# From Folk to Fun

Laura Webster





#### Epo i Tai Tai Eh "I am strong as a bull"

Epo i tai tai eh

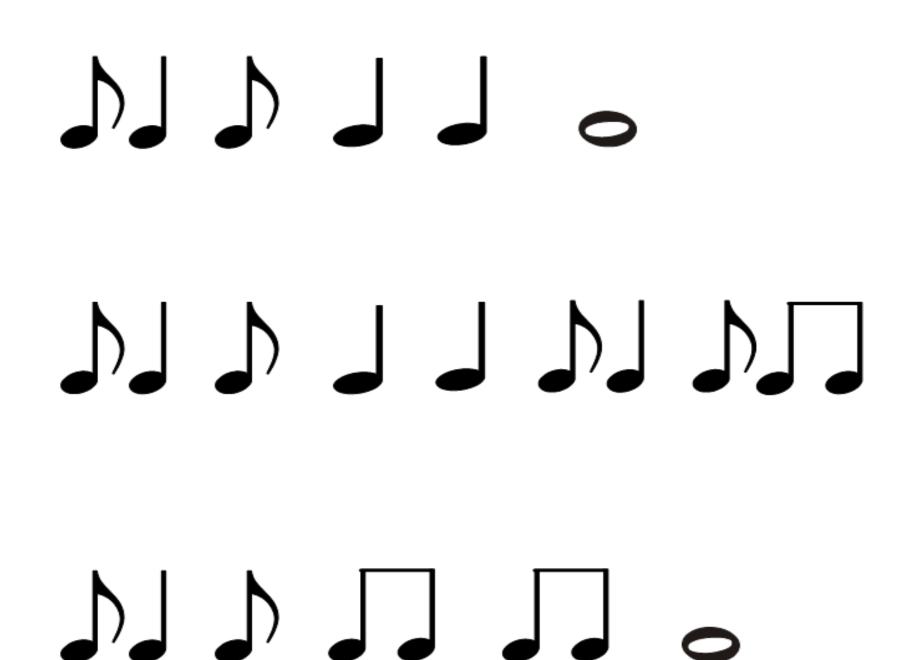
Epo i tai tai eh

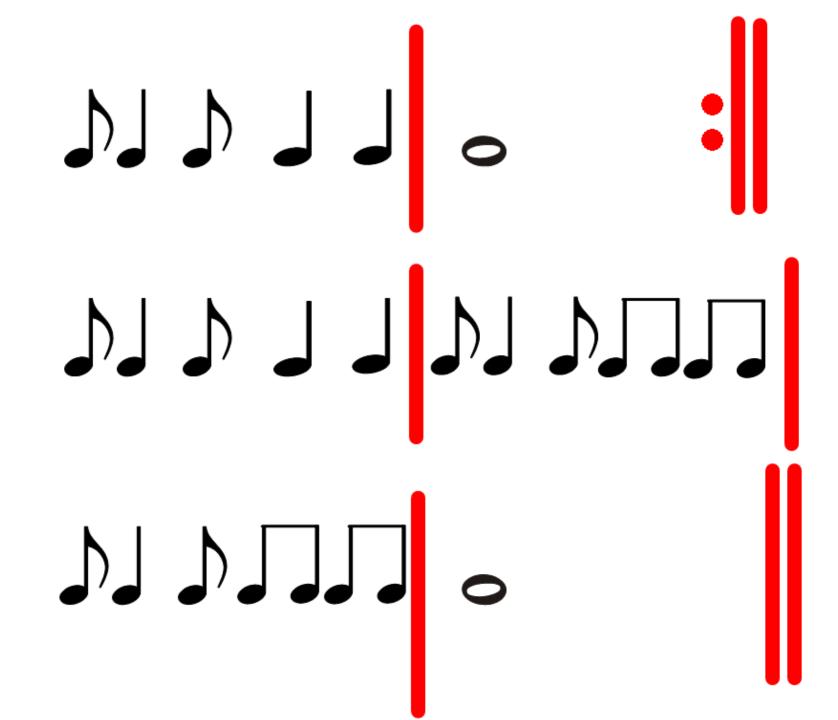
Epo i tai tai, epo i tuki tuki

Epo i tuki tuki eh

### Introduction to Synco-pa

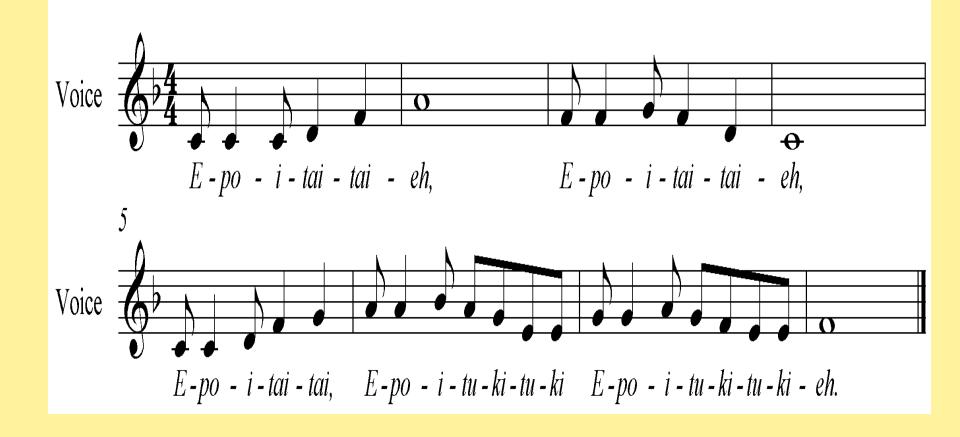








# Epo i Tai Tai Eh



#### Epo and Hoe Ana

- Using the folk dance elements we learned in Hoe Ana, create a new "Epo" dance.
  - \* Who is the group choreographer?
  - \* What will your group shape be?
  - \* Will there be different levels?
  - \* What will the relationship be to the other members in the group

# Maori People - New Zealand



#### **Movement Exploration**

- What are some strong movement choices? List them on the board
- What are some of the body parts we can do with those? List
- Can we add a direction or level?
- Explore these different movement choices while I play the drum.

#### Exploration

- What aspects of Maori folkdance make it unique?
  - \* eyes
  - \* tongue
  - \* body percussion
  - \* fierceness
- How can we change our dance to reflect the flavor of Maori dance?
- Keeping the beat and rhythmic structure of the song (32 beats) create a new fierce dance with your group. Who is the new group choreographer?

#### Improvisation/Composition

- Now that we have our fierce dance that focuses on the beat, what can we have as a B section the focuses on the rhythm? What rhythm should be used most of all? (synco-pa)
- Create a contrasting B section (that focuses on rhythm) with your group that may contain the following:
  - \* sticks \*body percussion \*movement
- Who is the group head composer?

#### Form

- Each group should have three options to choose from:
  - Epo sung traditionally
  - Epo fierce dance
  - Contrasting B section that focuses on rhythm
- Choose your groups best/favorite section to present to the class
- As a class create a rondo form for a final performance

#### Instrument Extension - on DO



#### Improvisation in DO pentatonic



#### Raas a stick dance from India

- A traditional dance done at weddings and other joyful events in India.
- When brought to America it was taught to American disco music and is often still done to disco (mostly Indian disco) music today.
- Raas is often choreographed to form new group shapes and uses other folk dance concepts as well as new choreographic ideas.

## Thanks for having me!

