

Title: The Mandolin: A Journey Through Italian Musical Heritage

Abstract: This paper traces the mandolin's evolution in Italian music from its origins to today.

1. Origins The mandolin emerged in 17th-century Naples, evolving from the mandora, a small lute-like instrument.
2. Role in Italian Music It became central to Neapolitan folk songs and later featured in classical works, such as Vivaldi's concertos.
3. Modern Usage Today, composers like Raffaele Calace integrate the mandolin into contemporary Italian orchestral pieces.
4. Conclusion The mandolin remains a symbol of Italian musical identity.

References: - Sparks, P. (2003). The Classical Mandolin.