

# 2022-2023 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.

**2/4 time:** 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:** 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.

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

**A B C form:** a form consisting of three sections, all of which are different.

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

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

**Arch form:** a musical form with the sections A B C B A.

**Aria ("air" in Italian):** a song from an opera, for one voice, often sung with an orchestra.

**Arpeggio (broken chord):** a group of notes from a chord that are sounded one after another.

**Articulation:** the way the notes are played.

**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.

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

**Baroque motet:** a musical composition for choir and soloists in several movements.

**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.

**Bel canto ("beautiful singing" in Italian):** an Italian vocal style in Europe during the 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

**Big Band:** a group of 12-25 jazz musicians who play woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments. Big Bands came to prominence in the 1930s.

**Bridge:** a contrasting section that prepares for the return of the main theme. Also, a term used in jazz and pop music for a connecting section within the form of the music.

**Chamber ensemble:** a small group of musicians who play in a room (chamber) or small hall.

**Chamber orchestra:** 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).

**Chord:** three or more notes sounded together.

**Clef:** a musical symbol that is used to indicate the pitch of musical notes. Three common clefs (treble clef, bass clef, and alto clef) are used by musicians today.

**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.

**Compound meter:** In compound meter the beat is evenly divided into three parts (i.e., three eighth notes per quarter note beat: 6/8, 9/8, etc.).

**Concert band:** a large group of 20-60 musicians who play instruments from the woodwind, brass, and percussion families indoors in a concert setting. A concert band can also be called a wind band, wind ensemble, wind orchestra, wind symphony, symphonic band, symphonic winds, or symphonic wind ensemble.

**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.

**Development:** second section of the Sonata form, in which the themes are changed and developed.

**Dynamics:** the volume (loudness or softness) of the music.

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

**Exposition:** first section of the Sonata form, in which two themes are introduced or “exposed.” The section is usually repeated.

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

**Fanfare** (“sounding of trumpets” in French): a short, showy piece of music played for a special event or to announce the arrival of an important person. Fanfares are usually played by brass instruments, often with percussion.

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

**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.

**Forte:** a dynamic marking, abbreviated “*f*” that indicates that the music is to be performed loudly.

**French horn:** a brass instrument made from ca. 17 feet of coiled metal tubing. It developed from the post horn, hunting horn, and natural horn, to a modern horn that uses valves and valve keys.

**Fugue:** a composition with two or more voices or parts. The melody is played in one part, and then played and modified by the other parts.

**Gloria:** a celebratory passage in a mass that praises God; divided into sections according to the text.

**Gregorian chant:** a simple vocal line with free rhythm, performed without instruments. Gregorian chant was developed in the Middle Ages for use in the church. The Latin text is religious.

**Harmony:** two or more tones that sound at the same time.

**Improvisation:** creating music in real time without preparation.

**Interlude:** a short section of music between parts of a longer composition.

**Interval:** the inclusive distance between two pitches, labeled with an ordinal number (i.e., the interval from C to F is a 4<sup>th</sup> because C-D-E-F is four pitches).

**Introduction:** the beginning of a piece of music.

**Jazz:** music that was created by African Americans in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. It uses improvisation and syncopation.

**King Ludwig of Bavaria (1845-1886):** King of Bavaria from 1864 to 1886. He was so fond of Wagner and his music that he built a fairy tale castle, “*Neuschwanstein*” (“New Swan-on-the-Rock”) in honor of Wagner. It has been seen in many movies, and inspired Disneyland’s Sleeping Beauty Castle.

**King Solomon:** king of Israel and the son of David; reigned from 970 to 931 B.C. Solomon was great in wisdom, wealth, and power.

***Laudamus te* (“we praise you” in Latin):** the second of six sections of the *Gloria*.

**Legato:** an articulation that means “tied together” (notes are smooth and connected).

**“*Les Six*”:** the famous group of French composers (Darius Milhaud, Francis Poulenc, Arthur Honegger, Georges Auric, Louis Durey, and Germaine Tailleferre) who embraced Satie’s artistic ideal of extreme simplicity.

**Libretto (“book” in Italian):** the text used in an extended musical composition such as an opera, oratorio, cantata, or musical.

**Franz Liszt (1811-1886):** Hungarian composer, conductor, and virtuoso pianist. Liszt was a close friend of Wagner, and Wagner married Liszt’s daughter, Cosima.

**Lyricist:** a person who writes the words of a song.

**Lyrics:** the words of a song.

**Marionette:** a type of puppet with jointed limbs that is controlled from above by strings.

**Mass:** a choral composition that sets the Latin words of a Catholic church service to music. Sections of the ordinary Mass are: I. *Kyrie*, II. *Gloria*, III. *Credo*, IV. *Sanctus and Benedictus*, V. *Agnus Dei*.

**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.

**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.

**Motif:** a distinctive and recurring musical theme.

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

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

**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, and props.

**Opera buffa:** comic opera, written for and about ordinary people with common problems, in everyday settings, using local dialects, and simple vocal writing. Singer must have clear diction and be able to sing “patter” (fast singing).

**Oratorio:** a large composition for orchestra, choir, and soloists with a religious theme. Oratorios are usually performed in a concert setting, without special costumes, stage sets, and staging.

**Organ Symphony:** a large-scale piece of music in several movements for solo pipe organ, in which the full range, power, and musical color of the organ is used to imitate the sound of the orchestra.

**Ospedale della Pietà:** an orphanage for girls in Venice.

**Ostinato:** a pattern that repeats.

**“Pastoral”** refers to the country.

**“Patter”:** a type of fast singing used in *Opera buffa*.

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

**Pipe organ** (nicknamed the “King of Instruments”): a keyboard instrument, often with multiple keyboards and many metal and wooden pipes. When an organ key is pressed, air rushes into a corresponding pipe. The vibration of the air in the pipe creates the sound. Parts of a pipe organ include the pipes, manuals (keyboards played by the hands), stops or draw knobs (stop the sound from playing).

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

**Prelude:** a piece of music that introduces something important, such as an orchestral opening to an act of an opera, the first movement of a suite, or a piece preceding a fugue. In his operas, Wagner used the word “prelude” in place of “overture.”

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

**Pulitzer Prize:** a yearly American award for achievements in newspaper and online journalism, literature, and musical composition. Winners receive a \$10,000 award.

**Queen of Sheba:** ruler of a kingdom in southwestern Arabia. She visited King Solomon’s court at the head of a camel caravan bearing gold, jewels, and spices. The purpose of her visit was to test Solomon’s wisdom by asking him to solve a series of riddles.

**Ragtime:** a style of early jazz music composed for the piano, with a bouncy, syncopated melody. It was called “ragtime” at first because it sounded as ragged as a torn piece of cloth.

**Recapitulation:** third section of the Sonata form, in which the themes are restated.

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

**Sabre:** a sharp, heavy sword with a curved blade and a single cutting edge.

**Sabre dance:** a traditional folk dance in which dancers display their skill with sabres.

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

(Beethoven) **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*.

**Seville:** a large city in southern Spain.

**Simple meter:** In simple meter the beat is evenly divided into two parts (i.e., two eighth notes per quarter note beat: 2/4, 3/4, 4/4).

**Sinfonia (“symphony” in Italian):** a 17<sup>th</sup>- or 18<sup>th</sup>-century orchestra piece used as an introduction, interlude, or postlude to an opera, oratorio, cantata, or suite.

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

**Sonata form:** a musical form developed in the Classical period by Haydn and Mozart. It is used mostly for the first movement of symphonies and concertos. Its sections include: Exposition (themes are introduced or “exposed”), Development (themes are explored and developed), Recapitulation (themes are restated), and Coda.

**Song cycle:** as group of songs with a common theme or that tell a story, designed to be performed in sequence without a break.

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

**Staccato:** a type of articulation that indicates that the notes are to be detached, separated.

**Stinger:** an accented single note at the end of an introduction and/or the end of a piece of music.

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

**The Swing Era (“Big Band Era”):** the period of time (around 1935-1946) when Big Band swing music was the most popular music in the United States.

**Symphony:** a musical composition in three or more 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.

**Tam-tam:** a type of gong.

**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 theme is used repeatedly to represent an idea, emotion, or character.

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

**The “Three Titans of Soviet Music”:** a group of three Soviet composers of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century (Aram Khachaturian, Sergei Prokofiev, and Dmitri Shostakovich).

**Toccata:** (“touch” or “play a musical instrument” in Italian): a piece of music for solo keyboard instrument, often difficult, with a lot of fast notes to show off how well the performer can play.

**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 middle contrasting section of a three-part form, named “trio” because it was originally written for three instruments. Trio sections usually have a light, simple texture.

**Two Step**: a form of popular music that was performed with ragtime music, until about 1911.

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

**Virtuoso**: a musician who possesses outstanding talent and technical ability on a musical instrument.

## **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. Technical expert on organ. Often invited to inspect the mechanics of church organs.
- Had 20 children. 9 survived him. 4 were composers.
- Had diabetes. Went blind. Died of a stroke.
- Better known as a virtuoso organist than a composer in his time. Today he is considered to be the greatest composer of all time.

## **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.
- 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. One of the most famous and influential composers in music history.

## **Gounod**

- Charles Gounod (1818-1893), French Romantic composer.
- Played piano, organ, and guitar.
- Teacher of Georges Bizet. Influenced by works of Palestrina, Bach, Schumann, and Berlioz.
- Known for his religious works, his opera, **Faust**, and for his melody that goes with Bach’s “Prelude in C Major”: the Bach/Gounod version of “*Ave Maria*.”
- Died after suffering a stroke.
- Writer, music critic. Camille Saint-Saëns played the organ at Gounod’s funeral.

## **Handel**

- George Frederic Handel (1685-1759), German Baroque composer.
- Played organ, violin, harpsichord, and oboe.
- Handel and Bach were born the same year in towns less than 100 miles apart, but they never met. Both composers went blind.
- Wrote rapidly. Composed almost as fast as he could copy the notes.
- Composed for the English court. Buried in Westminster Abbey in London.

## **Ives**

- Charles Ives (1874-1954), 20<sup>th</sup> century American composer.
- Played piano and organ.
- Earned his living as the owner of an insurance agency. Composed music on weekends and evenings for his own pleasure.
- Wrote orchestra music (4 symphonies), piano and organ music, chamber music, and 185 songs. Won a Pulitzer Prize (1947) for **Symphony No. 3**.
- Had heart disease, diabetes, lost his eye sight. Died after suffering a stroke.

## **Joplin**

- Scott Joplin (1868-1917), early 20<sup>th</sup> century American composer.
- Played piano, cornet, and violin.
- Born near Texarkana, Texas. Left home as a teenager and was able to support himself by playing the piano.
- Known as the “King of Ragtime.”
- Awarded a posthumous Pulitzer Prize in 1976 for his “contributions to American music.”

## **Khachaturian**

- Aram Khachaturian (1903-1978), 20<sup>th</sup> century Soviet-Armenian composer.
- Played tuba, piano, and cello. Was a conductor.
- Wrote ballets, songs, 3 symphonies, chamber music, and 25 film scores.
- One of the “Three Titans of Soviet Music” (with Shostakovich and Prokofiev).
- Most famous Armenian composer of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Considered a “national treasure” in Armenia.

## **Mahler**

- Gustav Mahler (1860-1911), late-Romantic Austrian composer.
- Played piano. Famous as a conductor.
- Earned his living as a conductor. Composed part-time during the summer in “composing huts” in the country.
- Composed 9 symphonies (10<sup>th</sup> was unfinished), a song-symphony, songs, and song cycles with orchestra.
- Perfectionist and workaholic. Very demanding as a conductor. Loved to swim and walk in the mountains. Died of heart disease.

## **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.

### **Nelson**

- Ron Nelson (born 1929), contemporary American composer.
- Plays piano and organ.
- Composes both classical and popular music. Wrote over 90 works.
- Recognized as a conductor and music educator (now retired).
- Currently lives with his wife, Michele, in Scottsdale, Arizona.

### **Poulenc**

- Francis Poulenc (1899-1974), 20<sup>th</sup> century French composer. Most famous member of “*Les Six*” (with Auric, Durey, Honegger, Milhaud, and Tailleferre).
- Played piano. Accompanied famous singers on concert tours of Europe and America.
- Composed songs, operas, choral music, piano pieces, chamber music, and ballets.
- Died after suffering a heart attack.
- One of the most important 20<sup>th</sup> century composers of religious music.

### **Prima**

- Louis Prima (1910-1978), 20<sup>th</sup> century American singer, actor, and songwriter.
- Played trumpet and sang.
- Followed musical trends: 1920s New Orleans style jazz band, 1930s swing combo, 1940s Big Band, 1950s Vegas lounge act, 1960s pop-rock band.
- Had expensive tastes, clothes, horses, boating.
- He was the voice of King Louie the orangutan in Disney’s animated version of **The Jungle Book** (sang “I Wanna Be Like You”).

### **Prokofiev**

- Sergei Prokofiev (1891-1953), 20<sup>th</sup> century Russian composer.
- Child prodigy. Virtuoso pianist.
- One of the “Three Titans of Soviet Music” (with Khachaturian and Shostakovich).
- Well-known as the composer of **Peter and the Wolf** and the ballet, **Romeo and Juliet**.
- Died in Moscow on the same day as Stalin, the Premier of the Soviet Union.

### **Rossini**

- Gioachino Rossini (1792-1868), Italian Romantic composer.
- Singer. Played harpsichord, piano, cello, and French horn.
- Famous from the time he was a teenager until his death. Estate worth \$1.4 million when he died.
- Wrote 32 operas. Retired from writing operas at age 37. Continued to compose other works.
- *Bel canto* composer known as “The Italian Mozart” and “*Signor Crescendo*.”

### **Vaughan Williams**

- Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), 20<sup>th</sup> century English composer.
- Played piano, organ, violin, and viola.
- Collected and wrote down over 800 English folk songs.
- In WWI, enlisted in the Army Medical Corps and became deaf after the war due to the sound of large gunfire. Died in his sleep.
- Known as the “Dean of British Composers” and the “Grand Old Man of English Music.”

### **Vivaldi**

- Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741), Italian Baroque composer.
- Virtuoso violinist.
- Was a priest. Known as the “Red Priest” because of his hair color. Taught music at the *Pietà*, an orphanage for girls in Venice.
- Wrote 500+ concertos. Considered to be the master of the Baroque instrumental concerto.
- Suffered from health problems throughout his life. Died in poverty of an internal infection.

### **Wagner**

- Richard Wagner (1813-1883), German Romantic composer.
- Played the piano. Also known as a conductor and theater director.
- Famous for his operas (wrote 13), which he called “music dramas.”
- Wrote the librettos as well as all of the music for his operas.
- Died after suffering a heart attack.

### **Widor**

- Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937), French Romantic composer.
- Played piano and organ. Active as a virtuoso organist for 80 years. Known as the “King of Organists.” Composed 10 organ symphonies.
- Challenged to improvisational organ duels.
- Died after suffering a stroke.
- World famous organist and teacher. Held a lifelong position as one of France’s most prominent and influential musicians.

### **Zwilich**

- Ellen Taaffe Zwilich (born 1939), contemporary American composer.
- Plays piano, trumpet, and violin.
- Played violin with the American Symphony Orchestra (1965-1972) and has made her living as a composer since 1978.
- First woman to receive a doctorate degree in composition from Julliard, and the first woman to win the Pulitzer Prize for Music.
- One of America’s most popular living classical composers. Best known for orchestra works (concertos and 5 symphonies).

### **Bach: Toccata and Fugue in d minor: Toccata**

- There is no manuscript in Bach’s handwriting for this **Toccata and Fugue**. It was probably written before 1708, and Bach may have used it to test the mechanics of pipe organs he was asked to play.
- The “Toccata” is one of the most famous and popular pieces of music for organ.

### Beethoven: Symphony No. 6, "Pastoral": Movement 3

- Beethoven composed the "**Pastoral**" **Symphony** at the same time as his fifth symphony, and completed it in 1808. It premiered on a four-hour concert in Vienna on December 22, 1808, along with Beethoven's **Symphony No. 5**, **Piano Concerto No. 4**, and his **Choral Fantasia**.
- Beethoven called his sixth symphony the "**Pastoral Symphony, or Recollections of Country Life.**"
- It has five movements, which Beethoven titled: I. Awakening of cheerful feelings upon the arrival in the countryside, II. Scene by the brook, III. Merry gathering of country folk, IV. Thunderstorm, and V. Shepherd's song: cheerful and thankful feelings after the storm.

### Gounod: Funeral March of a Marionette

- While he was living in London, Gounod began to compose "*Suite Burlesque*" for piano in 1871-1872. The first piece in the suite was "Funeral March of a Marionette" ("*Marche funèbre d'une marionette*" in French), written in 1872 for solo piano. Gounod didn't complete the suite, but "Funeral March of a Marionette" survived as a stand-alone piece.
- "Funeral March of a Marionette" was so popular that Gounod arranged it for orchestra in 1879.
- The theme of "Funeral March of a Marionette" was used as the opening and closing music for **Alfred Hitchcock Presents**, a television series (1955-1965) featuring suspense and the grotesque.

### Handel: Solomon: The Arrival of the Queen of Sheba

- **Solomon**: an English oratorio by Handel. It is based on the stories of wise King Solomon from the Bible.
- Composed in 1748, **Solomon** was first performed in London in 1749.
- **Solomon** is rarely performed today, but the *sinfonia* at the beginning of Act 3, "The Arrival of the Queen of Sheba," has become famous and was featured at the London Olympics in 2012.

### Ives: Variations on "America"

- "Variations on 'America'" was composed in 1891, when Ives was 16 years old. He submitted it for publication in 1892. It was rejected.
- In 1948 organist E. Power Biggs asked Ives if he had any organ music that Biggs could perform on his radio program. Ives showed Biggs his "Variations," which Biggs helped get published in 1949.
- American composer William Schuman transcribed "Variations on 'America'" for orchestra in 1962. Both the organ and orchestra versions remain popular today.

### Joplin: The Entertainer

- "The Entertainer" is a classic piano rag written in 1902 in St. Louis, Missouri. Its subtitle is "A Ragtime Two Step."
- Joplin became concerned about the way others were playing ragtime and had a note placed on his music that read: "NOTICE! DO NOT PLAY THIS PIECE FAST. IT IS NEVER RIGHT TO PLAY RAGTIME FAST. – AUTHOR."
- An arrangement by pianist Marvin Hamlisch was used as the main theme music for the Oscar-winning film, **The Sting**, in 1973. Hamlisch's version reached #3 on the Billboard pop chart and spent a week at #1 on the easy listening chart in 1974. The ragtime music used in **The Sting** revived interest in ragtime in America.

### Khachaturian: Gayane Suite: Sabre Dance

- The ballet, **Gayane** (GUY-nuh) was composed in 1942. Khachaturian compiled three suites from the ballet music. "Sabre Dance" is the fifth movement of **Gayane Suite No. 3**.
- The "Sabre Dance" occurs as part of *Gayane's* wedding celebration near the end of the ballet.

- “Sabre Dance” is Khachaturian’s most famous composition.

### **Mahler: Songs of a Wayfarer: Ging heut’ morgen über’s Feld**

- Mahler composed **Songs of a Wayfarer** in 1884-1885, after he was spurned by a singer. The four songs tell of a journey of a man who has lost his love to a rival. Mahler wrote the text.
- The German title of the song cycle: **Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen**. “*Fahrenden Gesellen*” is a traveling apprentice.
- Mahler wrote the songs when he was working to become a conductor.
- This is the first song cycle ever written for singer and orchestra. Mahler used the theme and orchestration of this song in the first movement of his **Symphony No. 1**, composed in 1887-1888.

### **Mahler: Symphony No. 1, “Titan”: Movement 1**

- Mahler complete his **Symphony No. 1** in Leipzig in 1888. It was originally written as a symphonic poem based on the novel **Titan**, by German writer Jean Paul Richter (1763-1825). **Titan** tells the story of a passionate young man who strives to lead a noble, heroic life.
- After its unsuccessful premiere in Budapest in 1889, Mahler made many revisions to the piece, and it was published in its final four-movement symphony form in 1898.
- For his first symphony, Mahler borrowed the melody and orchestration from “*Ging heut’ morgen über’s Feld*,” from his song cycle, **Songs of a Wayfarer**, written in 1884-1885.
- Mahler conducted more performances of his first symphony than any of his other compositions, and there are more than 150 recordings of his **Symphony No. 1** available today.

### **Mozart: Horn Concerto No. 2: Movement 3**

- Mozart’s second horn concerto was completed in 1783. It was written for Joseph Leutgelb (1732-1811), a virtuoso natural horn player in the court orchestra of Salzburg.
- The work is in three movements: I. *Allegro maestoso*, II. *Andante*, III. *Rondo più allegro*.
- Movement 3 is a rondo: A B A C A D A Coda.
- The instruments of the chamber orchestra are unusual for the time, because there are no bassoons, and two French horns, in addition to the solo horn.

### **Nelson: Rocky Point Holiday**

- “Rocky Point Holiday” is Nelson’s first work for band. It was commissioned by the University of Minnesota band for its concert tour of Russia, and was written in 1966 while he was on summer vacation in Rocky Point, Rhode Island. The title refers to an amusement park there.
- The extensive percussion section includes anvil, bass drum, bongos, cymbals (crash and suspended), field drum, glockenspiel, tam-tam (gong), maracas, marimba, snare drum, tambourine, triangle, vibraphone, xylophone, harp, and celesta (piano).
- “Rocky Point Holiday” was popularized by the Garfield Cadets as part of their 1982 Drum Corps International Championship-winning program.

### **Poulenc: Gloria: Laudamus te**

- Poulenc composed the **Gloria** in 1959-1960, for orchestra, choir, and soprano soloist. The first performance was in Boston in 1960.
- At the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Poulenc’s **Gloria** was the second most-often-performed piece of French classical music in the world, after Ravel’s **Bolero**.

### **Prima: Sing, Sing, Sing**

- “Sing, Sing, Sing” was composed in 1936 by Louis Prima, who first recorded it with the New Orleans Gang. In 1937 it was recorded in Hollywood by clarinetist Benny Goodman.
- Benny Goodman’s instrumental version is more famous than Prima’s vocal version.
- Benny Goodman’s arrangement was longer than the traditional three minutes that fit on one side of a record. It lasted almost nine minutes and took up both sides of the record.

### **Prokofiev: Symphony No. 1, “Classical”: Finale**

- Prokofiev composed his first symphony when he was 16, while on a holiday in the country. It is written in the classical style of Haydn and Mozart. Prokofiev called it the “Classical Symphony,” and conducted the first performance in 1918.
- The symphony has four movements. The “Finale” is the last movement.
- **Symphony No. 1** is one of Prokofiev’s most popular works.

### **Rossini: The Barber of Seville: Largo al factotum**

- **The Barber of Seville** was composed in less than three weeks in 1816, with Italian lyrics, and was based on Pierre Beaumarchais’s French play, *Le Barbier de Séville* (1775).
- The title of the opera refers to the character of Figaro, who is a very clever and ambitious *factotum* (a handyman or “Jack of all trades”), who will take any job as long as he is well paid.
- **The Barber of Seville** is a masterpiece of *opera buffa*.
- Rossini’s **Barber** is very popular. It is number 9 on the Operabase list of most-performed operas in the world.

### **Vaughan Williams: English Folk Song Suite: Seventeen Come Sunday**

- Vaughan Williams thought that military bands were very important to the UK’s cultural and community life, and in 1923 he composed the **English Folk Song Suite** for military band for the Royal Military School in London. It premiered in 1924.
- The three movements of the **English Folk Song Suite** are: I. March: “Seventeen Come Sunday,” II. Intermezzo: “My Bonny Boy,” and III. March: “Folk Songs from Summerset.”
- In 1925 Vaughan Williams’ student, Gordon Jacob, arranged the **English Folk Song Suite** for full orchestra, and in 1956 Frank Wright arranged it for brass band, which has no woodwinds.
- The three folk songs found in the selection are “Seventeen Come Sunday,” “Pretty Caroline,” and “Dives and Lazarus.”
- The **English Folk Song Suite** is one of Vaughan Williams’ most famous works.

### **Vivaldi: Gloria in D Major: Gloria in excelsis Deo**

- Vivaldi composed his sacred motet, **Gloria in D Major**, also known as “Vivaldi’s *Gloria*,” between 1713 and 1715 when he was working at the *Ospedale della Pietà* (girl’s orphanage) in Venice.
- The instrumental and SATB vocal parts were written to be performed by girls and women, because no men were allowed in the orphanage.
- **Gloria in D Major** was lost in a pile of Vivaldi’s unpublished manuscripts until it was discovered in the late 1920s. It had its first modern performance in 1939.
- The lyrics of the motet are written in Latin. Translation for the text for “*Gloria in excelsis Deo*”: “Glory be to God on high.”
- **Gloria in D Major** is Vivaldi’s best-known sacred work.

### **Wagner: Lohengrin: Prelude to Act 3**

- Wagner composed **Lohengrin** in 1846-1848, but did not attend the premiere, conducted by Franz Liszt in Weimar, Germany in 1850. Wagner participated in a political uprising in Dresden in 1849, and had to leave Germany when a warrant was issued for his arrest.
- **Lohengrin** is based on the medieval legend of the Knight of the Swan, and Wagner's opera is the most famous version of the story.

### **Widor: Symphony for Organ No. 5: Movement 5. Toccata**

- Widor composed his **Symphony for Organ No. 5** in 1870. It contains five movements. The "Toccata" is the fifth movement.
- This "Toccata" is known as the "Widor Toccata" because it is his most famous piece. It is often played as the recessional at weddings.

### **Zwilich: Symphony No. 1: Movement 3**

- Zwilich's **Symphony No. 1 (Three Movements for Orchestra)** was commissioned by the American Composer's Orchestra and the National Endowment for the Arts in 1982. The premiere was so successful that Zwilich received commissions for new works from many orchestras.
- It was for **Symphony No. 1** that Zwilich received the Pulitzer Prize for Music in 1983.
- Movement 3 is in rondo form: A B A C A B A.