

# CONTENU SONORE

| Instruments              | Forme d'expression |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Arc Ugubhu (voir page 1) |                    |

## TEXTE

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| Noté par : | Traduit par : |
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| Langue d'origine | Traduction |
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### Chant du 19 ème siècle

In this old Zulu narrative song the influence of speech-tone patterns upon the vocal melody is very strong. When sung in full, it is the longest known Zulu song, containing more than seventy stanzas, each preceded by the refrain: "Maye babo!" (Who is me!). The words relate the sad personal experience of a girl who is rejected by her lover. Every detail is told concerning her final visit to her lover's home. She is given normal hospitality, but the climax comes when a vessel of sour milk is set before her. Sour milk is sacred to the family group alone and cannot possibly be accepted by outsiders. The action of offering it is thus a polite way of rejecting her.

The form of the song is interesting: The refrain comes always at the same place in relation to the ugubhu bow's ostinato phrase, and the stanza - however many syllables it may contain - is fitted into the remaining two measures. Unlike the previous two songs, the finalis coincides with the higher fundamental of the bow instead of the lower one.

Observations :