

2023-2024 UIL Music Memory Study Guide

Study the terms, definitions, and information about the composers and the selections below. Questions for the Multiple Choice portion of the test will be drawn from information on this document.

2/2 time or **2/2 meter**: simple meter (the half note beat is evenly divided into two quarter notes), in which there are two beats per measure and a half note gets one beat.

2/4 time or **2/4 meter**: simple meter (the quarter note beat is evenly divided into two eighth notes), in which there are two beats per measure and a quarter note gets one beat.

3/4 time or **3/4 meter**: simple meter (the quarter note beat is evenly divided into two eighth notes), in which there are three beats per measure and a quarter note gets one beat.

60 Minutes: an American television news program broadcast on CBS since 1968.

A A B B form: a form consisting of two sections, both of which repeat.

A B A form: a form consisting of three sections, in which the third section is a repeat of the first.

A cappella: performed without accompaniment.

A tempo: return to the original tempo.

Accelerando (accel.): gradually faster (accelerating).

Accent: indicates that a note should be played or sung with more emphasis than the other notes.

Alto: low female singing voice, abbreviated "A."

Allegretto: a tempo mark that indicates that the music is moderately fast.

Andante: a tempo mark that indicates that the music is moderately slow: at a walking pace.

Arco: a type of articulation that indicates that the strings of a stringed instrument are to be played with a bow.

Argentina: a large country in southeaster South America. Its capital city is Buenos Aires.

Chester A. Arthur (1829-1886): 21st U.S. President, who asked Sousa to write music to replace "Hail to the Chief."

Articulation: the way the notes are played.

Badinerie: "jesting" in French (= *scherzo* or "joke" in Italian). *Badinerie* in music: a name given in the 18th century to a type of quick, light movement in a suite.

Ballet: a story told through music and dancing, performed on a stage with costumes, sets, and lighting.

Band: a group of musicians who play woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments.

Bass: low male singing voice, abbreviated “B.”

Bass clef (“F clef”): a musical symbol that indicates F below middle C (line 4 on the staff). Instruments that use the bass clef include cello, double bass, bassoon, trombone, baritone, euphonium, tuba, timpani, bass guitar, piano, and harp, as well as baritone and bass voices.

David Belasco: American playwright who created a play from the short story, “Madame Butterfly,” which was the basis for Puccini’s opera, *Madama Butterfly*.

Break strain: a short introduction to the march’s third section, which is called the Trio.

Cantina: a saloon or bar.

Carnegie Hall: a concert hall established in 1891 in New York City.

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

Choir: a large group of singers associated with the church (sacred). The voices of an adult choir include soprano (S), alto (A), tenor (T), and bass (B).

Chromaticism: using the twelve notes (black and white keys on the piano) of a chromatic scale (C-C#-D-D#-E-F-F#-G-G#-A-A#-B) instead of the seven notes of the diatonic scale (C-D-E-F-G-A-B).

Classical ballet: a traditional, formal style ballet that uses only classical ballet technique (*pointe* work, turnout of the legs, high extensions).

Coda (“tail” in Italian): the ending of a piece of music.

Commission: to hire and pay a composer to compose a piece of music. Musical works may be commissioned by individuals or groups, such as a school or symphony orchestra.

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

Conductor: a person who leads an orchestra, band, chorus, opera, ballet or other musical group in the performance and interpretation of a musical work.

Countertenor: highest adult male singing voice (higher than that of a tenor).

Johann Cramer: English music publisher who probably gave the nickname “Jupiter” to Mozart’s **Symphony No. 41**, because the first chords of the symphony reminded him of the Roman god Jupiter and his thunderbolts.

Crescendo: a dynamic marking, abbreviated “*cresc.*” that indicates that the music is to become gradually louder.

Decrescendo or **diminuendo**: a dynamic marking, abbreviated “*decresc.*” or “*dim.*” that indicates that the music is to become gradually softer.

Drum set: a set of drums (bass drum with foot pedal, snare drum, tom-toms), suspended cymbal, and other percussion instruments played with drum sticks.

Duet: a composition for two voices or two instruments.

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

Emmy Award: an award given for artistic and technical merit for the television industry.

Estancia: Spanish term for a large cattle ranch in the *pampas* (grassland region) of Argentina.

Ethnomusicology: the study of the music of different cultures.

Expressive elements (tempo, dynamics, articulation, texture, tonality, and mood): qualities that affect the emotions felt when music is heard.

Finland: a northern European nation bordering Sweden and Russia. Its capital city is Helsinki.

Folk song: a song that is not written down, but is passed on orally from person to person. Usually, the composer of a folk song is unknown.

For \acute{t} e: a dynamic marking, abbreviated “*f*” that indicates that the music is to be performed loudly.

Fortepiano: a type of early piano built in Vienna from 1770 to about 1825. It was the keyboard instrument played by Haydn, Mozart, Schubert, and Beethoven.

Fortissimo: a dynamic marking, abbreviated “*ff*” that indicates that the music is to be performed very loudly.

Frottola: a comic Italian secular song for several voices, popular from about 1470 to 1530.

Garland: a wreath of flowers and leaves, worn on the head or hung as a decoration.

Ga \acute{u} cho: Argentine cowboy; a symbol of Argentina.

Glissando: a continuous ascending or descending slide between two notes.

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.

Homophony: music with a melody accompanied by chords, with all the voices moving together in the same way.

Improvisation: creating music in real time without preparation.

Interlude: a passage of music between sections of a longer composition.

Introduction: the beginning of a piece of music. The introduction of a march is usually *forte* (loud), to grab the listener's attention.

Jazz: American-born music that uses syncopation, altered scales, specific harmonies, and improvisation.

Jazz combo: a small jazz band.

Joseph II, Emperor of Austria: commissioned Mozart to write *Così fan tutte*.

Zoltan Kodály: friend of Bartók, with whom he recorded and transcribed thousands of Eastern European folk songs and dances.

Latin America: land from the northern part of Mexico to the southern tip of South America.

Legato: an articulation term that indicates that notes are "tied together" (smooth and connected). *Legato* articulation is indicated by a curved slur line above or below the notes.

Libretto ("book" in Italian): contains all the words and stage directions for an opera.

Prince Karl von Lichnowsky: Beethoven's friend and patron, to whom he dedicated **Piano Sonata No. 8, "Pathétique."**

Franz Liszt: With Bartók, Liszt is Hungary's greatest composer

Lyrics: the words of a song.

Malambo: a quick, energetic Argentine folk dance in which *gauchos* compete to show off their dancing skills.

Marcato: heavy or "marked." *Marcato* notes are marked with a horizontal line above or below the note head.

March: a piece of music with a strong regular rhythm, written for marching to and often performed by a military band.

Melody: a line of single pitches that move up, down, or repeat.

Meter: the way beats of music are grouped, usually in sets of two, three, or four beats.

Mezzo-forte: a dynamic marking, abbreviated "*mf*" that indicates that the music is to be performed medium loudly.

Mezzo-piano: a dynamic marking, abbreviated "*mp*" that indicates that the music is to be performed medium softly.

Mezzo-soprano: female singing voice that is lower than that of a soprano, higher than that of an alto.

Military Band: a group of musicians within the armed forces who play marching and military music. A military band is made of brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments.

Minuet: a social dance of French origin for two people, usually in 3/4 time (3 beats per measure). The minuet was the most popular ballroom dance of Mozart's time.

Mood: the way a piece of music makes you feel, determined by expressive elements: tempo (speed of the beat), dynamics (volume), articulation (the way the notes are performed), texture (the way sounds are combined), and major/minor tonality.

Molto vivace: a tempo marking that means "very lively" in Italian.

Motif: a distinctive and recurring musical theme.

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

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

Nationalism: patriotic feelings, principles, or efforts.

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 for common people, with ordinary characters with common problems, in everyday settings, with local Italian dialects, and simple vocal writing.

Opera chorus: a group that sings the parts of the townspeople or select groups of characters.

Opus or Op. ("work"): a musical composition usually numbered in the order of its issue.

Orchestral suite: in Bach's time, a collection of dances written for a small group of instruments and a solo instrument.

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

Overture: the instrumental introduction of an opera or operetta.

Pathétique: tragic, referring to the emotions of sorrow, grief, or pity.

Patriotic: devotion to and support for one's country.

Patriotism: an emotional attachment to a nation which an individual recognizes as their homeland.

Scott Pelley: 60 Minutes television news program host.

Pianissimo: a dynamic marking, abbreviated "*pp*" that indicates that the music is to be performed very softly.

Piano: a dynamic marking, abbreviated “*p*” that indicates that the music is to be performed softly.

Piano sonata: a work for solo piano in 3-4 sections or movements.

Pizzicato: a type of articulation that indicates that the strings of a stringed instrument are to be plucked.

Polka: a fast, lively Czech folk dance or ballroom dance for couples, or the music for it.

Polyphony: music that has two more independent melodies that start at different times and that weave in and out of one another.

Countess Delfina Potocka: the person to whom Chopin dedicated “Minute Waltz.”

Presto: a tempo mark that indicates that the music is very fast.

Aleksandr Pushkin (1799-1837): a great Russian poet who wrote the fairy-tale poem that was the basis of Rimsky-Korsakov’s opera, **The Tale of Tsar Saltan**.

Joseph Radetzky von Radetz: Czech nobleman and Austrian military leader, for whom “Radetzky March” was named.

Recitative: a style used in operas in which the text is sung in the rhythm of natural speech with slight melodic variation and little orchestral accompaniment.

Rhapsody: a Greek word that means “songs stitched together.” In music, a rhapsody is a free-form piece that takes different tunes and strings them together in one extended movement.

Ritardando (rit.): gradually slower.

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

Rubato (“stolen time” in Italian): refers to slightly speeding up and slowing down, as determined by the performer.

The Russian “Five” or the “Mighty Handful”: a group of prominent 19th century composers in Saint Petersburg, Russia from 1856-1870, who wanted to produce specifically Russian classical music, rather than imitating European-style music. The group consisted of Mily Balakirev (the leader), César Cui, Modest Mussorgsky, Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov, and Alexander Borodin.

SATB choir: a group of male and female singers (S=soprano, A=alto, T=tenor, B=bass).

Scherzo (“joke” in Italian): the third movement of a symphony, in 3/4 time, usually quick and light-hearted. It is often played with a trio, followed by a repeat of the *scherzo*.

Secular: not religious.

Semper Fidelis (“always faithful” in Latin): the motto of the U.S. Marine Corps.

Galeazzo Sforza: a patron of des Prez.

Sforzando (abbreviated “*sfz*”): an articulation term that indicates that a note is suddenly loud.

Solo: a piece or part of a piece of music that is played or sung by one performer.

Soprano: high female singing voice, abbreviated “S.”

Staccato: articulation term that indicates that notes are detached, separated. *Staccato* notes are marked with a dot above or below the note head.

Steel drum (“pan”): a 55-gallon oil barrel which has been carefully hammered and tuned by hand to produce musical tones.

Strain: a section of a march. The first strain is the first dominant melody. The second strain is usually performed *piano* (soft) the first time and *forte* (loud) on the repeat.

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

Symphonic Poem: a tone poem written for orchestra.

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

Syncopation: a rhythm where important tones begin on weak beats or weak parts of beats, giving an “off-balance” feeling to the music.

Synthesizer: an electronic instrument, often played with a keyboard, that can produce complex sounds, such as those of various other instruments.

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

Tenor: high male singing voice, abbreviated “T.”

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

Theme: the main melody of a section or composition.

The “Three B’s”: the group of German composers (Johann Sebastian Bach, Ludwig Van Beethoven, and Johannes Brahms).

Tone poem: a piece of music, usually in a single continuous movement, which illustrates or evokes the content of a poem, short story, novel, painting, or landscape.

Tragic opera: a serious opera in which one or more of the characters (usually female) dies.

Transcription: notating a piece that was previously not notated, or arranging a piece of music for a different instrument or instruments.

Treble clef (“G clef”): a musical symbol that indicates G above middle C (line 2 on the staff). Instruments that use the treble clef include the violin, flute, oboe, English horn, clarinet, saxophone, recorder, trumpet, cornet, French horn, vibraphone, xylophone, guitar, mandolin, bagpipe, keyboards, harps, as well as women’s and tenor voices.

Trio: a contrasting middle section of a three-part movement, named “trio” because it was originally written for three instruments. Trio sections usually have a light, simple texture. For a march, the Trio is the third section. It is more lyrical (song-like), and is usually the main melody of the march.

TTBB choir: a four-part group of male singers, in which the tenor and bass parts are divided.

Variation: a technique where music is repeated with alterations to the melody, harmony, rhythm, meter, dynamics, tempo, timbre, or texture.

Verismo (“realism” in Italian): an Italian literary movement (1875-1900) that aimed to show the world with greater realism. In *Verismo* opera, subjects involved everyday people and their problems.

Vivace: a tempo mark that indicates that the music is lively and fast.

Virtuoso performer: a musician who possesses outstanding talent and exceptional technical ability in playing a musical instrument.

Waltz: a type of ballroom dance music in 3/4 meter. It usually has one chord per measure, with one note on beat 1 and the other notes of the chord on beats 2 and 3.

Paul Whiteman: an American bandleader whose band premiered Gershwin’s “Rhapsody in Blue” in New York City.

Bach

- Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750), German Baroque composer. One of the “Three B’s” (Bach, Beethoven, and Brahms).
- Played violin, viola, harpsichord, clavier, and organ.
- Had 20 children. 9 survived him. 4 were composers.
- Had diabetes. Went blind. Died of a stroke.
- Today he is considered to be the greatest composer of all time.

Bartók

- Béla Bartók (1881-1945), 20th century Hungarian composer.
- Played piano. Musical prodigy.
- With his friend Zoltan Kodály, recorded and transcribed thousands of Eastern European folk songs and dances. Developed a scientific system for collecting and analyzing folk music and is one of the founders of ethnomusicology.
- Left Hungary in 1940 to escape the Nazis. Settled in New York. Taught at Columbia University and continued to compose. Died of leukemia.
- With Franz Liszt, Bartók is Hungary’s greatest composer.

Beethoven

- Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827), German Classical/Romantic composer. One of the “Three B’s” (Bach, Beethoven, and Brahms).
- Played violin, viola, organ, and was a virtuoso pianist. Known as the finest pianist of his time.
- Gradually became deaf. Began to lose his hearing in 1796. Completely deaf in 1818.
- Moody, disorganized, and arrogant. Died of liver failure.
- Composed nine famous symphonies and a large amount of piano music, including 32 piano sonatas. One of the most famous and influential composers in music history.

Chopin

- Frederic Chopin (1810-1849), Polish Romantic composer.
- Played piano. Child prodigy and virtuoso pianist.
- Composed mostly pieces for piano, and a few for voice.
- Wrote many showpieces for piano, including 20 waltzes.
- Died at the age of 39 of tuberculosis. Buried in Paris. His heart was buried in Warsaw.

Delibes

- Léo Delibes (1836-1891), French Romantic composer.
- Played piano and organ.
- Known as a composer of music for the theater (opera and ballet). Taught composition.
- Delibes’ 1870 ballet, *Coppélia*, with its life-size mechanical dancing doll, was greatly admired by Tchaikovsky, and influenced **The Nutcracker** ballet.
- Suffered from poor health. Died at age 54 of natural causes. Buried in Paris.

des Prez

- Josquin des Prez (ca 1450-1521), French Renaissance composer, aka Josquin.
- Singer (sang in Pope's Choir in Rome).
- Held music positions in churches and royal courts in France and Italy.
- Composed many styles of sacred (religious) and secular (non-religious) vocal music.
- Became one of the most famous and influential composers in Renaissance Europe after the development of the printing press (invented in 1440), which allowed his music to be printed and widely distributed.

Deutscher

- Alma Deutscher (born 2005), contemporary British composer.
- Plays piano and violin. Is also a conductor.
- Musical prodigy. Began playing piano at 2, violin at 3. Has composed 3 operas, 5 orchestral pieces, including a violin concerto and a piano concerto, 4 songs, 6 piano pieces, and chamber music, so far.
- In 2018 moved with her family to Vienna, Austria, where she has studied conducting at the University of Music and Performing Arts since 2021.
- Debut concert of her music at Carnegie Hall (2019).

Gershwin

- George Gershwin (1898-1937), 20th century American composer.
- Played piano.
- Taught himself to play the piano using a neighbor's player piano.
- Composed both popular and classical music, including songs and Broadway musicals, film scores, the tone poem "An American in Paris," and an opera, **Porgy and Bess**.
- Died at age 38 in California from a brain tumor.

Ginastera

- Alberto Ginastera (1916-1983), 20th century Argentine composer.
- Played piano.
- One of the most important Latin American classical composers. Most important Argentinian composer of the 20th century.
- Worked as a professor at music conservatories in Argentina.
- Lived in Argentina, the U.S., and in Switzerland from 1970 until his death.

Haydn

- Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809), Austrian Classical composer.
- Played violin, harpsichord, harp, piano, and organ. Sang in boys' choir.
- Often called "Papa Haydn" because of his jolly personality. Had many friends, including Mozart. Devoutly religious.
- Well-respected teacher. Had many students, including Beethoven.
- Born the same year as George Washington. Known as the "Father of the Symphony" (wrote 104).

Mozart

- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791), Austrian Classical composer.
- Played violin, viola, harpsichord, clavier, piano, and organ.
- Child prodigy. Considered a musical genius his whole life.
- Traveled extensively with his sister around Europe performing for royalty. Died of rheumatic fever.
- One of the most important classical composers in history.

Mussorgsky

- Modest Mussorgsky (1839-1881), Russian Romantic composer. Member of the Russian “Five.”
- Played piano and sang.
- Was a member of the Russian Imperial Guard. Worked at several civil service jobs.
- Never studied music composition in school. Composed part-time.
- Had little money and lived in poverty. Died of heart failure.

Puccini

- Gioacomo Puccini (1858-1924), Italian Romantic composer.
- Played organ and piano.
- One of the first composers to become a major celebrity.
- Famous as an opera composer, even though he only wrote twelve operas. Composed some of the most popular operas ever written.
- Heavy smoker. Diagnosed with throat cancer. Died of a heart attack during surgery.

Rimsky-Korsakov

- Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov (1844-1908), Russian Romantic composer. Member of the Russian “Five.”
- Played piano and cello.
- Master orchestrator. Revised and orchestrated much of Mussorgsky’s music. Often used Russian folk and fairy-tale subjects.
- Loved the sea. Combined composing, conducting, and teaching with a career in the Russian military. Died of heart failure.
- Known for **Scheherazade** and “Flight of the Bumblebee.”

Sibelius

- Jean Sibelius (1865-1957), late-Romantic Finnish composer.
- Played violin.
- Important nationalistic composer. Helped Finland develop a national identity during its struggle for independence from Russia.
- Influential in the development of the symphony and symphonic poem.
- Died of a cerebral hemorrhage.

Sousa

- John Philip Sousa (1854-1932), 20th century American composer.
- Played violin and piano.
- Conductor of the U.S. Marine Band and his own band, the Sousa Band.
- Composed 136 marches and was nicknamed “The March King.”
- Invented the sousaphone. Died of heart failure.

J. Strauss, Sr.

- Johann Strauss, Sr. (1804-1849), Austrian Romantic composer.
- Played violin and viola.
- Famous for his waltzes. Responsible for the development of the waltz.
- Toured frequently all over Europe. Performed his music in England for the coronation of Queen Victoria in 1838.
- Father of three composers of dance music: Johann Strauss II (“The Waltz King”), Josef Strauss, and Eduard Strauss. Died of scarlet fever.

Tchaikovsky

- Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840-1893), Russian Romantic composer.
- Played the piano.
- Began career as a law clerk. Didn’t study music until he was 22.
- Famous orchestra conductor. Conductor on the opening night of Carnegie Hall in New York City in 1891.
- Sensitive, handsome man with fine tastes. Died of cholera.

Williams

- John Williams (born 1932), contemporary American composer and conductor.
- Plays piano, trumpet, trombone, and clarinet.
- Composed a huge amount of popular movie music.
- Conducted the Boston Pops Orchestra (1980-1993).
- Won 5 Academy Awards (53 nominations, second only to Walt Disney), 4 Golden Globes, 25 Grammy Awards, 2 Emmys. Received the Kennedy Center Honors in 2004.

Bach: Orchestral Suite No. 2: *Badinerie*

- Bach wrote four orchestral suites in Leipzig between 1725 and 1739, and “*Badinerie*” is part of his **Orchestral Suite No. 2**, composed between 1738 and 1739.
- **Orchestral Suite No. 2** contains seven short sections or movements. “*Badinerie*” is movement 7.
- “*Badinerie*” has two sections, and each is repeated: AABB.
- “*Badinerie*” is a showpiece for flute players because of its quick tempo and difficulty.

Bartók: Hungarian Sketches: Bear Dance

- **Hungarian Sketches** are orchestrations (1931) of five short piano pieces that Bartók wrote between 1908 and 1911 when he was collecting folk songs in western Hungary.
- The original piano version of “Bear Dance” comes from a collection called **10 Easy Pieces** and is the second piece of the **Hungarian Sketches**.
- Bartók described “Bear Dance” as his impression of “a bear dancing to the song of his leader and growling to the accompaniment of a drum.”

Beethoven: Piano Sonata No. 8, “*Pathétique*”: Movement 3

- Beethoven composed **Sonata No. 8** in 1797-1798 before he was fully aware that he was becoming deaf. It was published in 1799.
- Its nickname, “*Pathétique*,” was added by Beethoven’s publisher. Beethoven approved of the name.
- **Piano Sonata No. 8** has three movements. The third movement is in rondo form.
- Beethoven dedicated this piano sonata to his friend and patron, Prince Karl von Lichnowsky. It became instantly popular and is still one of his most popular sonatas.

Chopin: Minute Waltz

- Chopin composed the “Minute Waltz” in 1847, and dedicated it to the Countess Delfina Potocka.
- The Waltz in D-flat major, Op. 64, No. 1, was nicknamed “Minute Waltz,” meaning “small waltz,” by the publisher. Chopin called it “*Valse du petit chien*,” which means “Waltz of the little dog” in French. It is also known as the “Dog Waltz.”
- “Minute Waltz” is a showpiece for piano, and is not meant to be danced to. It lasts close to two minutes and is the most famous of Chopin’s twenty waltzes.

Delibes: *Lakmé*: Flower Duet

- ***Lakmé*** is an opera in three acts. It was composed in 1881-1882.
- The Act 1 “Flower Duet” is sung by *Lakmé* (soprano) and her slave, *Mallika* (mezzo-soprano).
- The *libretto* for ***Lakmé*** is written in French.
- The “Flower Duet” has been used in many movies, tv shows, and commercials (British Airways).

des Prez: El Grillo

- Josquin probably wrote “*El Grillo*” around 1498 in Milan, Italy. It was published in 1505 in ***Libro delle Frottole***.
- “*El Grillo*” is believed to be a gentle reminder to Josquin’s patron, Galeazzo Sforza, that his musicians needed to be paid.
- The form of “*El Grillo*” is A B A. The A section describes crickets chirping. Sometimes singers echo each other, as if two crickets were singing. The B section (smoother) tells how a cricket is different from a bird (meter changes from beats in sets of 2 to beats in sets of 3). Repeat of A section.
- “*El Grillo*” is one of Josquin’s best-known secular pieces.

Deutscher: Sixty Minutes Polka

- Alma Deutscher improvised the opening bars of the “Sixty Minutes Polka” on the television program, **60 Minutes**, on November 3, 2017, when she was twelve. The **60 Minutes** documentary, hosted by Scott Pelley, won an Emmy Award in 2018 for the best “Arts, Culture, an Entertainment Report.”
- The “Sixty Minutes Polka” was recorded for Deutscher’s album, **From My Book of Melodies** (2019) and was published in her collection of piano pieces of the same name in 2020.

Gershwin: Rhapsody in Blue

- “Rhapsody in Blue” premiered in 1924 in New York City by Paul Whiteman and his band, with Gershwin on the piano. Composers Sousa and Rachmaninoff were in the audience.
- The first performance of “Rhapsody in Blue” was a success. By the end of 1927, Whiteman’s band had played it 84 times, and its recording sold a million copies.

Ginastera: Estancia Suite: Malambo

- **Estancia**: Ginastera’s one-act ballet, based on Argentine country life: a depiction of the busy activities on a ranch in the course of one day.
- The ballet was commissioned in 1941 for the American Ballet Caravan, but the dance company disbanded in 1942. **Estancia** was not performed as a ballet until 1952.
- Ginastera used four dances from the ballet score to create a concert suite, which premiered in Buenos Aires in 1943. “*Danza final (Malambo)*” is the last dance.
- **Estancia** is most often heard in its orchestral version.
- “*Malambo*” is one of Ginastera’s most popular works.

Haydn: Symphony No 94, “Surprise”: Movement 2

- Two trips to London during the 1790s resulted in Haydn composing two sets of six symphonies (**Symphonies No. 93-98** and **Symphonies No. 99-104**).
- **Symphony No. 94** was first performed on March 23, 1793, at the Hanover Square Rooms in London, with Haydn leading the orchestra seated at the fortepiano.
- Nicknames of **Symphony No. 94**: “Surprise” and “*Mit dem Paukenschlag*” (“The Drumstroke”).
- The **ff** “surprise” occurs only once, at the end of the theme the first time it is stated.
- **Symphony No. 94** was popular at its premiere, and is still popular and frequently recorded today.

Mozart: Così fan tutte: Overture

- The full title of the opera: ***Così fan tutte, ossia la scuola degli amanti*** (“All Women Are Like That,” or “The School for Lovers”).
- **Così** was commissioned by Joseph II, Emperor of Austria. Mozart conducted the premiere in Vienna in 1790.
- Mozart composed the overture after most of the music for the opera had already been written.
- **Così** is number 11 on the Operabase list of the most-performed operas in the world.

Mozart: Symphony No. 41, “Jupiter”: Movement 3

- Mozart composed his last three symphonies during the summer of 1788, completing **Symphony No. 39** on June 26, **No. 40** on July 25, and **No. 41** on August 10. **Symphony No. 41** is the longest of all his symphonies.
- It is thought that **Symphony No. 41** was nicknamed “Jupiter” by English music publisher Johann Cramer because the first chords of the symphony reminded him of the Roman god Jupiter and his thunderbolts. Mozart never knew the nickname.
- The first recording of the “**Jupiter**” **Symphony** occurred around the beginning of World War I, which made it one of the first symphonies recorded using acoustic recording technology.

Mussorgsky: Night on Bald Mountain

- “Night on Bald Mountain” is also known as “Night on the Bare Mountain.”
- Mussorgsky composed the original version of “Night on Bald Mountain” in eleven days in 1867. Inspired by Russian literary works and legend, it is a “musical picture” of a witch’s sabbath on St. John’s Eve (June 23). Mussorgsky never heard “Night on Bald Mountain” in performed in public.
- Rimsky-Korsakov’s 1886 arrangement is the most popular version of “Night on Bald Mountain.”

Puccini: Madama Butterfly: Humming Chorus

- Puccini’s **Madama Butterfly** was based on a play in English by American David Belasco. Puccini began to compose his opera in 1901. Its 1904 premiere at La Scala in Milan was a disaster, because it was not well-rehearsed, and the audience mocked the Japanese theme and booed and hissed throughout the performance.
- The “Humming Chorus” aka “*Coro a bocca chiusa*” (“chorus with mouth closed” in Italian) is performed off stage.
- Puccini revised the opera four times between 1904 and 1907. The second version, presented in Brescia, Italy in 1904, was a great success. The fifth, or “Standard Version” (1907), is the one most often performed today.
- **Madama Butterfly** is number 8 on the Operabase list of most-performed operas in the world.

Rimsky-Korsakov: The Tale of Tsar Saltan: Flight of the Bumblebee

- **The Tale of Tsar Saltan**: a four-act opera based on a fairy-tale poem by the great Russian poet, Aleksandr Pushkin (1799-1837). The opera was composed in 1899-1900 for Pushkin’s hundredth-year birthday celebration.
- The full title of the poem and opera: **The Tale of Tsar Saltan, of his Son the Renowned and Mighty Bogatyr Prince Gvidon Saltanovich and of the Beautiful Princess-Swan.**

Sibelius: Finlandia, Op. 26

- “*Finlandia*, Op. 26” is Sibelius’ best-known composition.
- Sibelius initially composed “*Finlandia*, Op. 26” for orchestra, then arranged it for solo piano, and later reworked the “*Finlandia Hymn*” into a stand-alone choral piece.
- The hymn is one of the most important national songs of Finland.

Sousa: Semper Fidelis

- “*Semper Fidelis*” is the official march of the U.S. Marine Corps.
- President Chester A. Arthur (1829-1886) asked Sousa to write music to replace “Hail to the Chief.” Sousa composed “*Semper Fidelis*” in 1888 (two years after Arthur’s death) and sold it to his publisher for \$35.
- Sousa considered “*Semper Fidelis*” to be his best march, technically. It is one of his most popular marches.

J. Strauss, Sr.: Radetzky March

- “Radetzky March” was named for Joseph Radetzky von Radetz, a Czech nobleman and Austrian military leader.
- When first performed in 1848 in Vienna in front of Austrian officers, they spontaneously clapped and stamped their feet when they heard the chorus. This tradition continues today.
- The “Radetzky March” is traditionally played at the Austrian national team soccer matches and as the last piece at the New Year’s Concert of the Vienna Philharmonic.

Tchaikovsky: The Sleeping Beauty: Waltz

- Tchaikovsky composed the music for **The Sleeping Beauty** in 49 days. The premiere was in St. Petersburg in 1890, with the Russian Tsar Alexander III in the audience.
- **The Sleeping Beauty** is Tchaikovsky’s longest ballet, lasting nearly four hours at full length.
- The work has become one of the classical repertoire’s most famous ballets. It was Tchaikovsky’s favorite ballet.

Williams: Star Wars: Episode IV – A New Hope: Cantina Band

- “Cantina Band” was composed for the first **Star Wars** movie, released in 1977. It appears in a scene when Luke Skywalker and Obi-Wan Kenobi meet Han Solo on the planet Tatooine.
- “Cantina Band,” aka “Mad About Me,” is performed in the movie by a seven-piece band of Bith musicians called Figrin D’an and the Modal Nodes.
- The piece is unlike other music from **Star Wars**. The idea behind the music: some Bith musicians find some 1930s Benny Goodwin swing band music, and they attempt to interpret it.