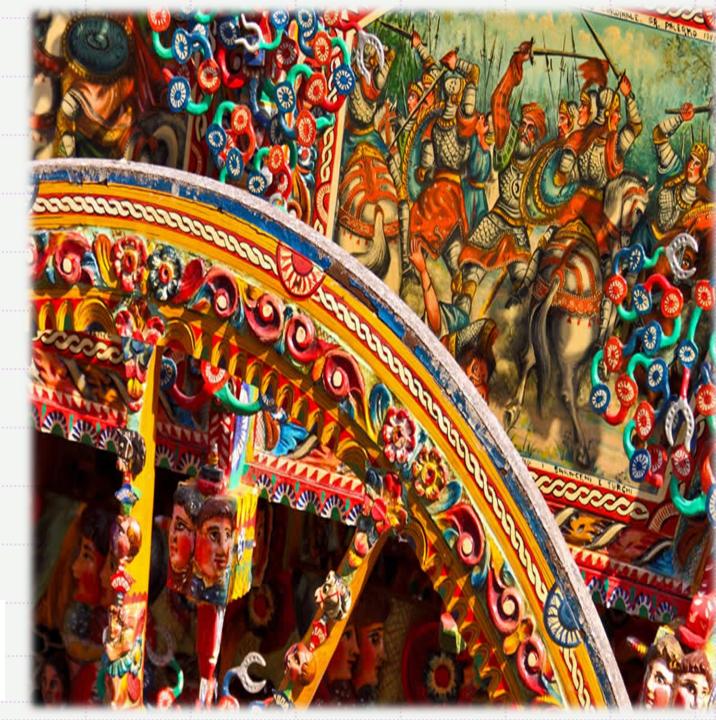


FOLKLORE IN SICILY

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The Puppet Opera

One of the most famous sicilian tradition is indeed the Puppet Opera or "Opera dei Pupi". The stories dealt in the plays talk about the heroic deeds of the french paladins of the Carolingian cycle. The particularity of these puppets is their design and the way they are animated during the plays.



The Sicilians Carts

Another important symbol of the sicilian folklore is the Sicilian Cart ("Carretto Siciliano"). These carts were an equine mean of transport diffused in the XIX century but, since the XX century, they have been used only for artistic purposes. They are made with different types of wood and they're decorated with illustrations made with bright colours.



Traditional Costumes

The traditional costumes for women were composed by a long skirt of cotton covered by an apron, a coloured or white napkin to put on the shoulders, a pair of blue socks and a "mantellina" to put on the head. Wealthy women could afford a "manto", a coat which covered the head. This piece of clothing was mainly used by married women.

Meanwhile, male shepherds used to wear clothes made of goatskin when the weather was bad. Men also used to wear a "jippuni", a dark velvet jacket. Just like women, they also put on a cap on the head, which changed colour depending on their occupation (e.g. brown for farmers, blue for seamen).

Clothes could also vary according to the social status of the individual.



Traditional Music

The traditional music in Sicily was influenced by its colonizers, hence it's difficult to find out its origins. Folk music was transmitted from a village to another, thus creating many variations. A lot of workers used to sing while they were working, accompanied by the sound of the work tools, while others used to sing the "pain songs" for the sentenced to death.

The traditional instruments are the "tamburello", a percussion instrument used during rituals; the "marranzano", an ancient aerophone instrument with the shape of an horse-shoe, mainly used by shepherds; and the "friscalettu", a flute made of reed.



Typical instruments

- Marranzano
- · (Marranzanu or Scacciapensier
- wrought iron is a traditional in:
- · Sicilian music. It is one
- idiophone musical instrument



Tamburello

In early music 'u tammureddu was an exclusively male instrument. It is thought that its circular shape with rattles was chosen for its resemblance to the Sun, symbol of Astarte, goddess of fertility. Painters often represented him with the red wooden crown and flames painted on it.



Traditional costumes













Thank You for your kind attention!

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