

Student Name

School



Listening Destinations

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bach | <input type="checkbox"/> Lassus |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beethoven | <input type="checkbox"/> Mozart |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bizet | <input type="checkbox"/> Mussorgsky |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brahms | <input type="checkbox"/> Price |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clarke | <input type="checkbox"/> Reed, Alfred |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Debussy | <input type="checkbox"/> Rossini |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elgar | <input type="checkbox"/> Verdi |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ellington/Strayhorn | <input type="checkbox"/> Vivaldi |

2024-2025
UIL Music Memory

Student PASSPORT



UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE

Making a World of Difference

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

The Well-Tempered Clavier, Book 1, Prelude No. 1

Instrument/Voice

Piano

Musical Minute

Prelude: a short piece of music that often serves as an introduction to a longer work.

Notes

Equal temperament: a system of tuning developed in the late 1600s, which allows a keyboard instrument to sound in tune in every key.

Clavier: in Bach's time, a family of keyboard instruments, including the harpsichord, organ, and later the piano.

Harpsichord: main keyboard instrument in Renaissance and Baroque music (from about 1400 to 1750). The invention of the piano in the late 1700s caused the harpsichord's popularity to decline.

Arpeggio (ar-PEH-djo) or broken chord ("to play on a harp" in Italian): a style of playing a chord where individual pitches are sounded in succession rather than together.

The Well-Tempered Clavier: two collections (Books 1 and 2), each with 24 preludes and 24 fugues, written in every major and minor key.

Bach completed Book 1 in 1722 in Cöthen, and Book 2 around 1740 in Leipzig. Both books were published in 1800.

Book 1 was composed "for the use and practice of musical youth eager to learn and for the amusement of those already skilled in the study." The pieces demonstrate the equal-temperament system.



Bach

\'bäk\
1685-1750



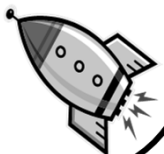
Fast Five

1. German Baroque composer. One of the "Three B's" (Bach, Beethoven, and Brahms).
2. Played violin, viola, harpsichord, and organ
3. Had 20 children. 9 survived him. 4 were composers.
4. Had diabetes. Went blind. Died of a stroke.
5. Today Bach is considered to be the greatest composer of all time.



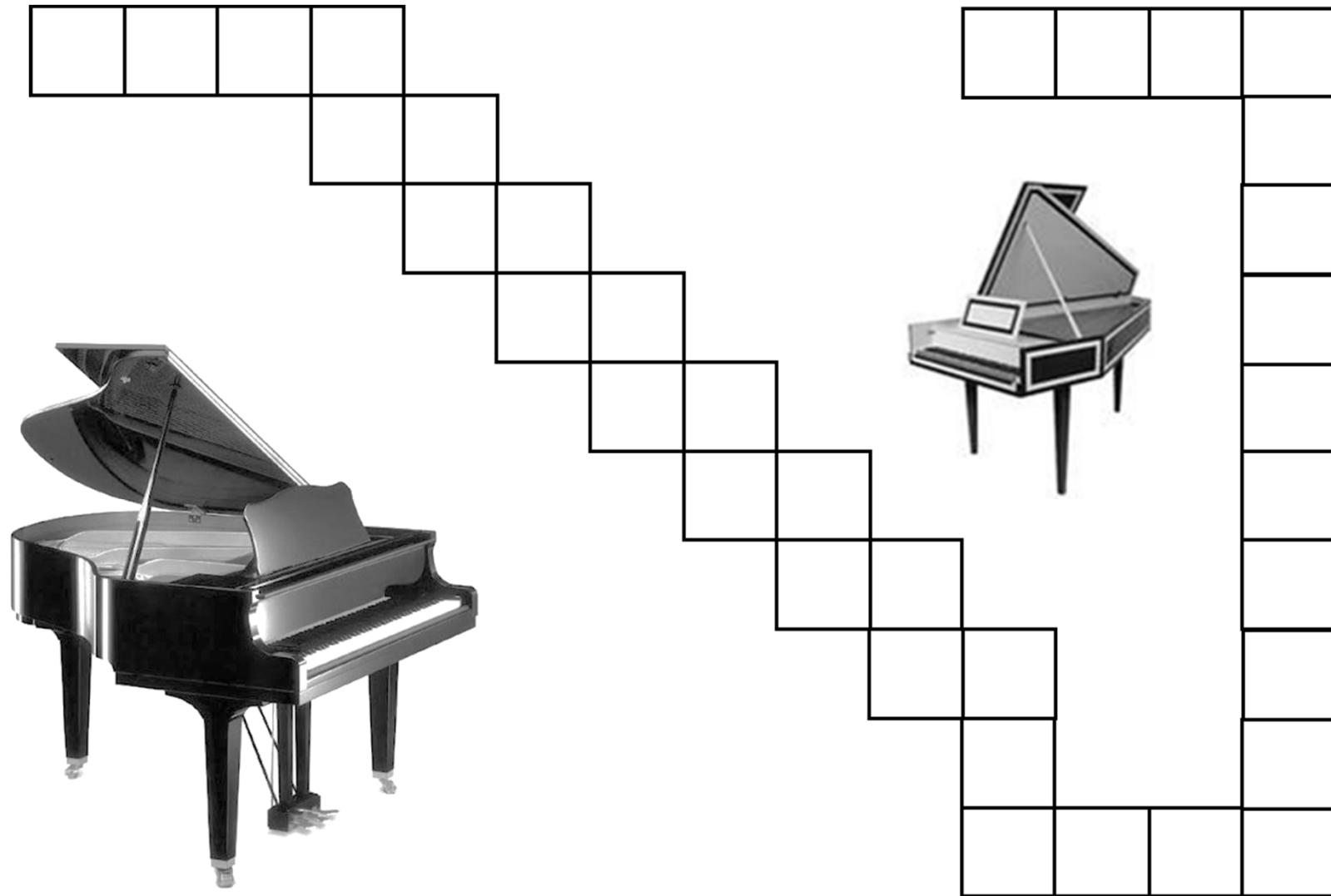
Notes

After Bach's death most of his compositions were forgotten, except for his motets (church works) and **The Well-Tempered Clavier**. "Prelude No. 1" is one of Bach's most-recognized compositions.



Bach
The Well-Tempered Clavier, Book 1
Prelude No. 1

Start here



Bach

The Well-Tempered Clavier, Book 1

Prelude No. 1

Start here

1			
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2	
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7	6	5	
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3

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1. We are going on a journey.
2. We are going down the mountain.
3. We've arrived, let's stretch our legs now.
4. Keep it steady, we're returning.
5. We are almost back, we're getting closer to our destination.
6. We had such a good time with our friends, but we're so tired and now we're
7. Home.

Symphony No. 1

Movement 3

Instrument/Voice

Orchestra

Musical Minute

Symphony: a musical composition in three or more movements for orchestra.

Notes



Musical form: the overall plan or structure of a piece of music. Ternary form: a three-part musical form where the first section is repeated after a contrasting second section: A B A.

Menuetto (“minuet” in Italian): a social dance for two people in 3/4 time (three beats per measure).

Trio: the contrasting middle (B) section of a three-part movement, named “trio” because it was originally written for three instruments. Trios usually have a light, simple texture.

Tempo (“time” in Italian): the speed of the beat.

Dynamics: the volume (loudness or softness) of the sound.

Accent: emphasizing a note by making it louder (*sf* = *sforzando* = a sudden forceful accent).

Beethoven composed his first symphony in Vienna in 1799-1800. It was dedicated to Baron Gottfried van Swieten, an Austrian diplomat and amateur musician.

Symphony No. 1 in C Major, Op. 21, in four movements, was first performed in Vienna, in a public concert that Beethoven organized, directed, and paid for himself. The symphony was well received by the audience.

Beethoven

\'bā-, tō-vən\
1770-1827



Fast Five

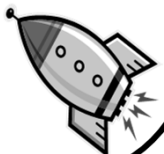
1. German Classical/Romantic composer. One of the “Three B’s” (Bach, Beethoven, Brahms).
2. Played violin, viola, organ, and was a virtuoso pianist.
3. Gradually became deaf. Began to lose his hearing in 1796. Completely deaf in 1818.
4. Moody, disorganized, and arrogant. Died of liver failure.
5. Composer of nine famous symphonies. One of the most famous and influential composers in music history.



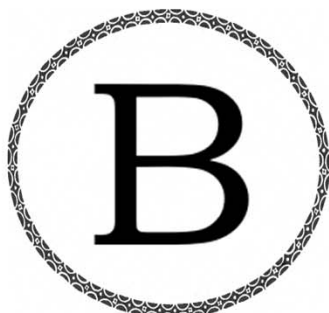
Notes

Symphony No. 1 is often performed today, and was Beethoven’s most popular symphony during his lifetime.

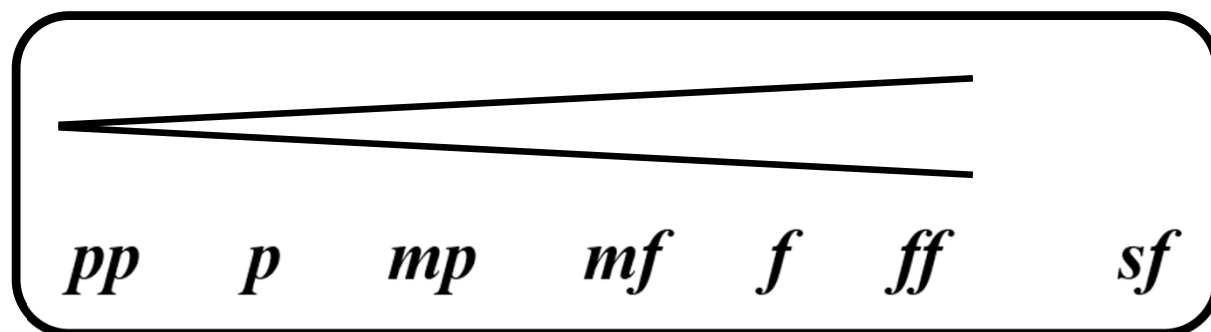
Scherzo (“joke” in Italian): the third movement of a symphony beginning with Beethoven’s **Symphony No. 2**, in 3/4 time, usually quick and light-hearted. It is often played with a Trio section, followed by a repeat of the *scherzo*.



Beethoven
Symphony No. 1
Movement 3



Allegro molto e vivace



do'



ti



la



sol



fa



mi



re



do



Carmen

Toreador Song

Instrument / Voice

Baritone and orchestra

Musical Minute

Toreador (“*torero*” in Spanish): a bullfighter.

Notes



Musical prodigy: a child (under age 12) who displays a talent in music on the same level as a skilled adult musician.

Opera: a story told completely through music. The characters sing with an orchestra accompanying them, and act out the story on a stage with costumes, scenery, props, and choreography.

Opera aria: a song from an opera, for one voice, often sung with an orchestra. Aria means “air” in Italian.

Libretto (“book” in Italian): contains all the words and stage directions for an opera. The *libretto* for ***Carmen*** is written in French.

Baritone: the most common male singing voice, lower than tenor and higher than bass.

Bizet’s last opera, ***Carmen***, is set in Spain, even though Bizet had never been to Spain.

Carmen is Bizet’s most famous opera and is #3 on the Operabase list of most-performed operas in the world.

The “Toreador Song” is one of the most famous arias from ***Carmen***. It is sung in French at the beginning of Act II. Parts of the “Toreador Song” are heard again in Act IV, outside the bullfight arena.


Bizet

\bē-'zā\

1838-1875

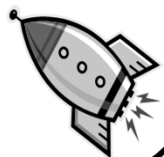


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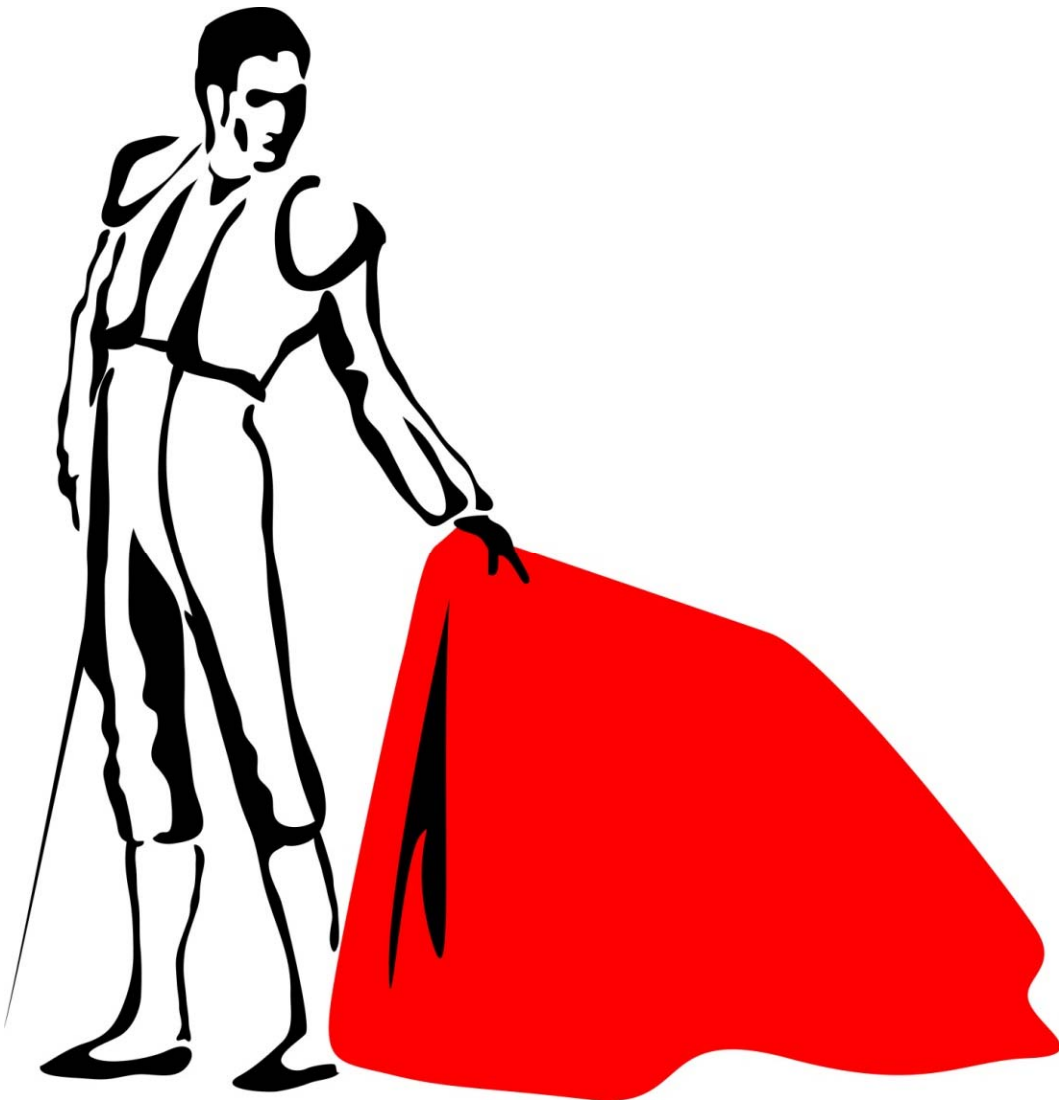
1. French Romantic composer. 
2. Played piano.
3. Child prodigy. Loved music and reading. Entered Paris Conservatory at 10.
4. Earned his living as an accompanist and by arranging music for a music publisher. Known for his operas, though only six were completed.
5. Died of a heart attack at age 36.



Notes



Bizet
Carmen
Toreador Song



Translation:

To your toast, I reply with great delight.
We bullfighters understand you soldiers,
For our pleasure is also in the fight.
The arena is full, from top to bottom.
The crowds go mad, waiting for the fight.
People shout, yell, and holler!
The din tears the place apart
In the celebration of courage and heart!
Let's go! On guard! Let's go! Let's go! Ah!

Toreador, on guard! Toreador! Toreador!
And as you fight, think of the dark eyes
That watch and send you promises of love!

All at once, the crowd is silent!
Oh, what is happening?
More shouting! This is it!
The bull is rushing into the ring!
He charges! A horse falls,
Dragging down a picador!
"Ah! Bravo! Toro!" the crowd cries!
The bull goes on, charging once more.
Now, shaking the spears in his neck,
He runs, enraged, across the bloody arena.
People flee, saving themselves.
Now it's your turn for center stage!
Let's go! On guard! Let's go! Ah!

Toreador, on guard! Toreador! Toreador!
And as you fight, think of the dark eyes
That watch and send you promises of love!
Toreador! Toreador! Love awaits you! Love!

Waltz in A-Flat Major

Instrument/Voice

Piano

Musical Minute

Waltz: a type of ballroom dance music in 3/4 meter.

Notes

Accelerando (accel.): gradually faster.

Ritardando (rit.): gradually slower.

Crescendo (cresc.): gradually louder. *Decrescendo (decresc.)* or *diminuendo (dim.)*: gradually softer.

Melody: a line of single pitches that move up, down, or repeat (the tune of the music).

Accompaniment: a musical part that supports the melody.

Musical form: the overall plan or structure of a piece of music.

Phrase: a musical thought found in a melody. Phrases combine to form larger sections.

Brahms wrote a set of **16 Waltzes**, Op. 39 in 1865 and dedicated them to Dr. Eduard Hanslick (1825-1904), a music critic in Vienna. "Waltz in A-Flat Major" is No. 15.

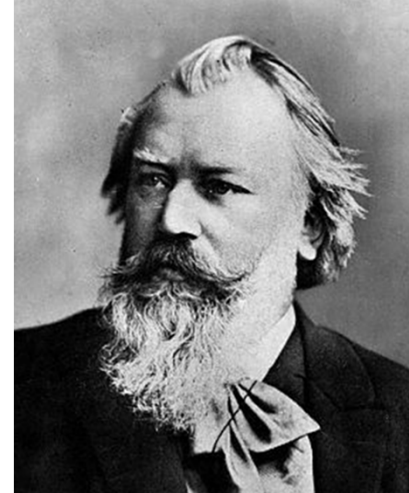
Brahms originally composed the **Waltzes** for piano duet (one piano, four hands). He later arranged the set for piano solo in two different versions (difficult and simplified).

The **Waltzes** were written as a tribute to both the waltz, a dance that was popular in Vienna where Brahms lived, and also to the composer Franz Schubert, whose dance music Brahms edited and arranged. "Waltz in A-Flat Major" is the most famous waltz of the set.



Brahms

\'brämz\
1833-1897



Fast Five

1. German Romantic composer. One of the "Three B's" (Bach, Beethoven, Brahms).
2. Played cello, French horn, and was a virtuoso pianist.
3. Perfectionist. Destroyed many of his compositions before they were published.
4. Close friend of composer Antonin Dvořák.
5. Never married. Died of liver cancer. Buried in Vienna next to Beethoven, Johann Strauss II, and Schubert.

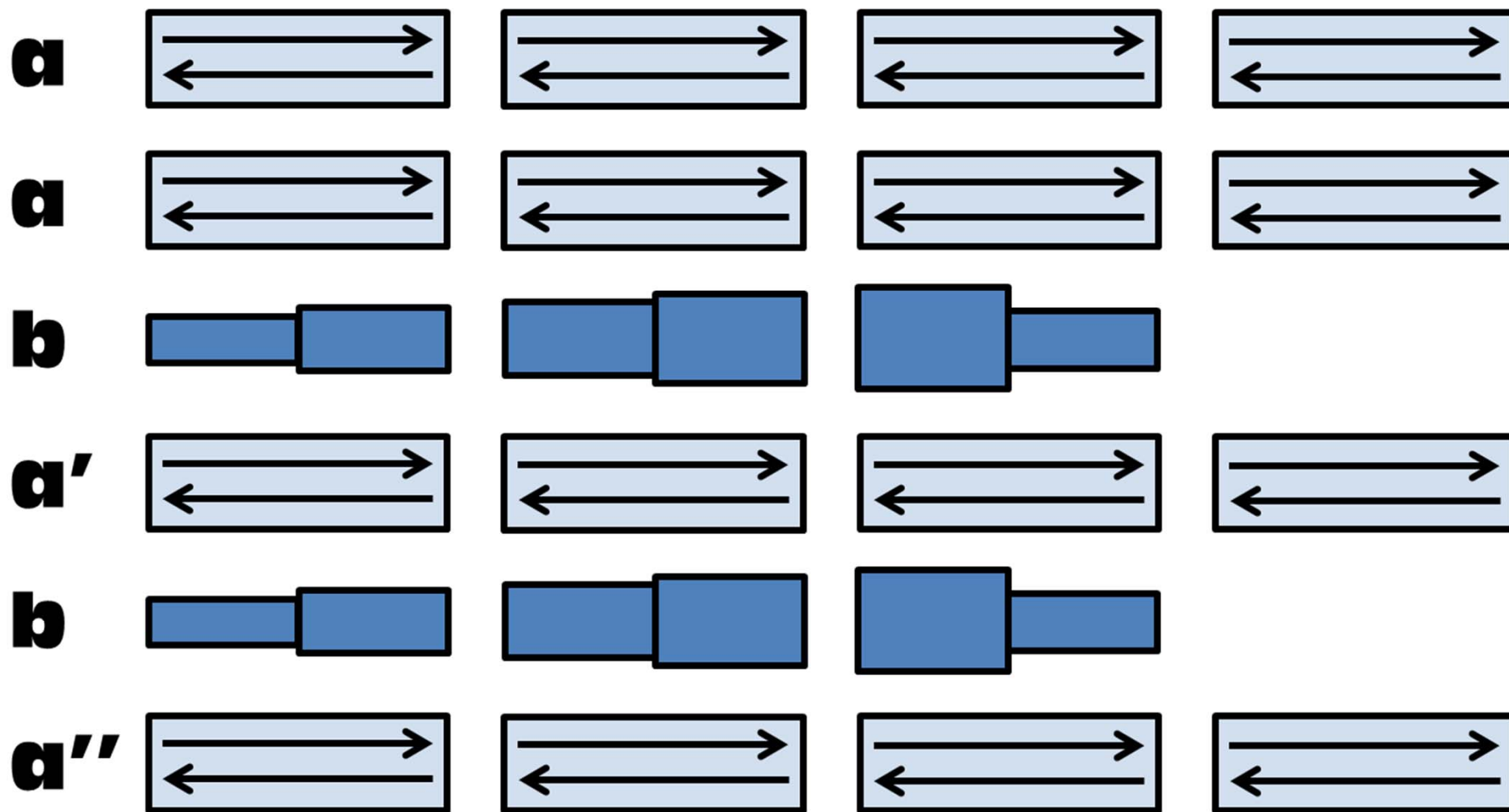


Notes



Brahms

Waltz in A-Flat Major



Brahms

Waltz in A-Flat Major



a $\frac{3}{4}$

a

b

a'

b

a''

The Prince of Denmark's March

Instrument/Voice

Trumpet and organ

Musical Minute

Voluntary: a piece of music, usually for organ, played as part of a church service.

Notes



Trumpet voluntary: the name given to some English keyboard pieces from the Baroque period. A trumpet voluntary is usually played on the organ using the trumpet stop.

Rondo form: main theme returns after each contrasting section: A B A C A. Rondo can also refer to music that is fast and vivacious.

Natural trumpet: a trumpet developed around 1300, with no valves, used to play mostly high notes. The Baroque period (1600-1750) is considered to be the "Golden Age of the Natural Trumpet." Composers wrote music for the natural trumpet well into the 1800s.

Clarke composed "The Prince of Denmark's March" 1699 for Prince George of Denmark, husband to Queen Anne.

From 1878 to the 1940s the piece was known as "Trumpet Voluntary" by famous English composer Henry Purcell, because of a mistake that was made when an organ arrangement was published in the 1870s. It was also arranged for trumpet, organ, and orchestra.

"The Prince of Denmark's March" is popular as wedding music and has been used in royal weddings. It was played by the BBC during WWII when broadcasting to occupied Denmark, and is also the opening theme for **Masterpiece Theater**.

Clarke

\'klärk\

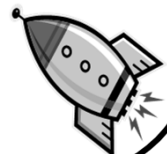
1674-1707



Notes

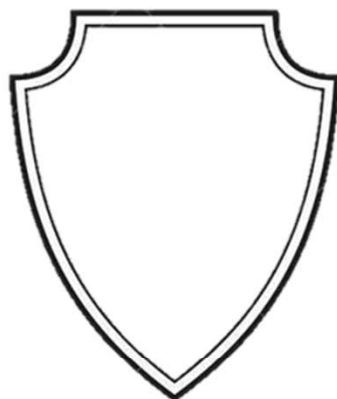
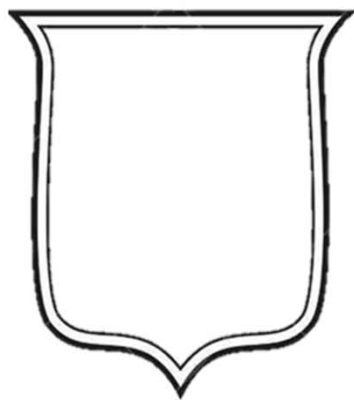
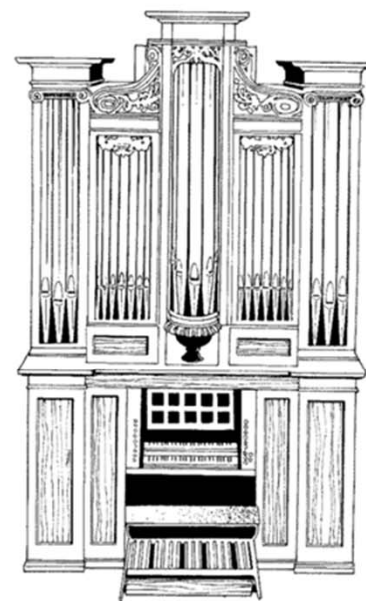
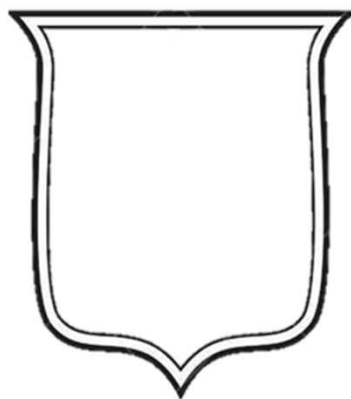
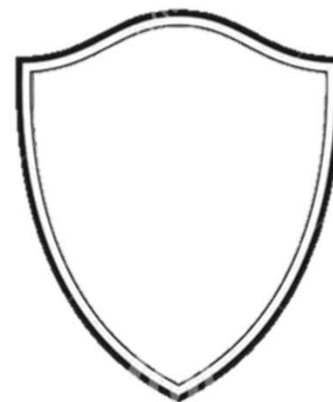
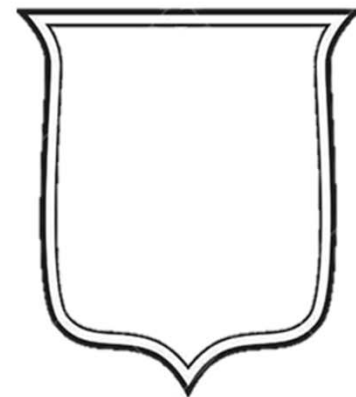
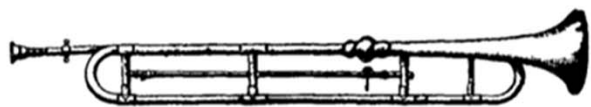
Fast Five

1. English Baroque composer.
2. Played organ.
3. Lived his whole life in London, England. Sang in choir of the Chapel Royal as a boy. Organist at Winchester College, at St. Paul's Cathedral, and at Chapel Royal.
4. Known for his harpsichord and organ music. Died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound.
5. Clarke's best-known composition is "The Prince of Denmark's March."



Clarke

The Prince of Denmark's March



Clair de Lune

Instrument / Voice

Piano

Musical Minute

Claire de Lune:
“moonlight” in French.

Notes



Musical prodigy: a child (under age 12) who displays a talent in music on the same level as a skilled adult musician.

Musical form: the overall plan or structure of a piece of music. Ternary form: a three-part musical form where the first section (A) is repeated after a contrasting second section (B): A B A.

Suite: a musical form made up of a collection of short pieces.

Impressionism: early 20th century artistic style of poets, painters, and composers who tried to capture a fleeting moment or impression, using subtle blends and shades of color.

“*Clair de Lune*” is the third and most famous movement of ***Suite Bergamasque*** (BAIR-gah-mahsk), written in 1890, revised and published in 1905. It is a musical setting of a poem by Paul Verlaine.

Original title: “*Promenade Sentimentale*” (“sentimental stroll” in French).

Bergamasque: a rustic peasant dance from Italy.

Paul Verlaine (1844-1896): a French poet and Debussy’s childhood friend.

Debussy

\,de-byù-'sē\
1862-1918



Fast Five

1. French Impressionist composer
2. Played piano. Musical prodigy. Entered Paris Conservatory at age 10.
3. Edited Chopin’s piano works. Was a music critic and wrote about music under the pen name “*Monsieur Croche*” (Mr. Quarter Note).
4. Loved art and poetry. Died of colon cancer.
5. The greatest French composer of his time. One of the “Fathers of Modern Music.”



Notes

“*Clair de Lune*” has been orchestrated and arranged for other instruments, used in movies: **Giant** (1956), **Ocean’s Eleven** (2001), and inspired Disney’s “When You Wish Upon a Star.”



Debussy *Clair de Lune*

1. Draw a moon.

Translation of “*Clair de Lune*” by Paul Verlaine

Your soul is a chosen landscape
Where charming masqueraders and bergamaskers go,
Playing the lute and dancing and almost
Sad beneath their fanciful disguises.

All sing in a minor key
Of victorious love and the opportune life,
They do not seem to believe in their happiness
And their song mingles with the moonlight,

With the still moonlight, sad and beautiful,
That sets the birds dreaming in the trees
And the fountains sobbing in ecstasy,
The tall slender fountains among marble statues.

3. Listen to the music and draw your impression of moonlight.

2. Read the poem above and draw your impression of moonlight.

Pomp and Circumstance

March No. 1

Instrument / Voice

Orchestra

Musical Minute

March: a piece of music with a strong regular rhythm, written for marching to.

Notes



“Pomp and Circumstance”: a formal, impressive ceremony or display of splendor and stateliness.

Musical form: the overall structure of a piece of music.

Binary form: a piece of music that has two main parts.

Trio: usually the third section of a march, or the contrasting section of a three-part movement. It is the main melody of a march and is more *legato* (smooth) and lyrical (song-like).

Tempo (“time” in Italian): the speed of the beat. *Allegro, con molto fuoco*: cheerful (fast), with much fire, or passionately. *Largamente*: broadly (slowly). *Molto maestoso*: very stately, majestic.

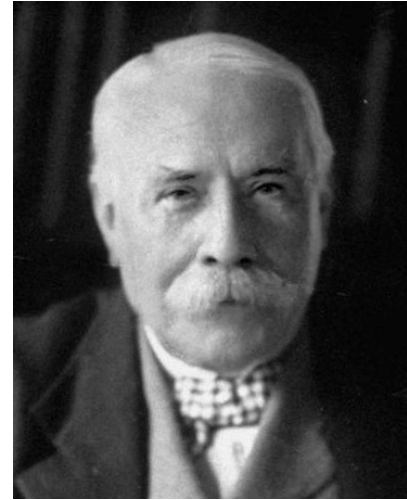
Elgar composed **Pomp and Circumstance** “March No. 1” in 1901 and dedicated it to Alfred E. Rodewald (1862-1903), conductor of the Liverpool Orchestral Society, and to its members.

Pomp and Circumstance “March No. 1” was an instant success at its 1901 premiere in Liverpool. After its first performance in London, the audience demanded that it be played two more times.


Elgar

\ 'el-gär \

1857-1934



Fast Five

1. English late Romantic composer. 
2. Played piano, organ, and violin.
3. Taught piano and violin. Worked as a free-lance musician and conductor. Knighted at Buckingham Palace in 1904.
4. Loved the English countryside and was very patriotic. Died of cancer.
5. Sir Edward Elgar, known as “The Master of the King’s Musick,” was the finest English composer of his time.

Notes


Because “March No. 1” was so popular, Elgar included it in his **Coronation Ode** for King Edward VII. English poet A. C. Benson (1862-1925) wrote a patriotic text for the Trio section. Known as the hymn, “Land of Hope and Glory,” this has become an unofficial second British national anthem.


The Trio section of “March No. 1” is also known as “Pomp and Circumstance” or as “The Graduation March” because it is often played as a processional at graduation ceremonies.





Elgar **Pomp and Circumstance** March No. 1


A Section


A1. $\frac{2}{4}$  ||

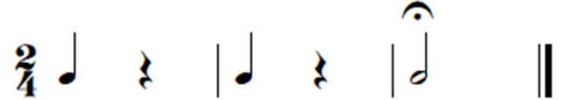
A2. $\frac{2}{4}$  ||

A3. $\frac{2}{4}$  ||

A4. $\frac{2}{4}$  ||

A5. $\frac{2}{4}$  ||

A6. $\frac{2}{4}$  ||

A7. $\frac{2}{4}$  ||

B Section (Trio)



A B A B A'

Take the “A” Train

Instrument / Voice

Big band: piano, saxophones, trombones, trumpets, string bass, drum set, solo trumpet

Musical Minute

Jazz: music that developed at the beginning of the 20th century in America. Jazz features improvisation.

Notes



Big band or jazz orchestra: a group of 12-25 jazz musicians who play woodwind, brass, and rhythm instruments.

Swing: a style of jazz popular from about 1933 to 1946, performed by big bands, and used for dancing.

Improvisation: music that is made up as it is performed.

Introduction: the beginning of a piece of music. Bridge: a contrasting, connecting section. Coda (“tail” in Italian): the ending of a piece of music.

Mute: a device used to muffle or soften the tone of a musical instrument.

Billy Strayhorn composed the jazz standard “Take the ‘A’ Train” in 1939, after Duke Ellington gave him directions to Harlem by subway, telling him to take the “A” train.

“Take the ‘A’ Train,” first recorded in 1941, became the theme song for Ellington’s orchestra.

Lyrics for “Take the ‘A’ Train” were written in 1944 by Joya Sherrill (1924-2010).

“Take the ‘A’ Train” was the theme song for the Voice of America Jazz Hour from 1955 to 2003. In 1976 it was inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame. In 1999 National Public Radio included it in the “NPR 100,” a list of the most important American musical works of the 20th century.

Ellington

\ 'e-liŋ-tən \

1899-1974



Strayhorn

\ 'strā-hōrn \

1915-1967

Notes

Ellington Fast Five

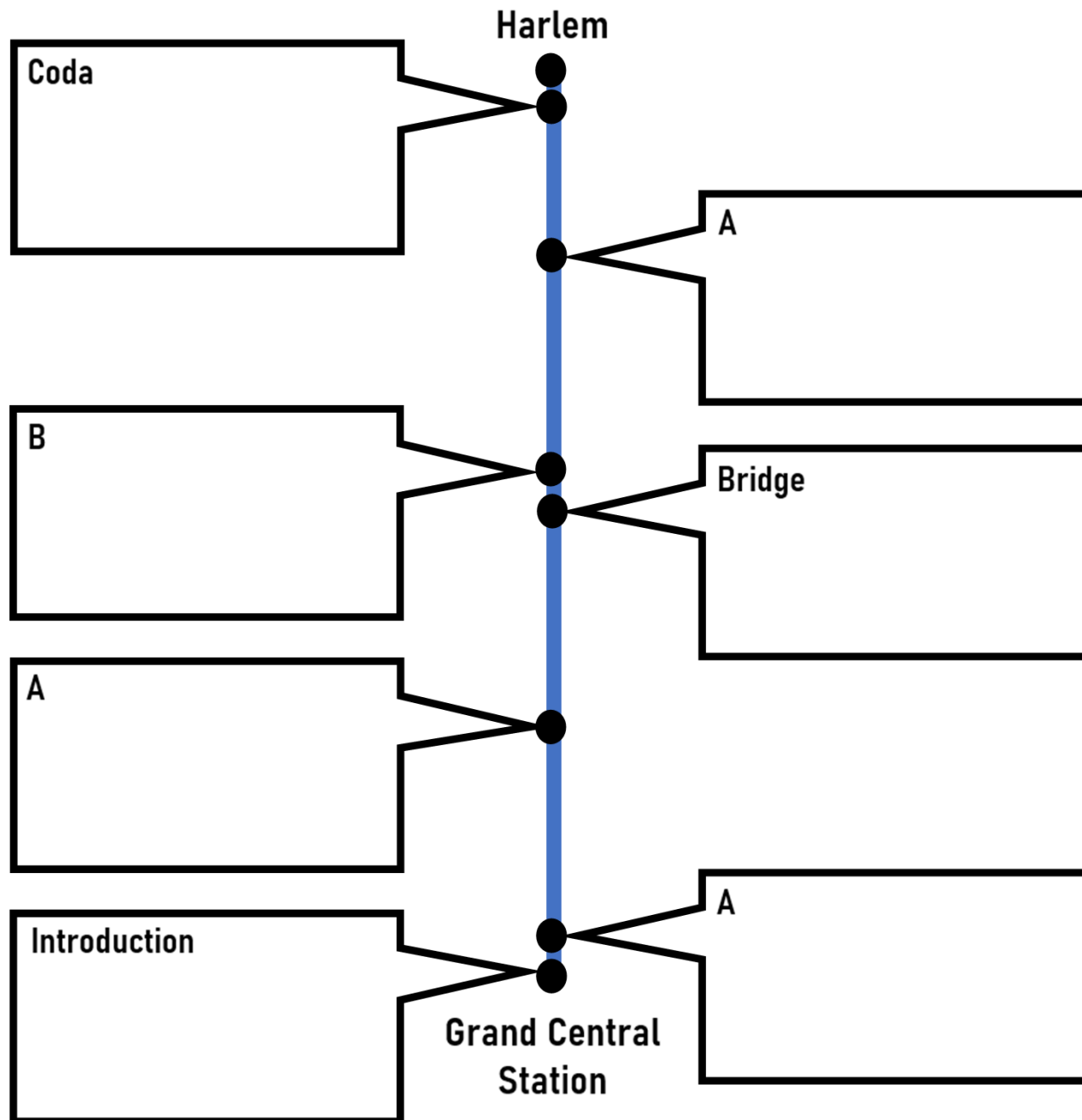
1. Edward Kennedy (“Duke”) Ellington, 20th century American composer.
2. Taught himself to play piano.
3. Composed over 2,000 pieces of music.
4. In 1969 President Nixon gave him a 70th birthday party at the White House and gave him the Presidential Medal of Freedom.
5. Died of lung cancer. “Take the ‘A’ Train” was played at his funeral.

Strayhorn Fast Five

1. William Thomas (“Billy”) Strayhorn, 20th century American composer.
2. Played piano. Classically trained.
3. Collaborated with Duke Ellington for almost 30 years. Composed and arranged pieces for Ellington’s big band.
4. Active in the civil rights movement and was a friend to Martin Luther King, Jr.
5. Died of cancer. “Take the ‘A’ Train” was played at his memorial service.

Ellington/Strayhorn

Take the "A" Train



O la, o che bon eccho (Echo Song)

Instrument / Voice

Two 4-part choirs
(SSAA + SSAA)

Musical Minute

A cappella ("in the style of the chapel" in Italian): music performed without instrumental accompaniment.

Notes



Madrigal: a secular (not religious) vocal piece for 2-8 parts, usually performed *a cappella*.

Antiphony: a performance style in which musicians are divided into two or more groups, performing alternately as separate groups and together.

Soprano: high female voice, abbreviated "S."

Alto: low female voice, abbreviated "A."

Tenor: high male voice, abbreviated "T."

Bass: low male voice, abbreviated "B."

Lyrics: the words of a song. The lyrics of the "Echo Song" are written in Italian.

Lassus probably composed the "Echo Song" during his travels in Italy in the 1540s and 1550s. It was first published in 1581 in ***Libro de villanelle, moresche et altre canzoni***, a book of *Villanelles* (light Italian secular vocal music) and *Moresche* (songs sung from the perspective of black Moorish servants and slaves).

"O la, o che bon eccho" was written for double choir: two separate 4-part choirs. Double-choir singing originated with music written for St. Mark's Basilica in Venice, Italy, with its two choir lofts, from which groups of musicians would play or sing back and forth.

Lassus

\ 'lä-süs \

1532-1594



Fast Five

1. Belgian Renaissance composer.
2. Singer. As a young choirboy was kidnapped three times by rival choirs because of his beautiful voice.
3. Born in France, trained in Italy, worked in Germany. Awarded the Knight of the Golden Spur in 1574 by Pope Gregory III.
4. Wrote no instrumental music. Composed over 2,000 vocal and choral pieces. His compositions comprised 60% of all music printed in Europe between 1555 and 1600.
5. One of the most popular, famous, and influential musicians at the end of the 16th century.



Notes





Lassus



O la, o che bon eccho (Echo Song)

O la, o che bon eccho! Pigliamo ci, piacere!

Oh, what a lovely echo! Let's try it. Pleased to meet you!

Ha ha ha ha ha! Ridiamo tutti!

Ha ha ha ha ha! Let's all laugh!

O bon compagno! Che voi tu? Voria che tu cantassi una canzona.

Oh my good friend! What do you want? I'd like you to sing a song.

Perchè? Perchè si? Perchè no? Perchè non voglio. Perchè non voi?

Why? Why should I? Why not? Because I don't want to. Why don't you want to?

Perchè non mi piace! Taci dico!

Because I don't feel like it! Now be quiet!

Taci tu! O gran poltron! Signor, si!

Be quiet, you big fool! Yes Sir!

Or su non più! Andiamo! Addio, bon eccho!

Come on, no more! Let's go! Goodbye, good echo!

Rest' in pace! Basta! Basta! Basta! Basta!

Peace be with you. That's enough, enough, enough, enough!



The Magic Flute

Der Vogelfänger bin ich ja

Instrument / Voice

Baritone and
chamber orchestra

Musical Minute

Opera: a story told completely through music. The characters sing with an orchestra accompanying them, and act out the story on a stage with costumes, scenery, props, and choreography.

Notes

Musical prodigy: a child who can perform or compose music at the level of a highly-trained adult.

Singspiel (ZING-shpeel): a popular German form of comic opera, in which spoken dialogue is mixed with singing.

Baritone: the most common male singing voice, lower than tenor and higher than bass.

Libretto: contains all the words and stage directions for an opera. The *libretto* of **The Magic Flute** is written in German.

The Magic Flute (*Die Zauberflöte*), composed in 1791, was Mozart's last opera. Mozart conducted the premiere in Vienna in September, 1791, and died in December.

Mozart's friend, impresario (actor, author, composer) Emanuel Schikaneder (shih-kuh-NAY-der), suggested that Mozart write the opera, and Schikaneder wrote the *libretto*, directed it, and sang the role of *Papageno*.

The Magic Flute is number 1 on the Operabase list of the most-performed operas in the world.



Mozart

\'mōt-särt\'

1756-1791



Fast Five

1. Austrian Classical composer.
2. Played violin, viola, harpsichord, clavier, piano, and organ.
3. Child prodigy. Considered a musical genius his whole life.
4. Travelled extensively with his sister around Europe, performing for royalty. Died of rheumatic fever.
5. One of the most important classical composers in history.



Notes



Mozart

The Magic Flute

Der Vogelfänger bin ich ja



Translation:

The birdcatcher, that's me,
Always cheerful, hooray!
As the birdcatcher I'm well known
To old and young throughout the land.
I know how to set traps,
And how to play my pipes.
That's why I can be happy and merry,
For all these birds belong to me.

The birdcatcher, that's me,
Always cheerful, hooray!
As the birdcatcher I'm well known
To old and young throughout the land.
I'd like a net for catching girls,
I'd catch them by the dozen for myself!
Then I'd lock them up in my house,
And all the girls would belong to me.

If all the girls belonged to me,
I'd barter them for sugar,
And give that sugar right away
To the one who I liked the best.
And if she were to give me a tender kiss,
She'd be my wife and I her husband.
She'd fall asleep by my side,
I'd cradle her like a child.

Mozart

The Magic Flute

Der Vogelfänger bin ich ja



Introduction (**orchestra**)



Verse (baritone, **orchestra**)



Pictures at an Exhibition

Promenade

Instrument/Voice

Orchestra (brass, woodwinds, and strings)

Musical Minute

Suite: a musical form made up of a collection of short pieces.

Notes



Promenade: a leisurely walk in a public place.

Meter: the way that beats are grouped, usually in sets of 2, 3, or 4.

Orchestration: writing music for an orchestra, or adapting music written for one instrument so that it can be played by an orchestra.

Pictures at an Exhibition was composed in twelve days in 1874 for solo piano, as a tribute to the artist Viktor Hartmann (1834-1873), a deceased friend of Mussorgsky.

Russian composer Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov (1844-1908) edited the piano suite for publication in 1886. In 1922, French composer Maurice Ravel (1875-1937) orchestrated it. Russian-American conductor and composer Serge Koussevitzky (1874-1951) conducted the world and American premieres of Ravel's version, as well as the first recording in 1930.

"Promenade" is the first of fifteen movements in the suite. "Promenade" returns four times, with different tempos and instruments. In all there are ten pieces of "musical artwork" in the exhibit.

Mussorgsky

\mü-'sörg-skē\
1839-1881



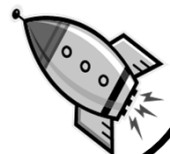
Fast Five

1. Russian Romantic composer. Member of the Russian "Five" or the "Mighty Handful" (Balakirev, Cui, Mussorgsky, Rimsky-Korsakov, and Borodin).
2. Played piano and sang.
3. Was a member of the Russian Imperial Guard. Worked at several civil service jobs.
4. Never studied music composition in school. Composed part time.
5. Had little money and lived in poverty. Died from heart failure.



Notes

The Russian "Five" or the "Mighty Handful": a group of prominent 19th century composers active in St. Petersburg, Russia, who wanted to produce a specifically Russian kind of music, rather than one that imitated European-style music. The group met from 1856 to 1870 and consisted of leader Mily Balakirev, César Cui, Modest Mussorgsky, Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov, and Alexander Borodin.



Mussorgsky Pictures at an Exhibition Promenade

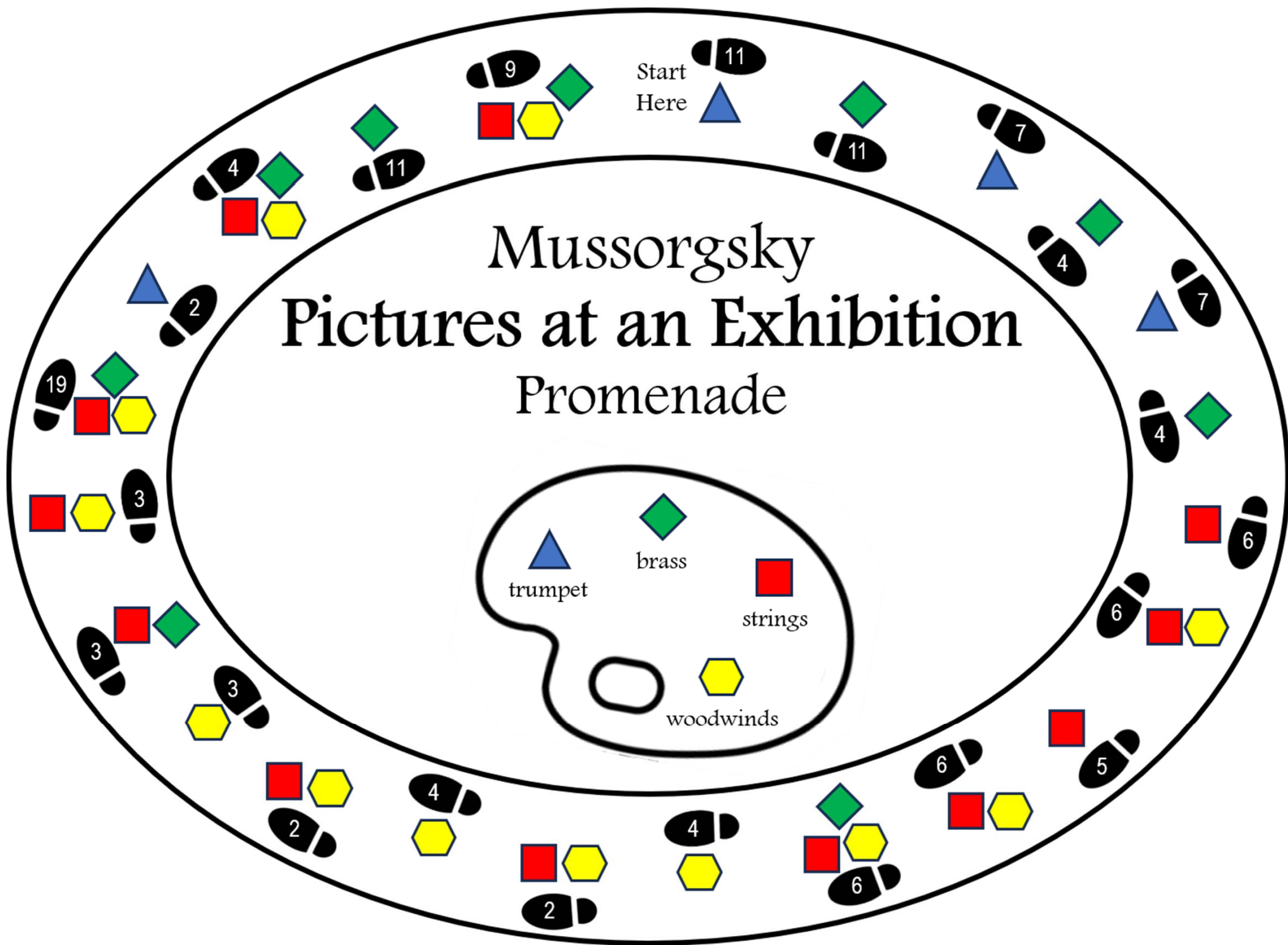
trumpet

brass

strings

woodwinds

Start
Here



Symphony No. 1

Movement 4. Finale

Instrument/Voice

Orchestra

Musical Minute

Finale: the last, or final movement of a sonata, concerto, or symphony.

Notes

Symphony: a musical composition in three or more sections or movements for orchestra.

Rondo form: a musical form in which the main theme returns after each contrasting section: A B A C A.

Texture: the way sounds are combined, or the way layers of sound interact in a piece of music.

Tempo ("time" in Italian): the speed of the beat. **Presto**: very fast. **Prestissimo**: very very fast.

Dynamics: the volume (loudness or softness) of the sound (**pp** = **pianissimo** = very soft, **p** = **piano** = soft, **mp** = **mezzo-piano** = medium soft, **mf** = **mezzo-forte** = medium loud, **f** = **forte** = loud, **ff** = **fortissimo** = very loud, **crescendo** = gradually louder, **decrescendo** or **diminuendo** = gradually softer).

Compound meter: in compound meter the beat is evenly divided into three parts. 6/8 meter: 2 beats per measure, with 3 eighth notes per quarter note beat.

Price composed **Symphony No. 1 in E minor** in 1931-1932. It was performed by the Chicago Symphony on a concert dedicated to "The Negro in Music" at the Chicago World's Fair in 1933.



Price

\ˈprīs\
1887-1953



Fast Five

1. 20th century American composer.
2. Played piano, organ, and violin.
3. Child prodigy. Started playing piano at age 3. First composition published at 11. Entered New England Conservatory of Music at 14.
4. Wrote over 300 compositions. Inducted into the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers in 1940. Died after suffering a stroke.
5. First African-American woman recognized as a symphony composer.



Notes

Price's **Symphony No. 1** was the first symphony composed by an African-American woman to be performed by a major American orchestra.

Price's first symphony won first place in Chicago's Wanamaker Competition in 1932. The prize was \$500, which would be about \$14,000 today.

Even though **Symphony No. 1** was well-received at its premiere, the score wasn't published until 2008, and it was infrequently performed until after 2019.



Price
Symphony No. 1
Movement 4. Finale



<i>A</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>D</i>	
<i>E</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>G</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>Coda</i>

Armenian Dances (Part 1)

Gna, Gna (Go, Go)

Instrument/Voice

Concert band

Musical Minute

Band: a group of musicians who play instruments together.

Notes

Concert band: a large group of 20-60 musicians who play instruments from the woodwind, brass, and percussion families. Sometimes the double bass and harp are included. A concert band is also called a wind band, wind ensemble, wind orchestra, wind symphony, symphonic band, symphonic winds, or symphonic wind ensemble.

Armenia: a former Soviet republic in the Caucasus Mountain region between Asia and Europe.

Suite: a musical form made up of a collection of short pieces.

Armenian Dances is a four-movement suite. **Part 1** is the first movement and **Part 2** consists of the remaining three movements. Each part contains of a number of Armenian folk songs from the collection of Komidas Vartabed.

Komidas Vartabed (1869-1935): Armenian musicologist, priest, composer, singer, choirmaster, and founder of Armenian classical music. He preserved and documented over 4,000 folk songs.

Armenian Dances (Part 1) was commissioned by Dr. Harry Began, director of the University of Illinois Symphonic Band. It was completed in 1972 and was first performed by the University of Illinois Symphonic Band in 1973.



Reed

\'rēd\

1921-2005



Fast Five

1. 20th century American composer.
2. Played trumpet.
3. Played in Air Force Band during WWII. Composed and arranged music for radio, television, records, and films. Conductor of the Baylor Symphony Orchestra in Waco, Texas.
4. 200+ published works. One of America's most prolific and frequently-performed composers.
5. Awarded 60+ commissions for compositions. When he died, his commissions would have lasted until he was age 115.



Notes

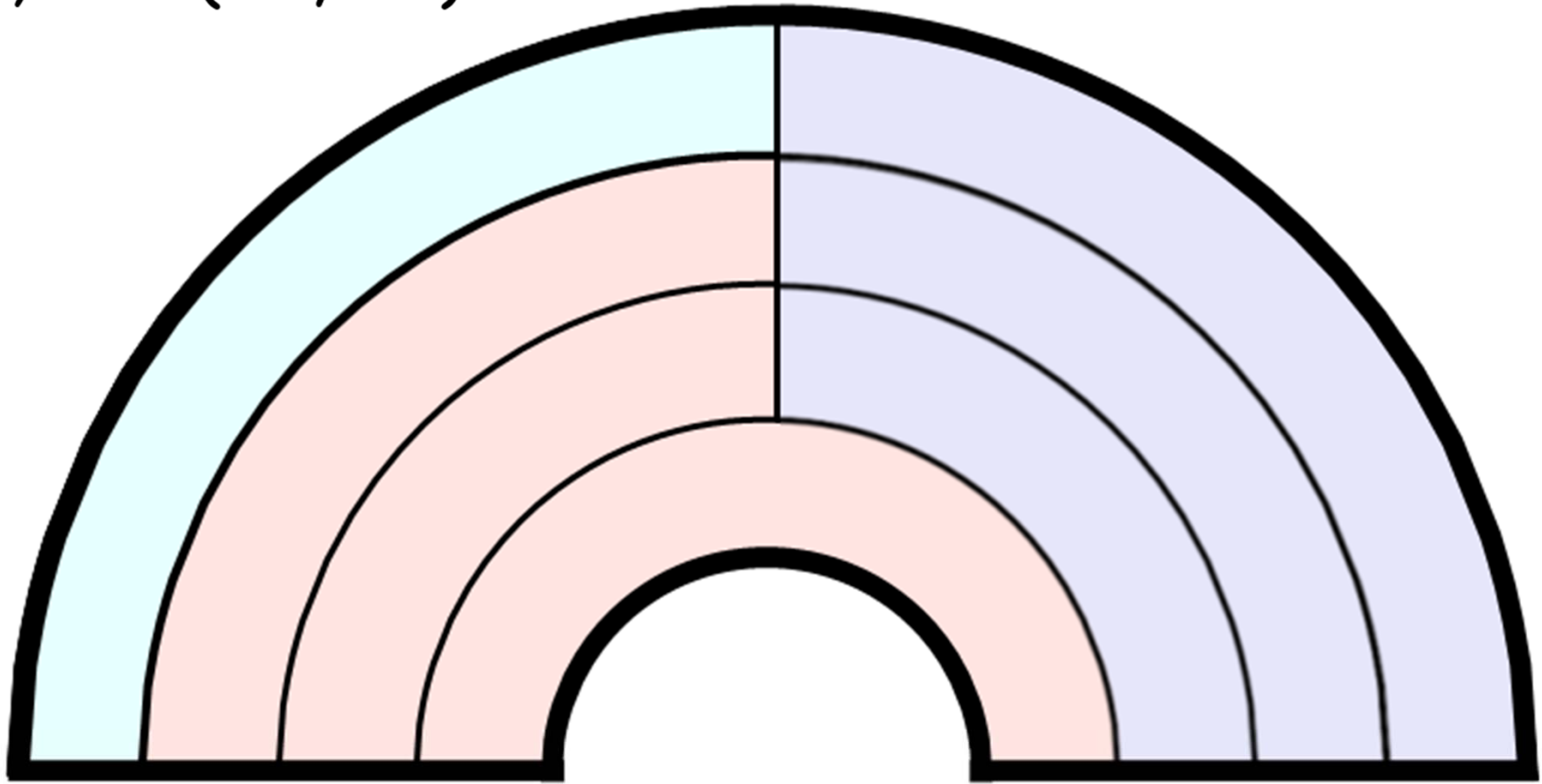
Armenian Dances (Part 1) has five sections. "*Gna, Gna* (Go, Go)" is the fifth section.



Alfred Reed

Armenian Dances (Part 1)

Gna, Gna (Go, Go)



piccolo, flute, oboe, English horn, clarinet, bass clarinet, bassoon, saxophone

trumpet, cornet, French horn, trombone, baritone, tuba

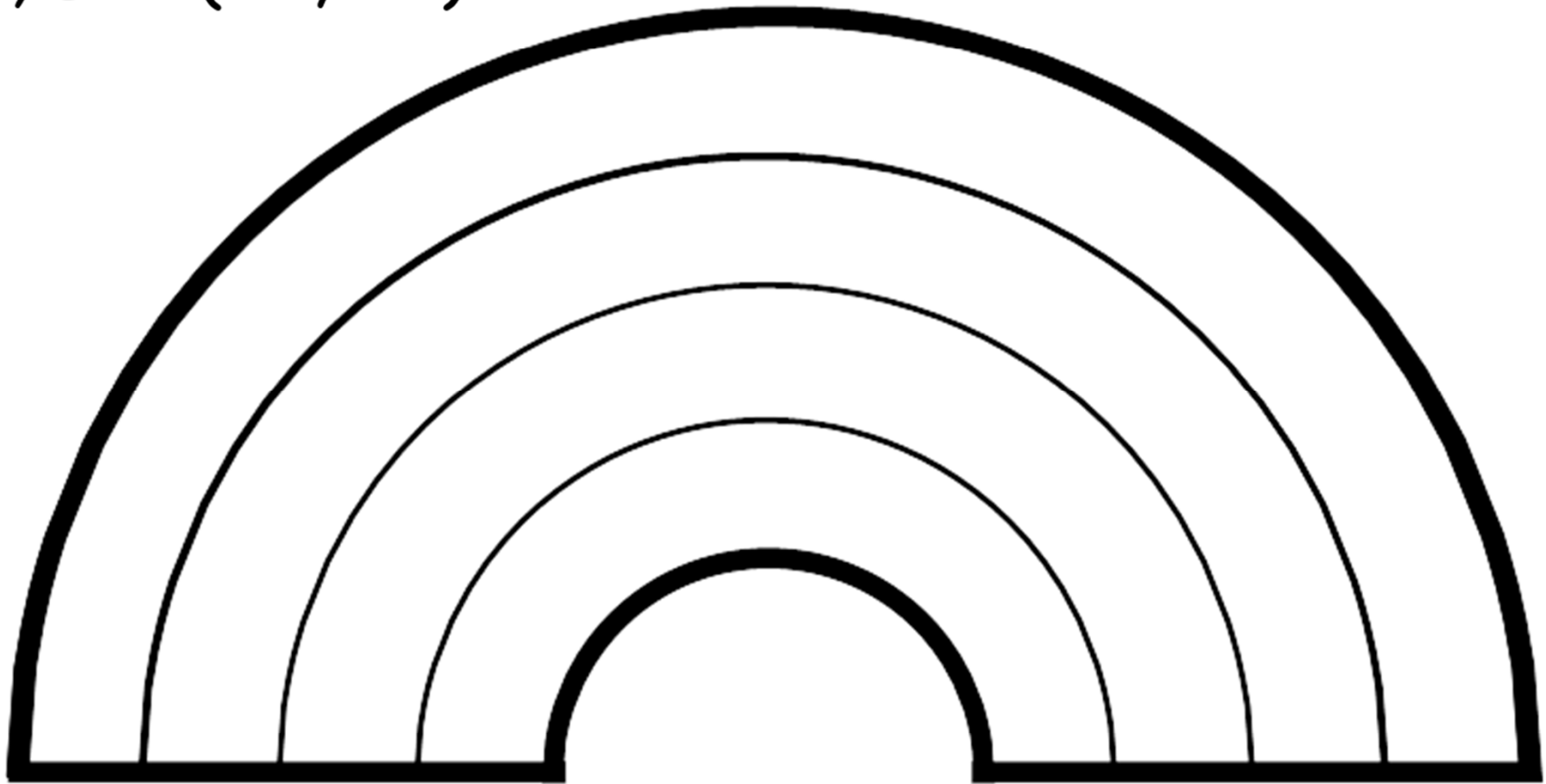
snare drum, bass drum, cymbals, suspended cymbal, tambourine, bells, xylophone, vibraphone

string bass

Alfred Reed

Armenian Dances (Part 1)

Gna, Gna (Go, Go)



piccolo, flute, oboe, English horn, clarinet, bass clarinet, bassoon, saxophone

trumpet, cornet, French horn, trombone, baritone, tuba

snare drum, bass drum, cymbals, suspended cymbal, tambourine, bells, xylophone, vibraphone

string bass

The Barber of Seville

Zitti, zitti, piano, piano

Instrument / Voice

Soprano, tenor, baritone,
and orchestra

Musical Minute

Trio: a piece of music
written for three singers
or instruments.

Notes



Opera: a story told completely through music. The characters sing with an orchestra accompanying them, and act out the story on a stage with costumes, scenery, props, and choreography.

Opera buffa: a type of comic opera written about common people with ordinary problems, in everyday settings. Singers must have clear diction and be able to sing “patter” (fast singing).

Bel canto (“beautiful singing” in Italian): a style of singing that uses graceful *legato* melodies that are decorated with many precise, rapidly-moving notes.

Legato (“tied together” in Italian): notes are smooth and connected and are often marked with a curved line called a slur.

Soprano: high female singing voice. Tenor: high male singing voice. Baritone: medium male singing voice, lower than a tenor and higher than a bass.

Libretto (“book” in Italian): contains all the words and stage directions for an opera. The lyrics of **The Barber of Seville** are written in Italian.

The full title of the opera is **The Barber of Seville, or The Useless Precaution**.

Rossini

\rò-'sē-nē\

1792-1868



Fast Five

1. Italian Romantic composer.
2. Singer. Played harpsichord, piano, cello, and French horn.
3. Famous from the time he was a teenager until his death. Estate worth \$1.4 million when he died.
4. Wrote 32 operas. Retired from writing operas at age 37, but continued to compose other works. Died of pneumonia after an operation for cancer.
5. *Bel canto* composer known as “The Italian Mozart” and “*Signor Crescendo*.”



Notes

Rossini wrote **The Barber of Seville** in twelve days! The first performance was in Rome in 1816.

The *librettos* of both **The Barber of Seville** and **The Marriage of Figaro** by Mozart were based on a comedy by French playwright Beaumarchais (1732-1799).

The Barber of Seville is Rossini’s most famous opera and is number 9 on the Operabase list of the most-performed operas in the world.



Rossini

The Barber of Seville

Zitti, zitti, piano, piano



Zitti, zitti,

Zitti, zitti,

Zitti, zitti,

Per la scala

Piano

Per la scala

Per la scala

Piano

Per la scala

Per la scala

Piano

Per la scala



Zitti, piano, zitti, piano

Zitti, piano, zitti, piano

Zitti, piano, zitti, piano

Per la scala

Per la scala

Per la scala

Presto, via via di qua.

Presto, via via di qua.

Presto, via via di qua.

Translation:

Zitti, zitti, piano, piano, non facciamo confusione;

Hush, hush, quiet, quiet, don't make a disturbance;

Per la scala del balcone presto andiamo via di qua.

Let's go down the balcony and quickly away from here.



Rosina



Count



Figaro

Requiem

Dies Irae

Instrument / Voice

SATB choir and orchestra

Musical Minute

Requiem: a composition for choir and orchestra written to honor someone who has died.

Notes

Requiem Mass: a Roman Catholic church service used for funerals.

Dies Irae ("day of wrath" in Latin): a sequence in the Requiem Mass.

Soprano: high female voice, abbreviated "S." Alto: low female voice, abbreviated "A." Tenor: high male voice, abbreviated "T." Bass: low male voice, abbreviated "B."

Mezzo-soprano ("middle" or "medium" soprano): a female voice between soprano and alto.

Dynamics: the volume (loudness or softness) of the sound (*pp* = *pianissimo* = very soft, *p* = *piano* = soft, *mp* = *mezzo-piano* = medium soft, *mf* = *mezzo-forte* = medium loud, *f* = *forte* = loud, *ff* = *fortissimo* = very loud; *crescendo* = gradually louder, *diminuendo* or *decrescendo* = gradually softer). *ffff* = *fort-iss-iss-issimo* = very, very, very loud.

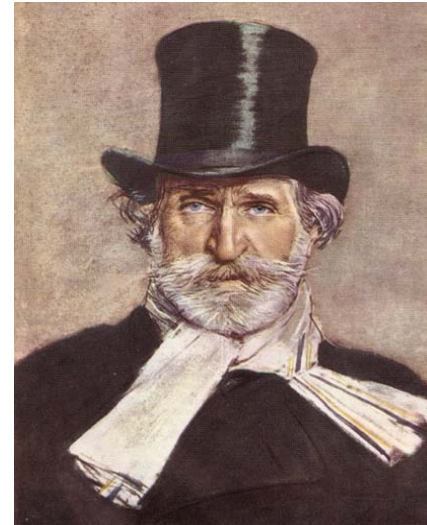
Lyrics: the words of a song. The lyrics of Verdi's **Requiem** are written in Latin.

Verdi composed the **Requiem** in 1874 in memory of Italian poet, novelist, and philosopher Alessandro Manzoni (1785-1873). Also known as the **Manzoni Requiem**, it was first performed in Milan, Italy one year after Manzoni's death.



Verdi

\ˈver-dē\
1813-1901



Fast Five

1. Italian Romantic composer.
2. Played the piano, spinet, and organ. Well-known conductor.
3. Devoted his life to opera. Composed 28 operas.
4. Senator in the Italian National Parliament. When he died after suffering a stroke, there was a period of national mourning. His state funeral in Milan was the largest public gathering for any event in Italy.
5. Considered to be the greatest Italian opera composer.

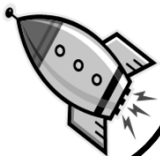


Notes

Verdi wrote the **Requiem** for four soloists (soprano, mezzo-soprano, tenor, and bass), SATB choir, and orchestra.

The **Requiem** has seven movements. "*Dies Irae*" is the first section of the second movement.

Verdi's **Requiem** is considered to be a masterpiece, and is the most frequently-performed major choral work composed after Mozart's **Requiem**.



Verdi

Requiem

Dies Irae

*Dies iræ! Dies illa!
Solvēt sæclum in favilla:
Teste David cum Sibylla!*

*Quantus tremor est futurus,
Quando iudex est venturus,
Cuncta stricte discussurus!*

The day of wrath! That horrible day
When the world will turn to ashes
As foretold by David and the Sibyl!

There will be great terror
When the Lord returns
On that final judgment day!

The Four Seasons

Autumn, Movement 3

Instrument / Voice

Solo violin,
chamber orchestra
(strings),
and harpsichord

Musical Minute

Chamber orchestra: a few
musicians who play
in a room (chamber)
or small hall.

Notes



Concerto: a composition, usually in three parts or movements, for solo instrument(s) and orchestra.

Basso continuo: a type of Baroque accompaniment in which one or more instruments (usually cello and/or harpsichord) play the bass line and chords.

Ritornello: a theme that returns throughout a piece of music. Vivaldi invented and perfected the *ritornello* form.

Program music: music written to portray events, activities, or moods.

The Four Seasons (*Le quattro stagioni*) is a set of four violin concertos composed around 1718-1720 and published in 1725. Each of the “seasons” has three movements (fast-slow-fast) and lasts about 10 minutes.

Vivaldi’s music was not popular after his death, and much of it was lost. Some of it was rediscovered in 1926.

The Four Seasons is the best known of Vivaldi’s compositions.

Vivaldi

\vi-'väl-dē\
1678-1741



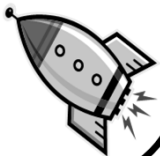
Fast Five

1. Italian Baroque composer.
2. Virtuoso violinist.
3. Was a priest. Known as the “Red Priest” because of his hair color. Taught music at the *Pietà*, an orphanage for girls in Venice, Italy.
4. Wrote 500+ concertos. Considered to be the master of the Baroque instrumental concerto.
5. Suffered from health problems throughout his life. Died in poverty of an internal infection.



Notes

In 1952, there were only two recordings of **The Four Seasons**. By 2011, around 1,000 recordings had been made. A 1989 recording by the English Chamber Orchestra sold over 2 million copies, making it one of the best-selling pieces of classical music.

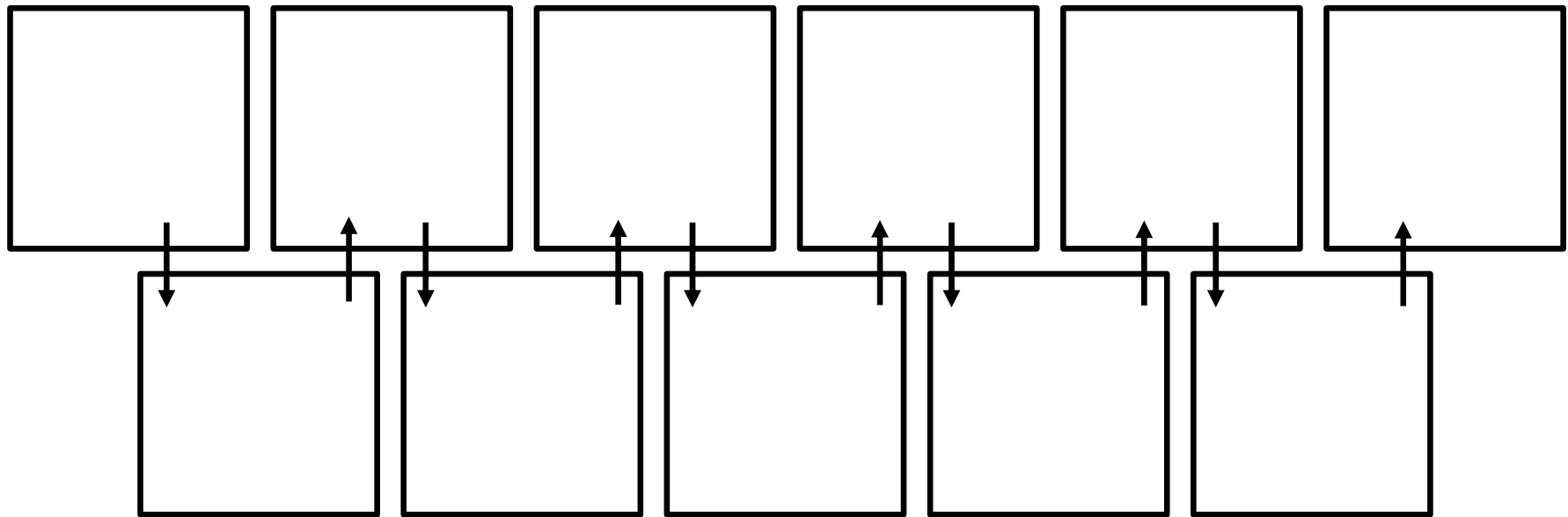


Vivaldi

The Four Seasons

Autumn, Movement 3

Start here.



The Hunt

The hunters are ready at dawn.
With horns and dogs and guns they depart.
The beast flees and they follow its trail.
Terrified and tired from the great noise
Of guns and dogs, and wounded,
The beast tries to escape, but it struggles and dies.

