

“Play, sopilka, all summer long,
Violins will help you”

S O P I L K A



*Pavel Shmyrev plays composition
for sopilka and orchestra*

instrument. Russian name is svirel, dudka, Ukrainian – sopilka

Sopilka is an ancient wind folk instrument which belongs to the same flute family as European block flute and English whistle. Sopilka is a wooden pipe with whistle device and 6 to 10 finger holes. Like many other woodwind instruments sopilka was shepherd’s instrument which had been known for many centuries. It is Slavic in-



*The pitch of sopilka sound depends
on the length and width of the pipe*



Russian svirel was made either of hollow reed or cylindrical wood branches. A legend says that Lel’, the son of the Slavic goddess of love Lada, was a svirel player.

In the middle of 20th century Ukrainian master Demenchuk transformed traditional shepherd’s sopilka into professional chromatic instrument by increasing number of finger holes from 6 to 10. Professional sopilka can perform the repertoire of any level.

Double sopilka is called **djolomyga**. Bringing together two pipes into one instrument makes it possible for one player to perform two-voice melodies.