HANDBOOK



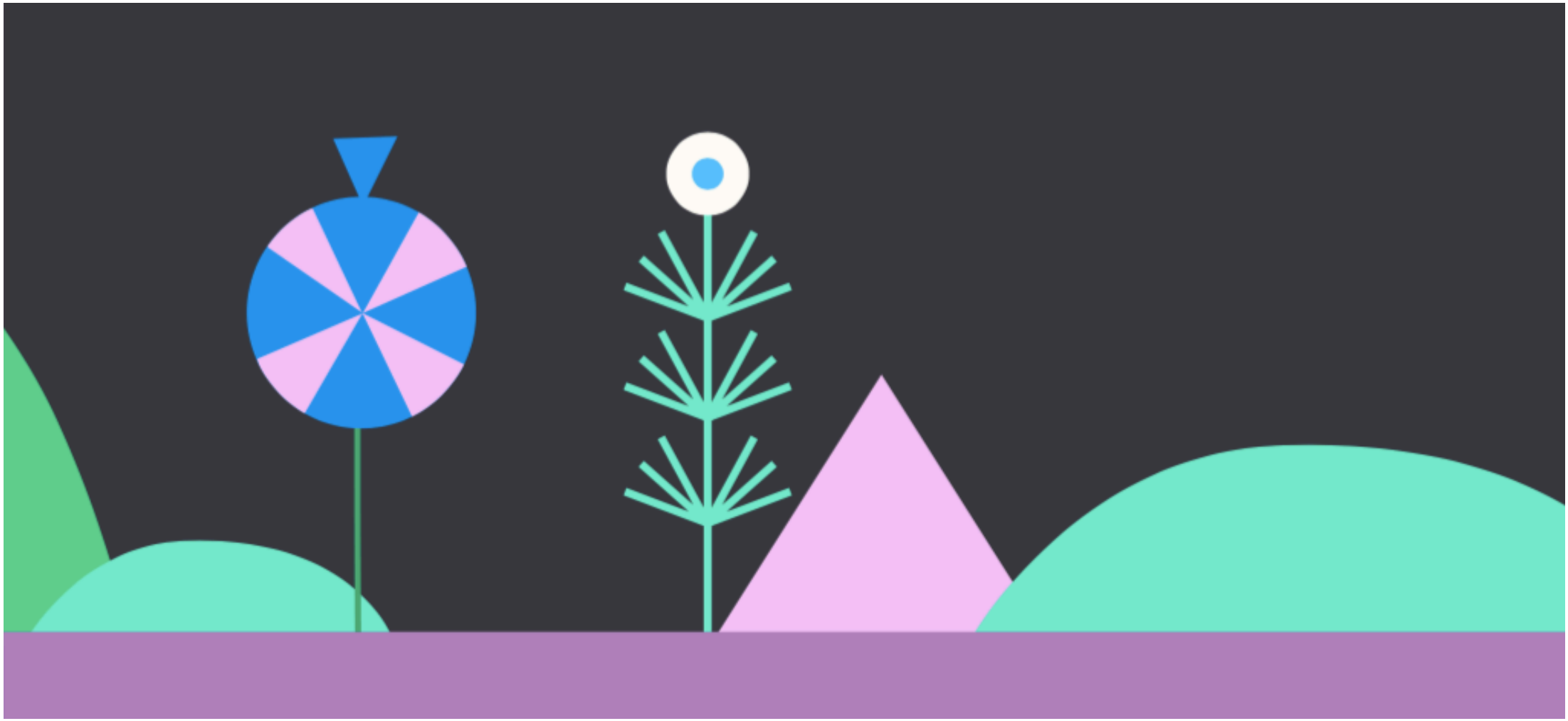
Dear music lovers,

In this manual you will learn everything about the music that plays in the app "Tongo Circus". These great compositions are accompanied by many interesting stories about musical instruments, characteristics of music, and composers.

Point your ears!

Have fun!

Your Tongo



JOSEPH HAYDN

Austrian composer Joseph Haydn (1732-1809) created many works. Most importantly, he is considered the father of the symphony.
A **symphony** is music written for an orchestra to play. This music consists of three or four parts, called movements.

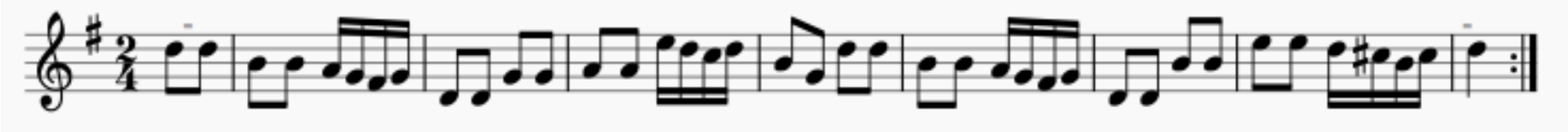
During his lifetime, Haydn composed 108 symphonies! Here we hear the *4th movement* from his *Symphony No. 88*.







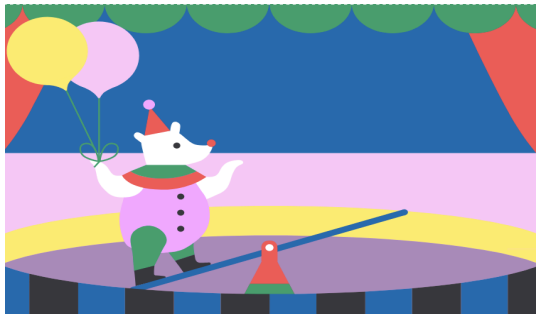
As you can hear in this piece, Haydn had a great sense of humor! This witty melody is played by violins and bassoons together.



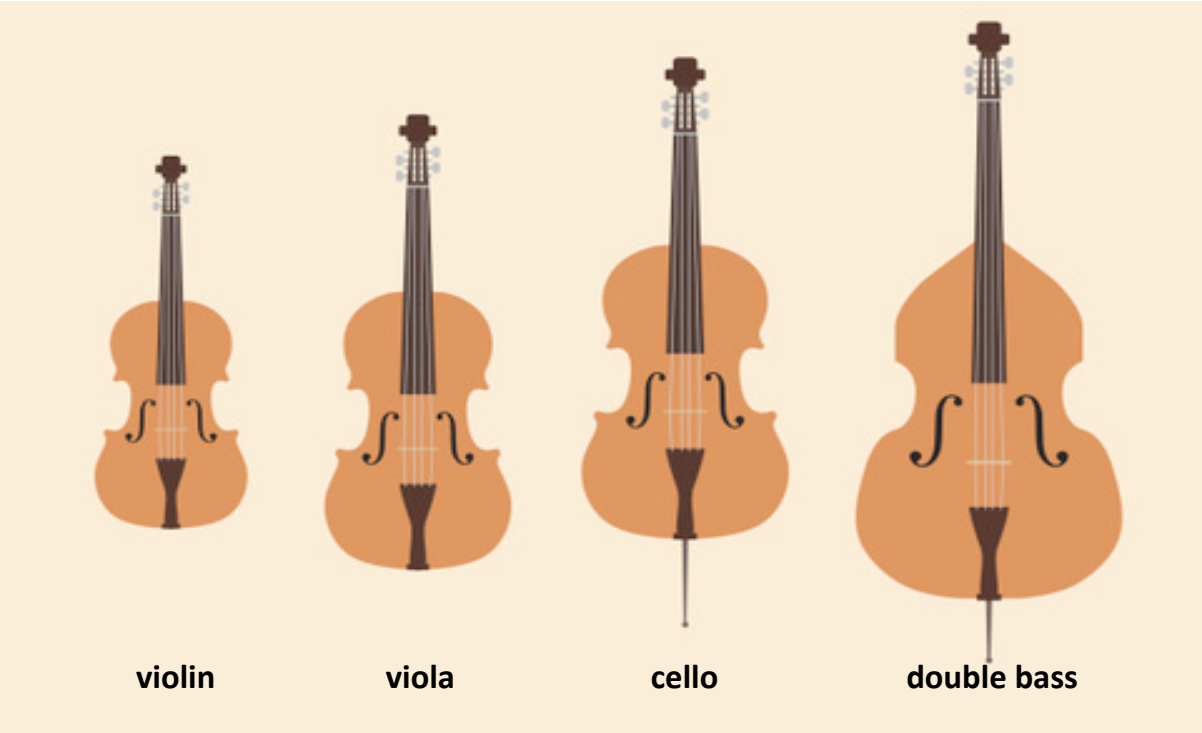
WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791) is probably considered the most famous and popular composer of all time. From his *Eine kleine Nachtmusik* comes this melody, which is still played all over the world.

In the circus tent, however, another movement from *Eine kleine Nacht-musik* is playing. The piece was composed for **string instruments**, i.e. for **violin**, **viola**, **cello**, and **double bass.**





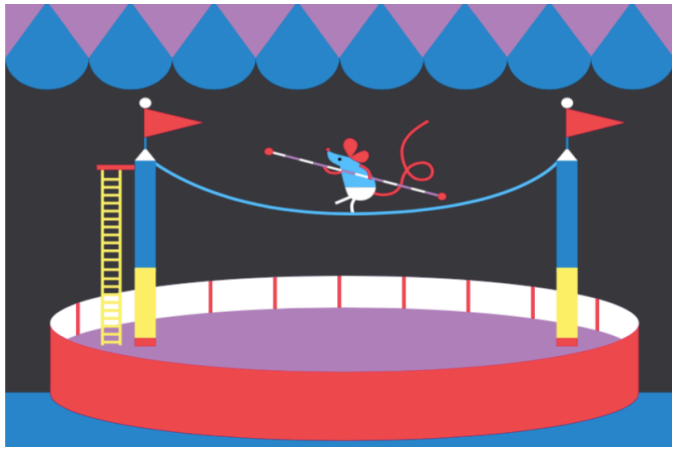


Here you can see the string instruments arranged from small to large. Small sound bodies produce higher pitched notes. Larger sound bodies produce lower tones.

The viola is only slightly larger than the violin. But in sound, the two string instruments are quite different: the viola sounds warmer and darker.

JOHANN STRAUSS

From the pen of Austrian composer Johann Strauss (1825-1899) comes this *"Tritsch Trasch Polka"*.

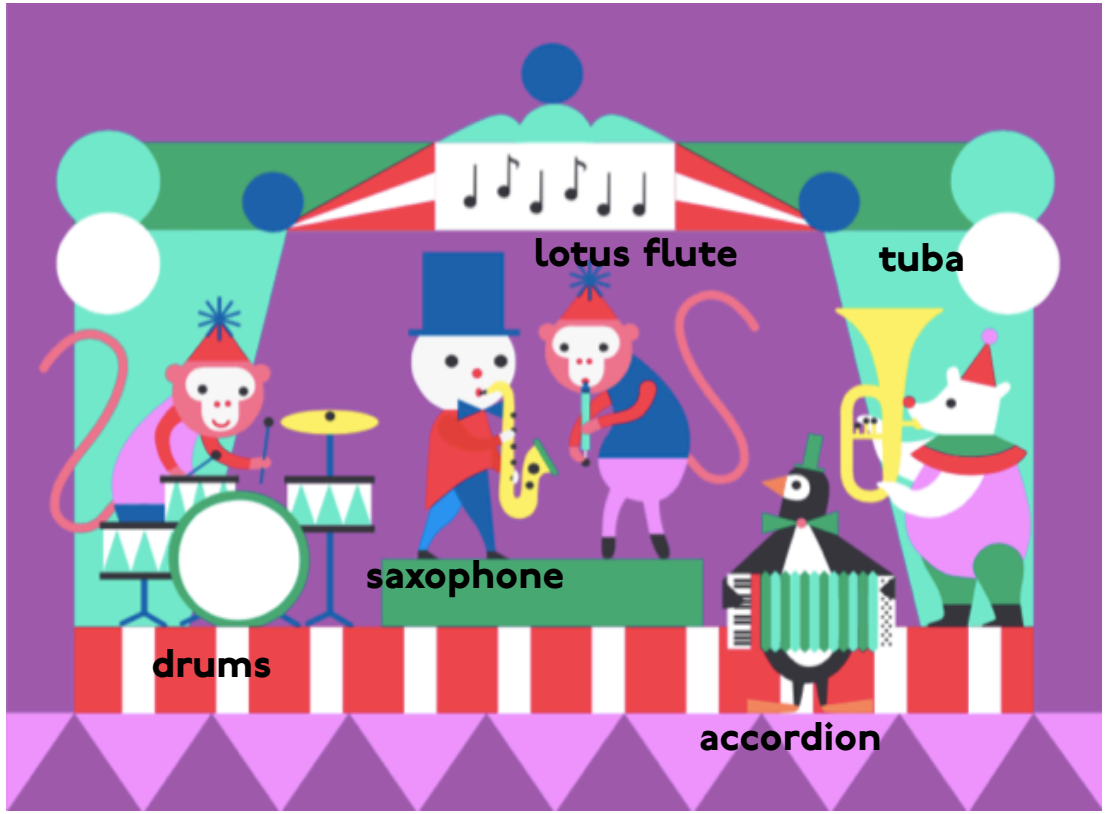


Here the strings of the string instruments are not bowed (***arco***) as in *Eine kleine Nachtmusik*. The strings are instead plucked with the fingers. This plucking is called ***pizzicato***.



A MOTLEY BAND

In this **music band**, a few motley musicians have come together. Take a closer look at their musical instruments, paying attention to the special sound characteristics and the way each instrument is played.
More musical instruments are presented in the app "Tongo Music".



GEORGES BIZET

The French composer Georges Bizet (1838-1875) wrote one of the most famous and popular operas ever, called *Carmen*. It is a love story with a tragic ending. But you don't hear any sadness in this section. It sounds more like party music!



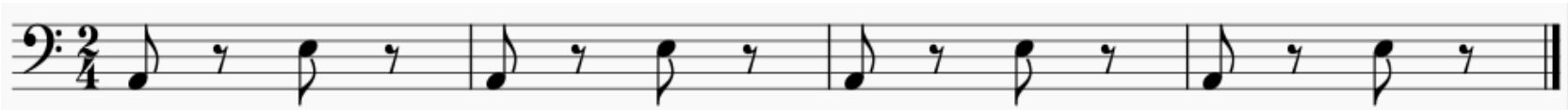
Behind the happy melodies of the violins, loud timpani beats can be heard.



Small task:
By the way, a timpani is played with mallets. In the picture on the right, draw the sticks on Tongo's hands!



The timpani play two different notes: low-high, low-high, low-high. That means the timpani beats are arranged in groups of two: one-two, one-two, one-two. This is what we call **duple meter**: two beats per measure.



The **measures** are separated from each other by **bar lines**.

CHARLES GOUNOUD

The opera called *Faust* is the master-piece of the French composer Charles Gounod (1818-1893). The sequence you hear is taken from it. After a short prelude, a waltz begins.

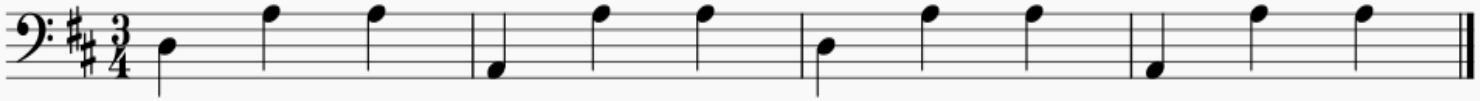


A waltz is a couples dance in **triple meter**. This means that the rhythm of the dance is arranged in groups of three: one, two, three, one, two, three ....



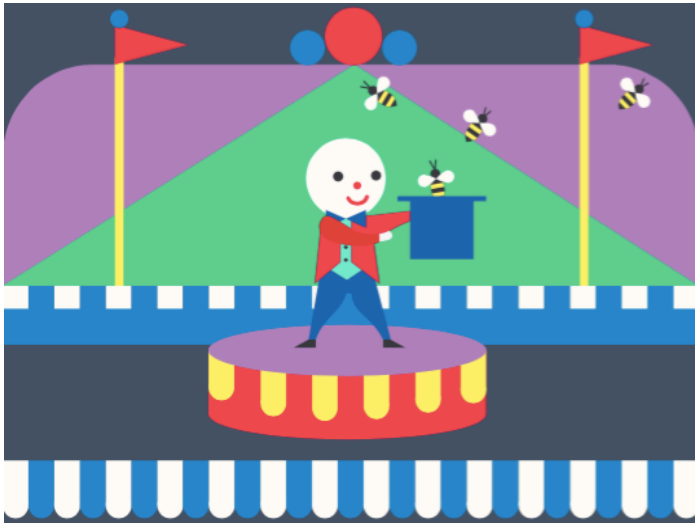
Of the three beats, the first one is of particular importance because it creates the dance's swing rhythm: ONE, two, three, ONE, two, three.

Behind the swinging melody, the strong "one" of the double bass is always recognizable. And right behind it, the "two" and "three" are played by the violas. This looks like this:



NIKOLAI RIMSKY KORSAKOV

The piece "*Flight of the Bumblebee*" from the opera *The Tale of Tsar Saltan* was written by the Russian composer Nikolai Rimsky Korsakov (1844-1908).



An **opera** is a stage play of a special kind. Singers share a story by singing on the stage, while a whole orchestra plays.

The plot of the opera is performed in parts called **Acts**: the **first act**, the **second act**, and the **third act**. Usually there are three or five acts in an opera.



The musicians sit somewhat hidden in a pit before the stage. This gives the audience a clear view of the stage where the action takes place. The stage is illuminated and a set is built on it. The singers play in costumes. Even a whole choir comes on stage in some operas.

All the people involved in an opera perform under the direction of a **conductor**. He gives his instructions from the pit, where he can be easily seen, and keeps everyone involved together throughout the performance.



MICHAIL IWANOWITSCH GLINKA

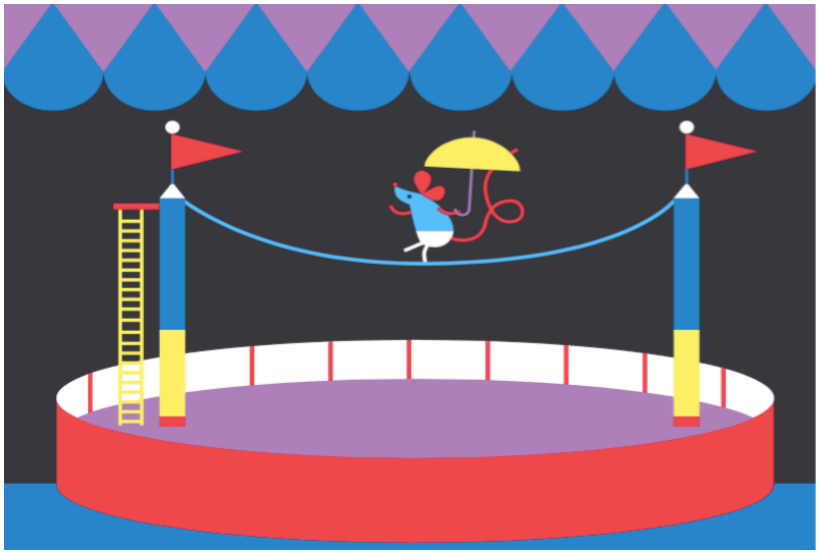
At the beginning of the opera, the orchestra plays a piece before the curtain opens: this is called the **overture**. It "opens" or starts the opera.

The overture from the opera *Ruslan and Lyudmila*, by Russian composer Mikhail Ivanovich Glinka (1804-1857), opens with verve and fire.

PJOTR ILJITSCH TSCHAIKOWSKI

The "*Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy*" comes from one of the most famous ballet pieces ever: The Nutcracker. In this ballet by Tchaikovsky (1840-1893), a unique Christmas story is told.

A **ballet** performance is quite similar to an opera. A large orchestra plays in the pit while the performers share a story onstage by dancing. The plot is divided into several acts, and many individual dancers or large dance groups move around the stage in beautiful choreographies.



JOHANNES BRAHMS

The German composer Johannes Brahms (1833-1897) was fascinated by the melodies played by his Hungarian musician friends. The tunes came from their homeland, and he composed orchestral pieces called "Hungarian Dances".



In this piece we hear out a "conversation," like two voices speaking in turn. The strings start swinging with a sonorous melody. No sooner do they finish "speaking" their phrase, than they are interrupted by the **woodwinds**, who answer the high-sounding chatter. Then the strings resume with their beautiful melody and are soon followed again by the wood-winds' comments. This musical back and forth is like a real conversation.

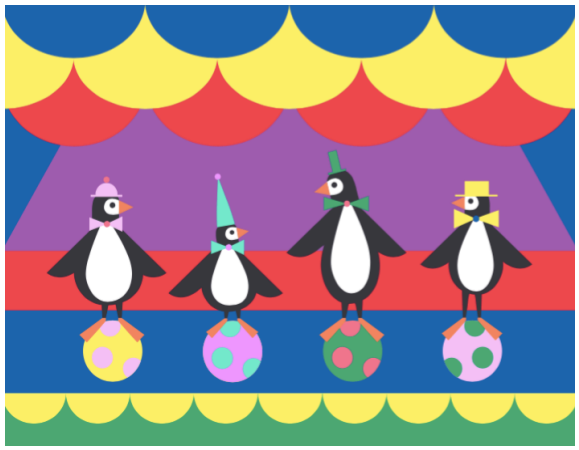
JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750) undoubtedly occupies a special place among composers. He is seen as a kind of father of music.

For a large part of his life, Bach worked as a cantor, that is, a church musician, composing music for the Mass. This kind of music is called **sacred music**. Many cantatas written by Bach have been sung every Sunday by church choirs during Mass. Bach composed other great works for special days of the church calendar. These include the Christmas Oratorio and the St. Matthew Passion and St. John Passion for Easter

But Johann Sebastian Bach also composed a large body of **secular music**, that is, music for social purposes (rather than for the church). Amongst this work is his *Six Brandenburg Concertos*.

Here we hear a fast movement from the third Brandenburg Concerto. The violins introduce a cheerful theme that is immediately imitated by the violas, cellos, double basses, and harpsichord. In the course of the piece, we hear the same theme repeated again and again by other musical instruments.



MODEST MUSSORGSKI

The Russian composer Modest Mussorgsky (1839-1881) created the work *Pictures at an Exhibition* after visiting the art exhibition of a friend. He composed the music for the piano, and it is a very virtuosic piece.



A few years later, the French composer Maurice Ravel (1875-1937) transposed Pictures at an Exhibition for a large orchestra. Ravel was well versed in orchestral instruments and their "personalities", and created a sonorous variant of Mussorgsky's work.

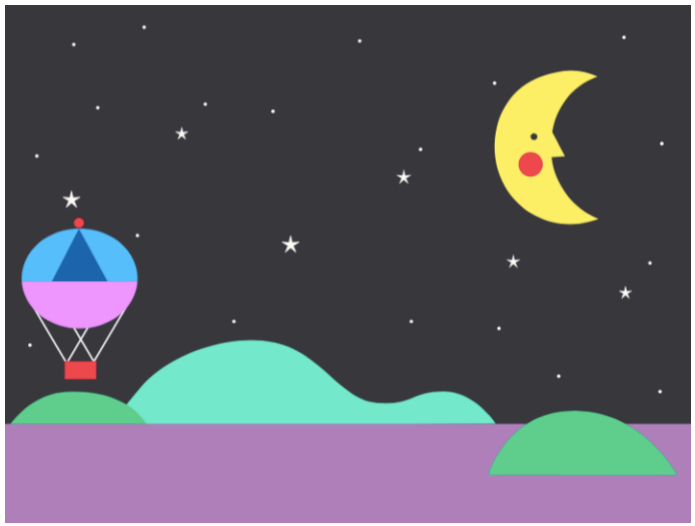
Task

The work Pictures at an Exhibition consists of ten movements. We hear one of them here. It is called "*Ballet of Chicks in their Eggshells*." What might a ballet with chicks just hatching out of their eggshells look like? Paint this scene below and let the music inspire you.



GUSTAV HOLST

English composer Gustav Holst (1874-1934) created the orchestral suite *The Planets*.



A **suite** consists of many small individual pieces. Holst composed a piece/ movement for each planet of the solar system: Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune. Only the Earth was not set to music.
In almost every piece of music we can detect a **mood**. Think about the mood for each piece of music you have heard here. You can use not one, but several words, to describe a piece.

Task
Next, you will be given some words to use when describing music. You can use the words several times, or maybe think of more descriptive words. Here are words you can use.
Or think for yourself what words could help you describe!

funny	elegant	relaxed	cheerful
serious	friendly	...	easy
...	passionate	mysterious	sad
melancholic	...	calm	dreamy
...	...	...	...

EDVARD GRIEG

In this guide, many topics have been addressed: musical instruments, measures, expression. Now it's your turn to discuss music! Listen to "*Anitra's Dance*" from Peer Gynt, by the Norwegian composer Edvard Grieg (1843-1907) . Then answer the following questions.



What time signature do you hear? Triple meter or double meter?

_____

Which very small musical instrument is playing here? It sounds only very briefly every second bar ...

_____

Are the strings being played pizzicato or being bowed? What do you hear?

_____

What is the mood of this music? Which adjective from the word list would you use to describe it?

_____

Write below a story about this piece. What comes to your mind when hearing this music? Pay attention to the title: "Anitra's Dance".

_____

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