

And Other Overtone Singing Styles

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1. What is Overtone Singing?

Overtone singing, also known as harmonic singing or throat singing, is a vocal technique that allows singers to produce two or more pitches simultaneously. This is achieved by manipulating the shape of the vocal tract and the airflow through the vocal cords. Overtone singing has been practiced for centuries in many cultures around the world, including Central Asia, Tibet, Mongolia, and Siberia.

The fundamental pitch of an overtone singer's voice is called the "drone." The drone is typically produced by vibrating the vocal cords in a relaxed manner. The singer then manipulates the shape of the vocal tract by changing the position of the tongue, jaw, and lips. This changes the resonant frequencies of the vocal tract, which causes the overtones to be amplified.

Overtone singing can be a very challenging vocal technique to master, but it can also be very rewarding. It can help singers to develop a greater range of vocal expression, and it can also improve vocal health.



How to Khoomei: and other overtone singing styles

(SFH Book 2) by Jonathan Cope

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2. Different Styles of Overtone Singing

There are many different styles of overtone singing, each with its own unique sound and techniques. Some of the most common styles include:

- **Tuvan throat singing:** Tuvan throat singing is a style of overtone singing that is practiced by the Tuvan people of Siberia. Tuvan throat singers are able to produce two or more pitches simultaneously, and they often use a variety of different vocal techniques to create a wide range of sounds.
- **Mongolian throat singing:** Mongolian throat singing is a style of overtone singing that is practiced by the Mongolian people of Mongolia. Mongolian throat singers are able to produce two or more pitches simultaneously, and they often use a variety of different vocal techniques to create a wide range of sounds.
- **Tibetan throat singing:** Tibetan throat singing is a style of overtone singing that is practiced by the Tibetan people of Tibet. Tibetan throat singers are able to produce two or more pitches simultaneously, and they often use a variety of different vocal techniques to create a wide range of sounds.
- **Xhosa iingoma:** Xhosa iingoma is a style of overtone singing that is practiced by the Xhosa people of South Africa. Xhosa iingoma singers are able to produce two or more pitches simultaneously, and they often use a variety of different vocal techniques to create a wide range of sounds.

3. Benefits of Overtone Singing

Overtone singing can have a number of benefits for singers, including:

- **Increased vocal range:** Overtone singing can help singers to develop a greater vocal range. By learning to manipulate the shape of the vocal tract, singers can learn to produce higher and lower pitches than they would be able to otherwise.
- **Improved vocal health:** Overtone singing can help to improve vocal health by strengthening the vocal cords and increasing the flexibility of the vocal tract. This can help to prevent vocal strain and injury.
- **Greater vocal expression:** Overtone singing can help singers to develop a greater range of vocal expression. By learning to produce different overtones, singers can create a wider variety of sounds and textures.

4. How to Learn Overtone Singing

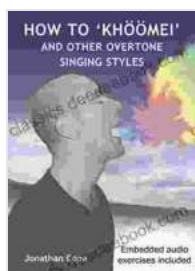
Overtone singing can be a challenging vocal technique to master, but it is possible to learn with patience and practice. There are a number of different ways to learn overtone singing, including:

- **Taking lessons from a qualified teacher:** Taking lessons from a qualified teacher is the best way to learn overtone singing. A good teacher can help you to develop the proper vocal techniques and to avoid vocal strain.
- **Using online resources:** There are a number of online resources available that can help you to learn overtone singing. These resources can include video tutorials, audio recordings, and written instructions.

- **Attending workshops:** Attending workshops is a great way to learn overtone singing from experienced teachers. Workshops typically provide participants with hands-on instruction and the opportunity to practice with other singers.

With patience and practice, anyone can learn to sing overtones. Overtone singing is a beautiful and rewarding vocal technique that can help singers to develop a greater vocal range, improve vocal health, and achieve greater vocal expression.

Overtone singing is a fascinating and unique vocal technique that has been practiced for centuries in many cultures around the world. It is a challenging technique to master, but it can also be very rewarding. Overtone singing can help singers to develop a greater vocal range, improve vocal health, and achieve greater vocal expression.



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