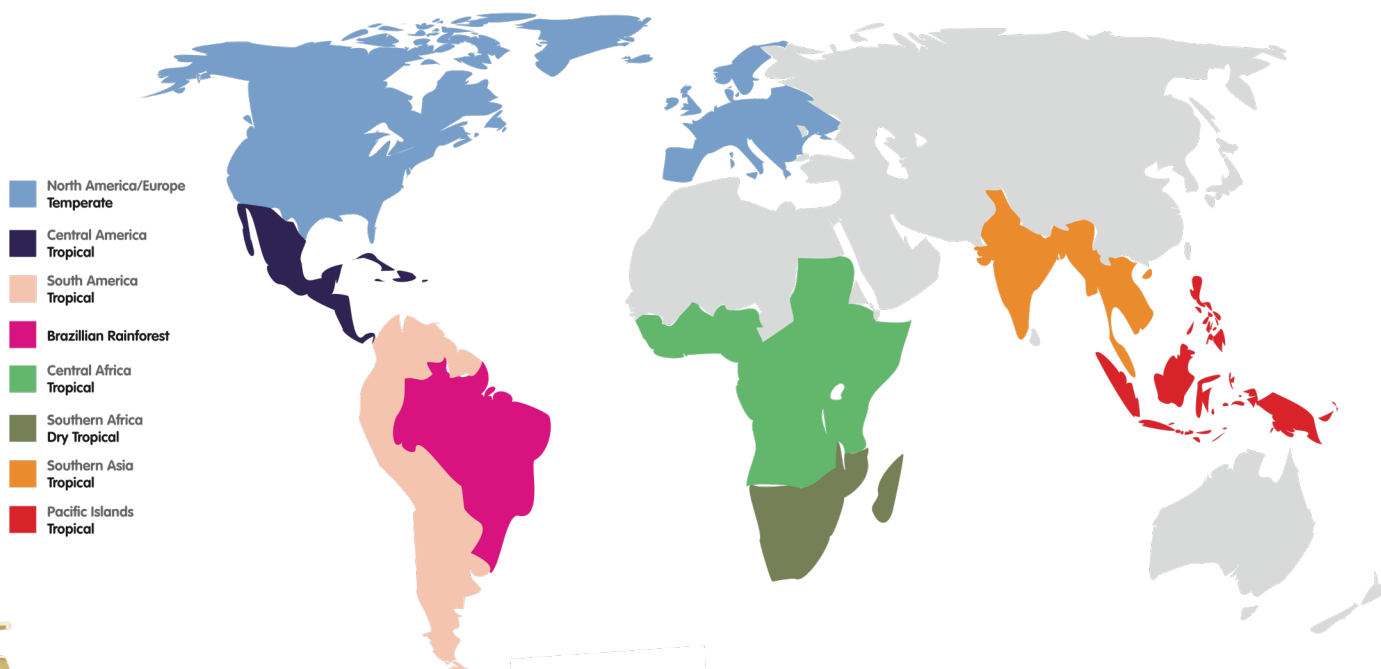


WHAT DO TREES HAVE TO DO WITH MUSIC?



- North America/Europe
Temperate
- Central America
Tropical
- South America
Tropical
- Brazilian Rainforest
- Central Africa
Tropical
- Southern Africa
Dry Tropical
- Southern Asia
Tropical
- Pacific Islands
Tropical



Guitars

Acoustic and electric guitars, including ukeles, are beautiful instruments that are made from woods from all over the world. Very often the different components are made from endangered woods. The trees are often old growth hardwoods ranging in age from 100-400 years old. The woods are sought after, by luthiers, for their tonal qualities and beautiful grains.



Drums

Drums are probably the most symbolic of all wood instruments. They are closely linked to the forests, which the woods come from to build them. Used in rituals and music all over the world, they have an essential role in culture and give an important voice to the trees and habitats. Often decorated with symbolic carvings of local peoples, they are true ambassadors between nature and man.

Talking Drum, Djembe: Bubinga, Mahogany
Bongos, Conga: Maple, Mahogany, Siam Oak
Drum Kits: Maple, Ash, Mahogany, Birch, Cherry



Stringed Instruments

Stringed instruments such as violins, cellos, and double basses have been made from woods from what are now endangered trees, for centuries. There have been very few alternatives to using European and Sitka Spruce, Rosewood, and Ebony. The supply and quality of these woods has greatly diminished over the last thirty years leaving woods like Sri Lankan Ebony and Brazilian Rosewood added to the critically endangered list.

Back, Neck, Scroll, Ribs, Bridges: Maple, Sycamore
Fingerboard: African Blackwood, Ebony
Pegs, Tailpiece: Ebony, Boxwood, Rosewood
Table: European Spruce, Sitka Spruce

soundwood

working to conserve trees used to make music

Material adapted from SoundWood poster
'What do trees have to do with music?'

**IMAGINE AN IRELAND
WITHOUT MUSIC!**

**We must act now to
ensure that these species
and the quality of
music making
are not lost
forever.**



Wind Instruments

Clarinets, oboes, bagpipes and other woodwinds have traditionally been made from one type of wood, African Blackwood (mpingo). This tree is endemic to Central and Southern Africa — Mozambique and Tanzania primarily.

SoundWood has had a very comprehensive conservation project underway in the Miombo woodland for five years.

Woodwinds: African Blackwood



Pianos

The piano is an instrument of many woods. Unlike the guitar, the woods are usually veneered or painted over so their grain and visual identity are hidden. The soundboard is a crucial part of the instrument and old growth Sitka Spruce has been traditionally used to build them. The casework, belts, and backs have been made from a large variety of woods ranging from Mahogany, Oak, Walnut, Beech, Baltic Redwood and Sitka Spruce.



Enlightened tone freaks understand the core of your guitar sound begins with its most fundamental component: wood. Mother Earth has provided exquisite 'tonewoods' for our musical instruments. It's up to us as musicians to spread the message of conservation and Fair Trade as a means of ensuring these woods continue to provide music. Get involved in Just Music's education campaign and spread the word.

See www.justmusic.ie