



2014/15
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MUSIC?

NORTH CAROLINA
SYMPHONY

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INTRODUCTION

Aram Khachaturian

Born: June 6, 1903, Tbilisi, Georgia

Died: May 1, 1978, Moscow, Russia

Aram Khachaturian's music is performed all over the world, on renowned theater and concert stages, and on radio, television, and in movies.

He was born in Kodzhori (now called Tbilisi) to an Armenian family of bookbinders. At that time in Tbilisi, there was a musical school, and an opera theatre that were visited by celebrated artists, including the famous pianist and composer Sergei Rachmaninoff, and many other famous musicians who lived in the city. This environment greatly influenced Khachaturian.

Despite his interest in music, he did not study it until he was nineteen in 1922, when he moved to Moscow in Russia.

He enrolled in a cello class at Gnesin Music School, and he received a degree in biology from the Department of Physics and Mathematics at Moscow State University. Then, he took classes in composition, and his musical abilities grew quickly. He soon became a top student and was accepted into the Moscow Conservatory, which was the university for students who wanted to study music.

Khachaturian composed in many styles of music, including folk song, dance, symphony, ballet, and more. His first published composition, Dance for Violin and Piano, included his characteristic style: improvisation, beautiful melodies, and colorful orchestrations. In 1933, his new composition,

Featured Work:
Galop from
Masquerade Suite



Fun Facts

- Khachaturian thought of becoming a doctor or engineer before he became a professional musician.
- Khachaturian "Russianized" his name to Khachaturov for eighteen years.
- Khachaturian was one of the few composers whose first instrument was the tuba.
- Khachaturian taught music in Mexico.
- Khachaturian wrote a lot of music for movies.

called Dance Suite, for Symphonic Orchestra was performed, launching his career.

Khachaturian was a member of many important arts societies around the world. He was also a professor and won many awards.

Claude Debussy

Born: August 22, 1862, Saint-Germain-en-Laye, France
Died: March 25, 1918, Paris, France

Claude Debussy was the oldest of five children. His father owned a china shop and his mother was a seamstress. His family moved to his aunt's house in a town called Cannes when he was five. When he turned ten, Debussy started going to the music school in Paris, and started taking piano lessons there. During this time, he studied composition, music theory and history, harmony, piano, organ, and much more.

He became a great pianist and composer. When he was 22, he won a prize for a piece of music he had written. That prize money allowed him to go to Rome, Italy, for four years to study music. He had a disagreement with the teachers there so he left after just two years. He continued to write music, though, including symphonic poems and suites, ballets, concertos, chamber music, and works for solo piano.



Featured Work:
Nuages from
Nocturnes

Fun Facts

- Debussy only wrote one opera, called *Pelléas et Mélisande*.
- Debussy's musical style is called impressionism, which is also a style of painting.
- Debussy would often not reveal the title of the work until the end of the piece. He liked listeners coming to their own conclusions about the work.

TEXTURE

The overall sound
of the instruments
that are playing...
it's how the music
feels

Franz Joseph Haydn

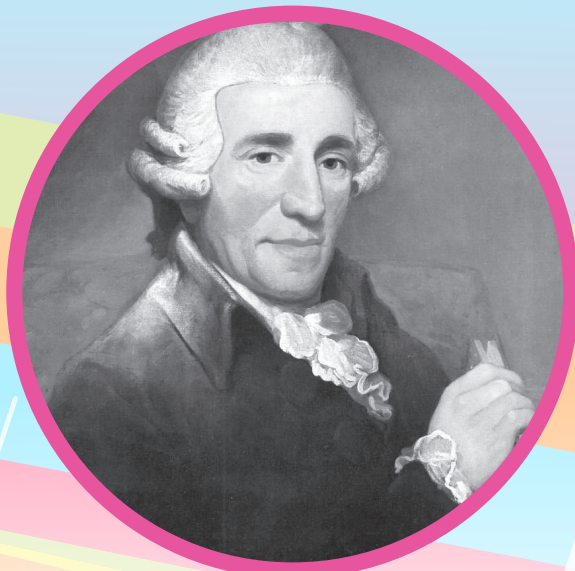
Born: March 31, 1732, Rohrau, Austria

Died: May 31, 1809, Vienna, Austria

Haydn's mother was a cook and his father was the village mayor and an enthusiastic folk musician, who taught himself how to play harp. Haydn and his father would frequently sing together with their neighbors. Haydn was a very good young musician and his father sent him to study music with a distant relative in Hainburg when he was six years old.

Haydn's life in Hainburg was not easy; he was often hungry and could not afford new clothes. His musical abilities continued to flourish despite these conditions. In 1739, Haydn impressed the director of music at St. Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna, who just happened to be visiting Hainburg to look for new choirboys for the church's school. Haydn auditioned for the director and won a place at the school.

Haydn did not learn music theory and composition, but he did learn Latin, singing, violin, and keyboard. As he grew older, his voice matured and he was no longer able to sing soprano (high) choral parts. So, Haydn began his career as an instrumental musician and composer. He wrote his first work, an opera called *The Limping Devil* in 1753. After that, he became the director of music in a royal court.



Fun Facts

- Haydn did not have much money when he was young and could not afford fancy meals, so he did his best to sing well so that he would be invited to sing for wealthy audiences, where singers were served refreshments.
- Haydn was a prankster. Before he was expelled from the Cathedral in Vienna, Haydn committed a prank, cutting off someone's ponytail!
- He was nicknamed "Papa Haydn," because he was considered to be the father of classical music.
- Haydn and Mozart were friends. Mozart even dedicated a series of string quartets to him, known as "The Haydn Quartets."
- Haydn was also friends with Beethoven.

DYNAMICS

The softness or loudness of the sound

Featured Work:
Symphony No. 94
in G Major, "Surprise,"
Mvt. II. Andante

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TEMPO

The speed of the music...
how fast or how slow

Léo Delibes

Born: February 21, 1836, La Flèche, France

Died: January 16, 1891, Paris, France

Delibes' father was a mailman, and his mother was a talented amateur musician. His grandfather was an opera singer. His father died an early death, so Delibes was raised by his uncle and mother. When he was eleven years old, he started to learn to write music at a school in Paris where he also took voice and organ lessons. He had many jobs, including rehearsal accompanist, chorus master and organist.

He also started to write music. The first pieces he wrote were short and many of them were funny. Later, he wrote a ballet which was very successful and made him famous.



Fun Facts

- Delibes loved to write music for singers.
- Delibes went to school to study singing, but he was actually much better at the organ.
- He liked to write funny operas, including opera's greatest comedy, *Coppélia*.

Featured Work:
Entr'acte and Waltz
from *Coppélia*

Sergei Prokofiev

Born: April 23, 1891, Sontsovka, Russia

Died: March 5, 1953, Moscow, Russia

Sergei Prokofiev was born in the rural town of Sontsovka, Russia, in 1891. When he was little, his mother realized that he had a talent for playing the piano and writing music, so she decided to give him lessons. When he was thirteen, he started going to the music school in St. Petersburg, where his teachers included the famous composer, Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov. While there, he received prizes for both playing the piano and writing music.

Prokofiev spent a lot of time travelling throughout the world. He lived in France, Bavaria and even in the United States, but he always missed Russian life. He eventually moved back to Russia, which was called the Soviet Union at the time, because he was so homesick.

Prokofiev was great at telling stories through his music. His best known work is *Peter and the Wolf*, a traditional Russian children's tale about a boy and his friends the duck, cat and the bird, who accompany him as he sets out to hunt a fierce wolf.



Fun Facts

- Prokofiev was the youngest student to go to the music school in St. Petersburg.
- Walt Disney wanted Prokofiev to write music for the movie *Fantasia*.
- He loved playing chess.
- He wrote his first symphony, nicknamed the *Classical Symphony*, when he was just 26 years old.

Featured Work:
Classical Symphony,
Op. 25, Mvt. II.
Larghetto

FORM

How the sections of
music are put together...
the structure

Scott Joplin

Born: circa 1867, Eastern Texas
Died: April 1, 1917, New York, New York

Scott Joplin was born in Texas to parents who were both former slaves. His father was a musician and realized quickly that his son had musical talent, so he gave him piano lessons. By the age of 14, Joplin was able to make a living for himself playing piano in music clubs. As a performer, he was best known for his piano rags.

A “rag” is a piece of music with a unique rhythm. Instead of emphasizing the main beats, composers accent the off-beats. In music, we call this syncopation. In a rag, it is as if the composer took a piece of regular music and “ragged” it or tore it up, because when the pieces are all put together, in this case the right and left hand of the piano part, they don’t quite match! This music was exciting and new to listeners and is why Joplin remains one of the most celebrated African-American composers of all time.



Fun Facts

- Joplin’s nickname was the “King of Ragtime,” but he actually called himself “The Entertainer.”
- Joplin had perfect pitch, or the ability to sing any pitch without having to hear it first.
- He played piano, violin and cornet, and sang with the Texas Medley Quartette.

RHYTHM

A pattern of notes of varied lengths and accents...
the beat or the pulse
of the music

Featured Work:
Maple Leaf Rag

"When Johnny Comes Marching Home"

Traditional/Arr. Terry Mizesko

Born: September 21, 1946, Morehead City, NC

Terry Mizesko is a composer from North Carolina. He has been a member of the North Carolina Symphony's trombone section since 1971, and he is also a conductor.

He was born in Morehead City, North Carolina and he studied music at East Carolina University in Greenville. He has taught trombone lessons for more than 20 years at several schools including Duke University, UNC-Chapel Hill and St. Augustine's College.

MELODY

The main idea of the music... the line that you walk away singing

"When Johnny Comes Marching Home" can also be played with instruments, like the recorder. We hope to hear an instrumental group from your school perform this song at your concert before you sing it with the orchestra. For those who will play, here are the instructions:

1. Learn to play "When Johnny Comes Marching Home" on an instrument, such as recorder, stringed instrument, bells, guitar or other.
2. Memorize the music so you can watch your conductor.
3. Play the song through one time at your North Carolina Symphony concert.



Fun Facts

- Despite being from the coast, his favorite North Carolina city is Asheville.
- He loves cooking.
- His favorite pastime is spending time with his family.
- Mizesko's two children are his inspiration for writing music for kids.
- He enjoys minor league baseball, especially the Durham Bulls and Carolina Mudcats.
- He's played with every conductor the North Carolina Symphony has ever had, with the exception of its founder.

Featured Work:
"When Johnny Comes Marching Home"

When Johnny Comes Marching Home

Traditional/Arranged by Terry Mizesko

Lyrics by Louis Lambert

Allegro ♩ = 108-112

Voice

When John - ny comes march - ing home a - gain hur - rah, hur -

Vo.

rah! We'll give him a hear - ty wel - come then hur - rah, hur - rah! The

Vo.

men wil cheer and the boys will shout, the la - dies they will

Vo.

all turn out. And we'll all feel gay when John - ny comes mar - ching

Vo.

home.. And we'll all feel gay when John-ny come mar - ching home.

10

Take note: When singing with the North Carolina Symphony, observe the 10 measure rest. When performing on instruments, ignore the 10 measure rest.

The old church bell will peal with joy, hurrah, hurrah,
To welcome home our darling boy, hurrah, hurrah!
The village lads and lassies say with roses they will strew the way,
And we'll all feel gay when Johnny comes marching home.
And we'll all feel gay when Johnny comes marching home.

Get ready for the jubilee, hurrah, hurrah,
We'll give the hero three times three, hurrah, hurrah!
The laurel wreath is ready now to place upon his loyal brew,
And we'll all feel gay when Johnny comes marching home.
And we'll all feel gay when Johnny comes marching home.



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FINALE

All elements work together
to form music!

Johannes Brahms

Born: May 7, 1833, Hamburg, Germany

Died: April 3, 1897, Vienna, Austria

Johannes Brahms was born on May 7, 1833, in Hamburg, Germany. His father was a musician, and his mother was a seamstress. He respected famous composers throughout history, including Haydn, Mozart and his favorite, Johann Sebastian Bach.

Brahms began playing piano at age seven and helped to earn money for his family playing in restaurants and theaters. Brahms also learned to play cello, but had to stop when his cello teacher stole his instrument! As a teenager, he was already conducting choirs and later became a successful choral and orchestra conductor. By the age of 19, Brahms was well-known as a pianist and played a concert tour of Europe.

Brahms met many famous musicians while traveling on his concert tours, including the composers Franz Liszt and Johann Strauss, Jr. Brahms loved Hungarian folk music and its gypsy rhythms and melodies. Brahms used them in his music, including his 12 Hungarian Dances, which were very popular and made him famous.



Featured Work:
Academic Festival
Overture, Op. 80

Fun Facts

- Brahms' appearance was very recognizable as he had a long beard and large frame.
- Brahms never went to college!
- Although Brahms was quiet and shy, he had many friends, and even though he was not married, he was known as a favorite "uncle" to many of his friends' children.

North Carolina Symphony, 3700 Glenwood Ave., Suite 130, Raleigh, NC 27612

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