

The Meaning of **TINKU**®

TINKU IS A REGISTERED TRADEMARK
Article by Letty Astudillo

In ancient times, TINKU represented a prehispanic Andean ritual in which people from certain regions of South America met in a "fierce celebration". These often times bloody meetings were generally organized in religious or sacred grounds. The persons fighting the battle were fighting for their 'ayllu' or community. To win the battle meant to gain prestige, to acquire favors from the losing party, and to have overall rights to land.

TINKU is a word with several meanings. Its variants, **Tinkuña** means 'to fall or to enter into combat' while **Tinkuñacama** signifies 'until we meet again'. In Quechua, the indigenous language prevalent throughout South America, '**Tinkuy**' means the coming together of two different groups. TINKU is also a musical rhythm traditional to Bolivia that represents a marching movement. It was this style of music that was utilized when the two parties were to meet in combat. Currently, there are many Tinku Rituals throughout South America held at different times of the year. However, due to local law enforcement, the ancient form of the Tinku Battle is dying.

SO, WHY TINKU FOR A BAND NAME? TINKU was chosen by its Founder & Director, **Francisco Astudillo**, because of its literary content; a coming together of two different segments of society. With this in mind, TINKU's goal is to project traditions, customs and rhythms of various Latin American countries by incorporating native instruments to introduce LATIN FOLK music to people in the United States and beyond. Hence, since 1995, TINKU delights audiences with a musical extravaganza featuring Latin American Folk music from over 19 musical rhythms from more than 12 countries including México, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Argentina, Bolivia, Brasil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Perú, Uruguay and Venezuela & more!

TINKU

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