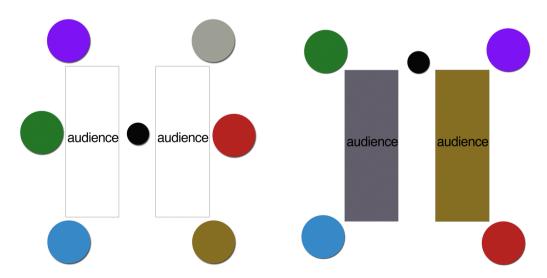
A.MASCALE PARTY STATE PE

The kazoo is perhaps more accurately understood as a vocal distortion device than an instrument. When a musician plays a kazoo, s/he hums into it and that causes a thin film to vibrate. This vibration changes with the sound of the voice giving it the buzzing quality, which is unique to the kazoo. The whole idea behind the instrument is, that a kazoo player by singing or speaking through the instrument induces an air current which makes the membrane vibrate and thus creates a summing. "nasal" sound.

The Kazoo is a folk instrument, but not in the historical sense of the word. Furthermore, it has a funny and phony relation with the concept of folk music, since it was produced as a industrial object in the era ethnomusicology itself was being born. While the instrument may never get the recognition of the guitar, the tuba or the violin, the kazoo is still the only instrument just about anyone can learn right off the bat. If we consider the kazoo's function of masking voices, we may understand it as a sonic masquerade. Certainly, in contemporary culture, the sound of the kazoo is understood as irreverent, teasing, and possibly disruptive. These days the kazoo is a divisive instrument, and it seems to live it's life mostly as a novelty toy handed out at children's parties.

DISPLAY

There are two types of disposition, in one group 6 groups are taken and in the other one they can join the audience as an active participant.



doo, who, mrr, brmr. A MASQUERADE SYMPHONY

by Agnès Pe

