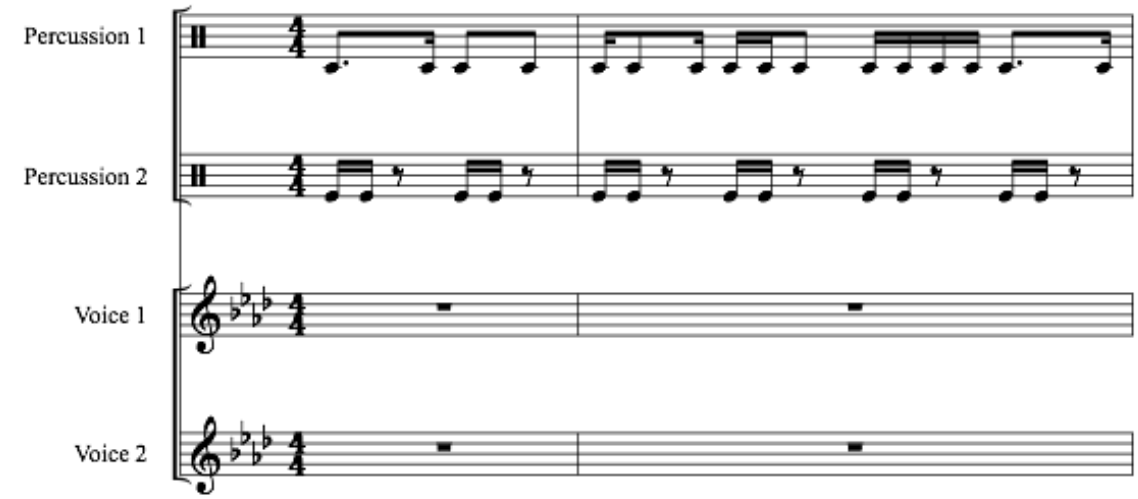
2. **Performing Traditional Music of Madagascar**
    a. Practice and perform "Volatiana" with your choir and/or band.
        i. If using this piece with a band, designate certain members to perform the vocal parts
        ii.

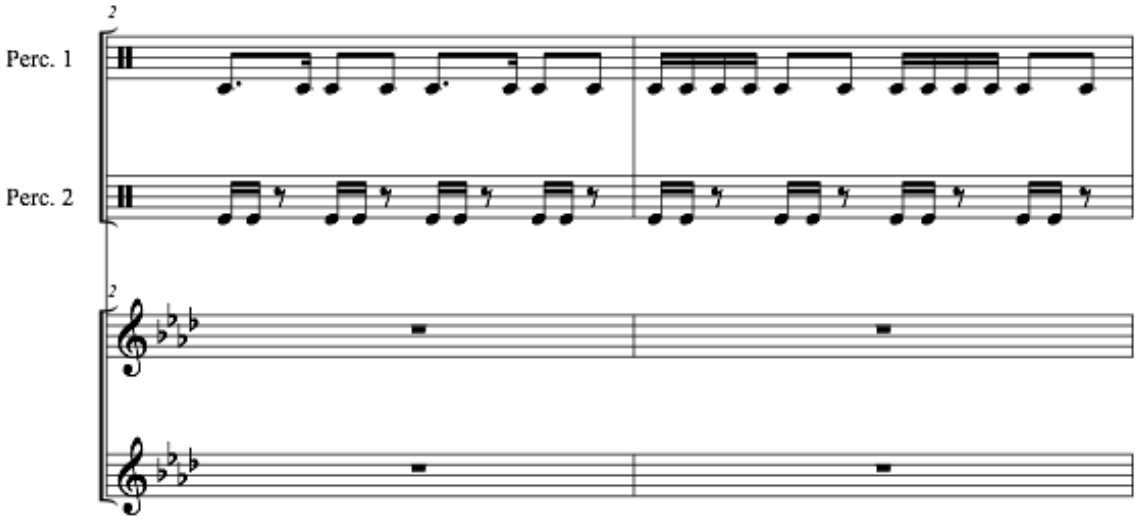
Assessment: Are students able to successfully perform this piece?

Score

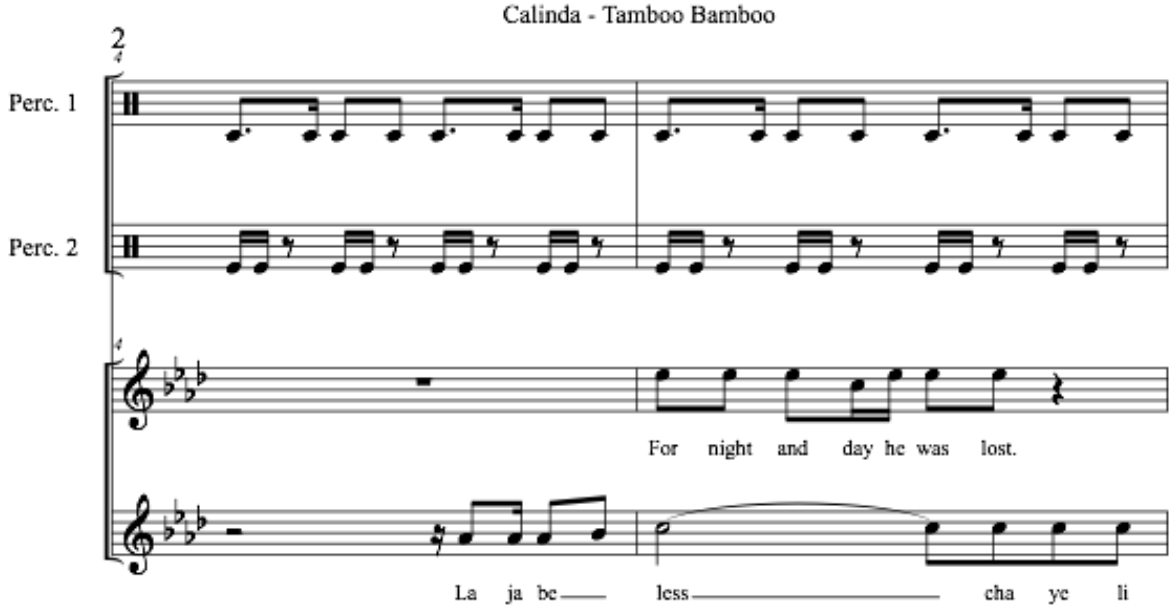
Calinda - Tamboo Bamboo

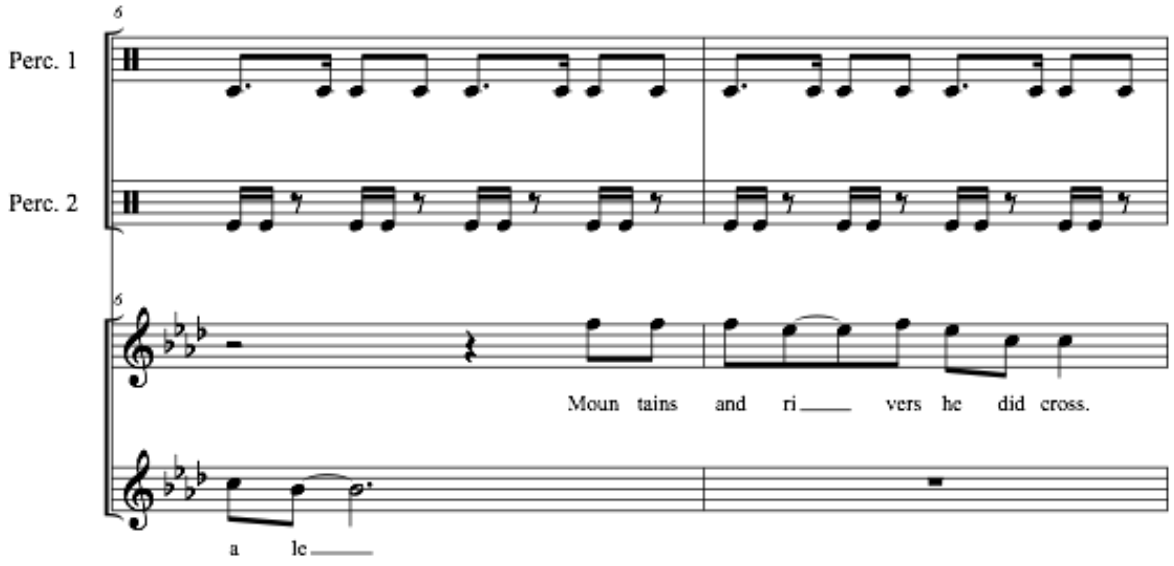
[Composer]

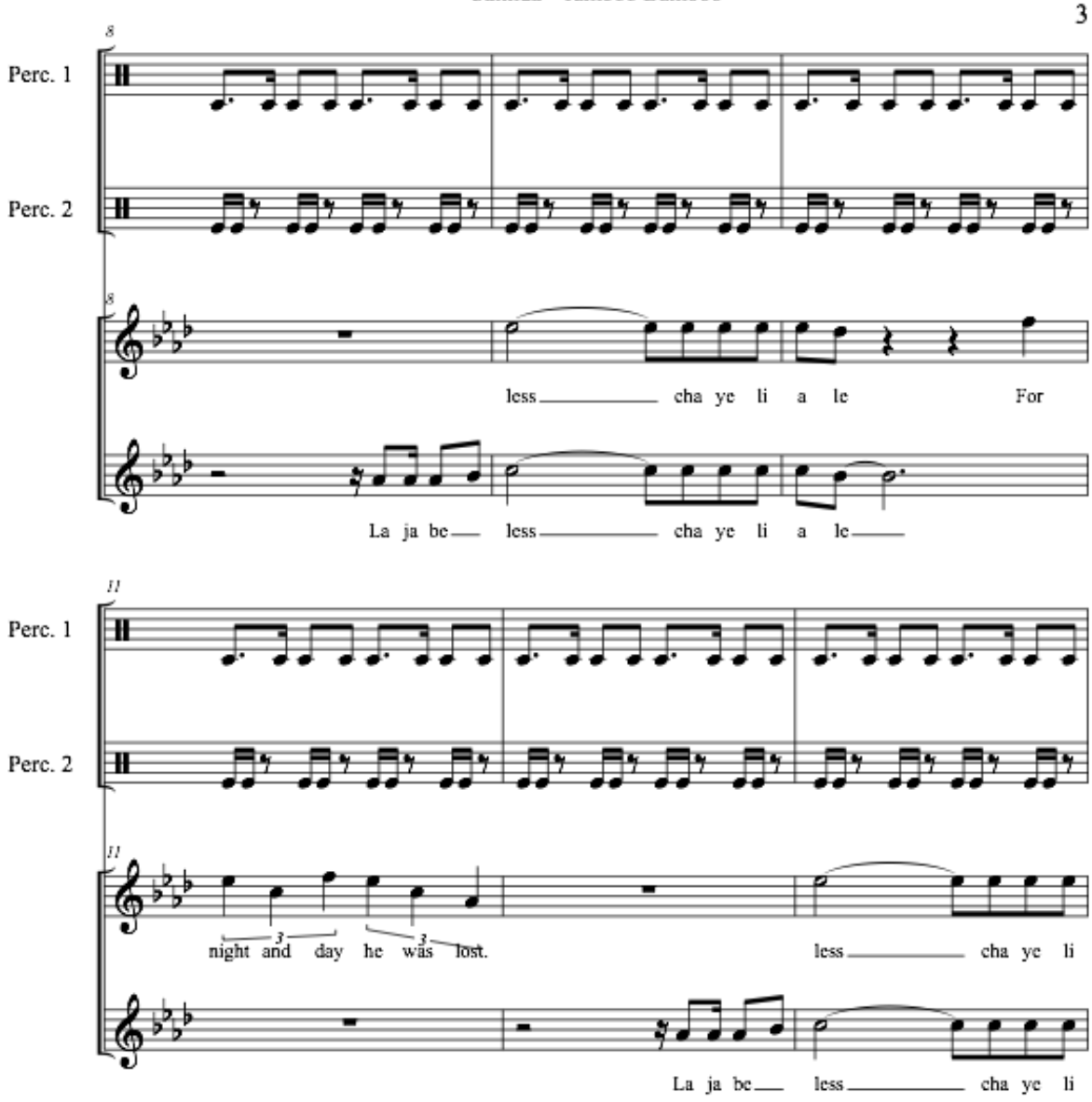


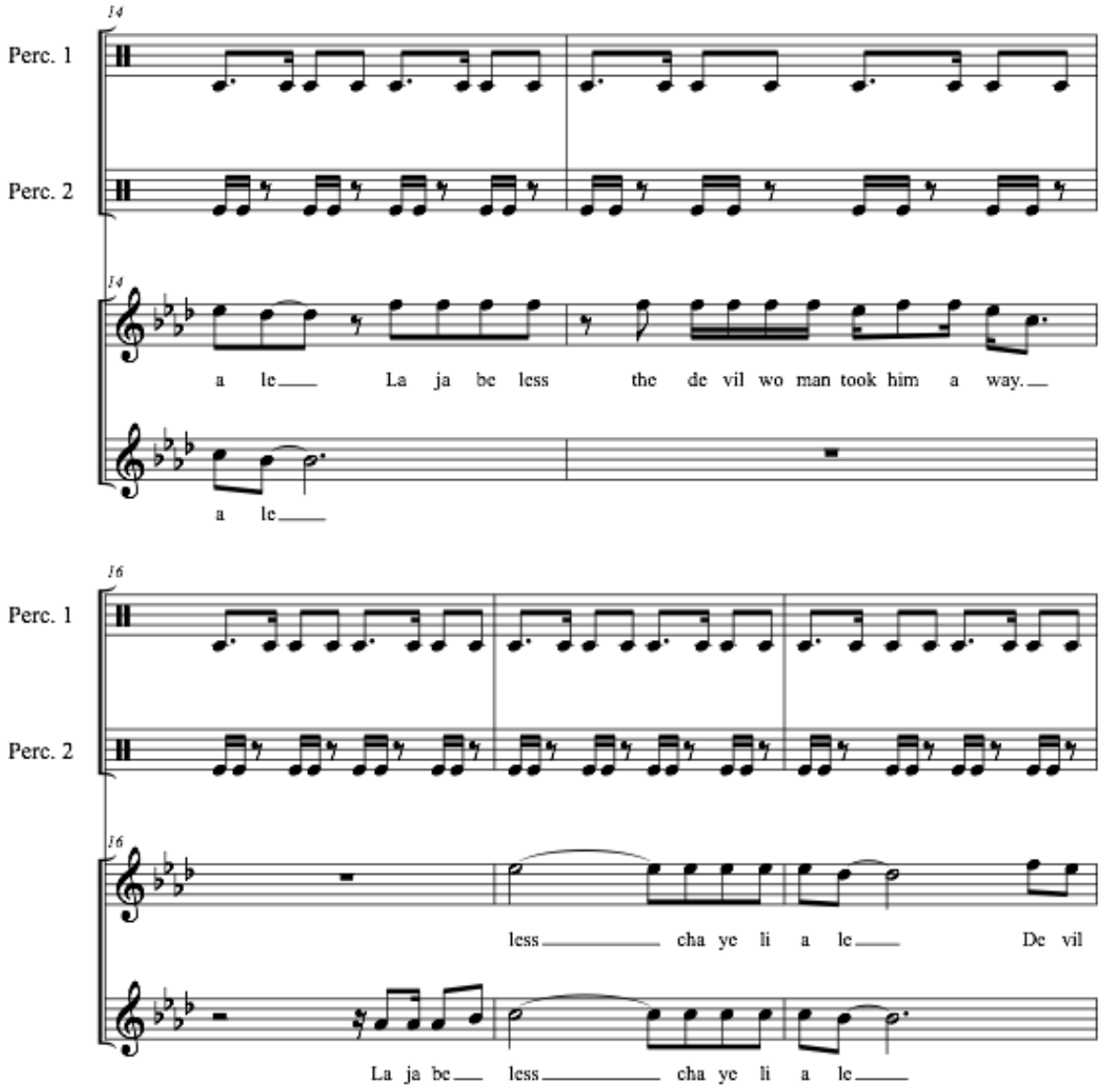


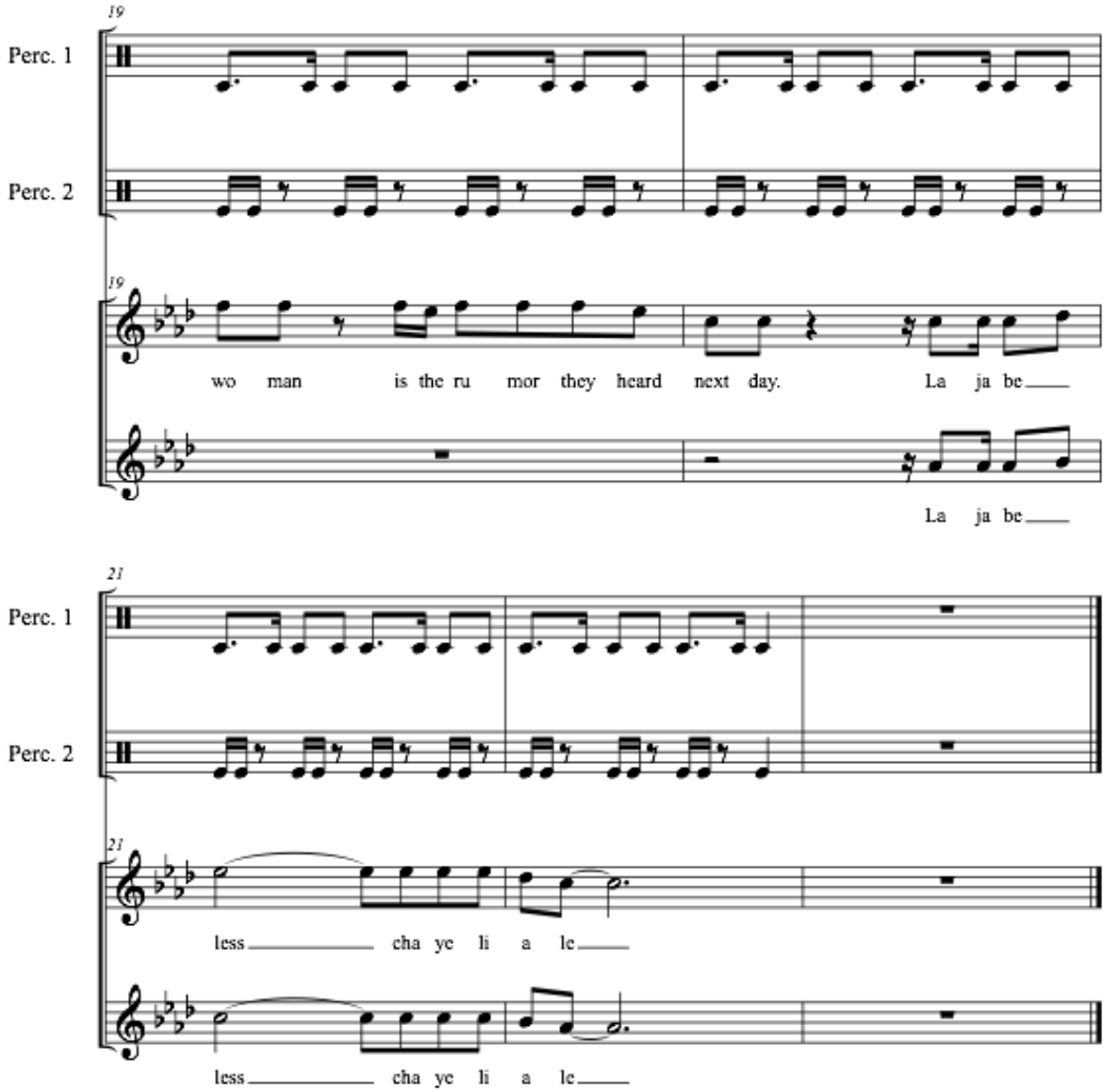
Calinda - Tamboo Bamboo






8
Perc. 1
Perc. 2
8
less cha ye li a le For
La ja be less cha ye li a le
11
Perc. 1
Perc. 2
11
night and day he was lost.
less cha ye li
La ja be less cha ye li


14
Perc. 1
Perc. 2
14
a le La ja be less the de vil wo man took him a way.
a le
16
Perc. 1
Perc. 2
16
less cha ye li a le De vil
La ja be less cha ye li a le


19
Perc. 1
Perc. 2
19
wo man is the ru mor they heard next day. La ja be
La ja be
21
Perc. 1
Perc. 2
21
less cha ye li a le
less cha ye li a le