

# ពិណពាទ្យនិងមហោរី

## Pin Peat and Mohori Orchestras

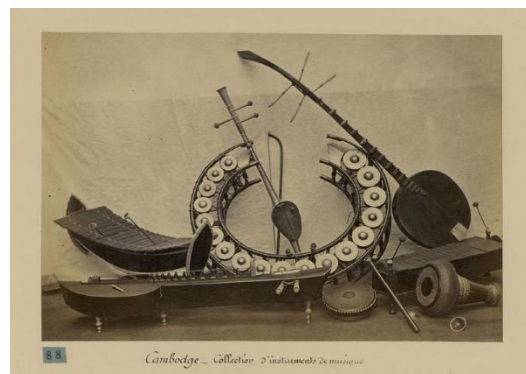
Cambodia has two major traditional music ensembles that differ in style and instrumentation. These are *Pin Peat* and *Mohori*. The *Pin Peat* orchestra is used for sacred and royal ceremonies and accompanies the court dance. *Mohori* is a more “popular” form of music performed for entertainment. Both ensembles include the high and low-pitched *roneat* (a type of xylophone) and one or two wind and percussion instruments. A major difference is that *Pin Peat* includes two sets of high and low-pitched gongs (Kong) while the *Mohori* ensemble includes a *khim* (a type of plucked zither) and string instruments.

Cambodian music and musical instruments can be traced back to the time of the Angkor Empire (9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> C). Bas reliefs on the walls of the largest temples, Angkor Wat and Bayon, depict instruments very similar to those used in the modern ensembles.



Image: Pin Peat orchestra

[Chum Ngek, Master musician](#)



Mohori instruments Mid-1800s

Emile Gsell, photographer