

FERRIER, Claude-*El arpa peruana (The Peruvian harp)*. In Spanish. Lima: Biblioteca Nacional del Perú (<http://opac.bn.p.gob.pe/>), 2003. ISBN: 9972-874-41-9. 127 pages.

This is a fundamental work in the study of the harps of Peru and their roles in the traditional music of this country, whose learning process takes place usually by rote, and even though Ferrier insists that he is not trying to substitute the traditional way of learning and playing it, his main concern is to contribute to the knowledge of these instruments and facilitate the learning process for those who live outside of their original context. The technical aspects and the different styles of music played on the harps of Cuzco, Lucamas, Huamanga and the North and South of Peru are approached emphasizing the different uses of these instruments. Ferrier explains the subtle differences that exist between the rhythms as notated in the traditional system and the “real rhythm” that is played, whose correct rendering requires having direct contact with this music. The book is full of practical examples and explanations that give thorough information to those interested in these harps.

Claude Ferrier (born 1963), studied composition in the Lausanne Conservatory in Switzerland, where he obtained the “Prix d’excellence” in counterpoint, a composition prize, and a Diploma of Professor of Musical Theory. After participating in several seminars and winning composition prizes in France, Switzerland, and Spain, he traveled to Lima, Peru where he studied the Andina music and learned several instruments. He has been playing the Andina harp since 1983. **M.G.**