

Autumn term 2 musical appreciation

A tour of stringed instruments

Week beginning	Value	Artist/ composer/ genre	Links
1.11.21	Perseverance	<p>The sitar is a string instrument which is plucked. The player uses he right hand to pluck and uses their left hand to push down on the strings. There are frets on the neck of the instrument (raised strip) and the player presses down in between each strip to change the pitch of the note. There are pegs on the side which you can turn to tune the instrument (by making the string slightly longer or shorter).</p> <p>A sitar can have 18, 19, 20, or 21 strings. Six or seven of these are played strings go over the frets (and are plucked), and the remainder are sympathetic strings and resonate with the strings that are played.</p> <p>The sitar is popular in northern India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh. It was invented in medieval India (about 500 years ago). It became more well known across the world through the works of Ravi Shakar and by the 1960s the instrument was used in Western popular music and he inspired the Beatles to use it in some of their songs.</p> <p>Two of his daughters perform together here. Anoushka was taught to play sitar by her father and now performs around the world. Norah is a singer and is accompanied by the sitar in this song</p>	<p>Ravi teaching George Harrison https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rxl6lkH9Mvo&ab_channel=TheBEATLESMania100n2 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kEJSWiftX98&ab_channel=DeutscheGrammophon-DG</p>

		<p>Anoushka Shankar (born 9 June 1981) is a British Indian American sitar player, producer, film composer and activist. . She performs across multiple genres and styles - classical and contemporary, acoustic and electronic</p> <p>Norah Jones (born Geethali Norah Jones Shankar; March 30, 1979) is an American singer, songwriter, and pianist. She has won multiple awards and her albums have sold more than 50 million records worldwide.</p>	
<p>8.11.21</p>	<p>Perseverance Remembrance Day</p>	<p>Faure: May 12, 1845 - November 04, 1924</p> <p>Faure was born in France and studied music in Paris. One of his teachers was Saint-Saëns (he composed 'The Swan' which we listened to with the Kanneh-Masons). Later in life, he also taught composition at the same school and there were several composers who he influenced in his 15 years as head teacher (like Debussy and Ravel).</p> <p>He is known for composing small, beautiful pieces rather than huge orchestral works. Like Beethoven, Fauré suffered from a loss of hearing when he was older. However, he continued to compose, and some of his best music comes from that time.</p> <p>Here are two pieces composed by Faure and played on the cello by Sheku Kanneh Mason. The first is a piece which has been chosen for Remembrance Day. Classic FM say it is:</p> <p><i>One of the most mournful cello melodies in all of the classical canon, Fauré's Elegy captures an impressive range of emotions. From gut-wrenching anger to heartfelt sorrow, fleeting memories of happiness and</i></p>	<p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MMxgcC4jpts&ab_channel=ShekuKannehMasonVEVO</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xdjosc8HIhI&ab_channel=ShekuKannehMasonVEVO</p> <p>Other cello music</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D9LrEXF3USs&ab_channel=2CELLOS</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r6glBvXN6H0&list=PLrRtwIUSeaCEOxW7Ydgq2eDbFA84BdL5F&ab_channel=2CELLOS</p>

		<p><i>mournful cries, the beautiful music communicates directly from the soul.</i></p> <p>The second piece is called 'Après un rêve' which means, after a dream.</p> <p>The cello The cello is an instrument used to play music. Its name comes from the Italian language, so it is pronounced "chello". The full word is violoncello, but when speaking, people normally call it the "cello". A person who plays the cello is called a "cellist". The cello belongs to the string family.</p> <p>The parts of the cello are similar to those of the violin. The strings are tuned to C-G-D-A, (low to high). The cello is played sitting down and holding the instrument between the knees. There is an end-pin which rests on the ground. This is adjustable in height so that the player can put it in a position to make himself/herself comfortable. The cello is normally played with a bow.</p>	
<p>15.11.21</p>	<p>Respect</p>	<p>The ukulele is a musical instrument with four strings. It is also called the <i>uke</i> for short. Ukuleles are part of the lute family of instruments. (Lutes are stringed musical instruments that include a body and "a neck which serves both as a handle and as a means of stretching the strings beyond the body") Ukuleles normally have nylon strings or gut strings. Ukuleles commonly come in four sizes: soprano, concert, tenor and baritone. The ukulele was invented in the 19th Century in Hawaii, where people got the idea from small guitar-</p>	<p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PB3RbO7updc&ab_channel=HamzaTazi</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ScsCouvle4E&ab_channel=JakeShimabukuro</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0gaWuadgL3g&ab_channel=TerryWarner</p>

		<p>like instruments known as cavaquinhos brought to the island by Portuguese sailors.</p> <p>Jake Shimabukuro (born November 3, 1976, in Honolulu, Hawai'i) is an Japanese-American ukulele virtuoso and composer known for his fast and complex finger work.^[1] His music combines elements of jazz, blues, funk, rock, bluegrass, classical, folk, and flamenco.</p> <p>Jake picked up the ukulele at aged four – his mom played and he kept bugging her to teach him. ("From that day on, you had to pry the instrument away from me to get me to do anything else.")</p> <p>In 2005, Shimabukuro gained international recognition when a video of him performing George Harrison's "While My Guitar Gently Weeps" went viral on YouTube. ("At the time, I didn't even know what YouTube was. Nobody did, especially in Hawaii.")</p>	
<p>22.11.21</p>	<p>Respect</p>	<p>Violin and Viola</p> <p>The violin is a string instrument which has four strings and is played with a bow. The strings are usually tuned to the notes G, D, A, and E. It is held between the left collar bone (near the shoulder) and the chin. Different notes are made by fingering (pressing on the strings) with the left hand while bowing with the right. Unlike guitar, it has no frets or other markers on the fingerboard.</p> <p>A viola is a musical instrument which is similar to the violin and cello. The viola sounds lower than a violin, but higher than a cello. It has four strings, called the C, G, D, and A strings. The highest string is the A. You might think a viola is a violin as they look so similar –</p>	<p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g3Qr9xk-k5E&ab_channel=MatthewLipman</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VMMheCbJ6I4&ab_channel=LeliCristea</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y-tT9zqMP8E&ab_channel=QuartetPad</p>

		<p>the viola is larger, has slightly lower notes and has a more mellow sound.</p> <p><u>Mozart</u> Mozart was born 27th January 1756 in Salzburg, Austria and died at the age of 35. He is considered by some to be one of the greatest composers of classical music ever. He was composing music when he was 5 years old and by the end of his life, had written over 600 pieces of music! Mozart was an incredible musician as he could listen to music just once and then go away and write it down without any mistakes! Although he wrote great music, he did not make much money from it. He died very poor.</p>	
29.11.21	Generosity	<p><u>Double bass</u> Double bass is a widely-used name for a large stringed instrument. Other names it is sometimes called include contrabass and upright bass. It is used in orchestras, jazz bands, and some country music bands. It plays low-pitched musical notes in musical ensembles and bands. In jazz bands, these low-pitched musical notes are called the "bass line." The double bass looks like smaller instruments like the violin, viola, and cello.</p>	<p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SR1IO408ats&ab_channel=bozoparadzikcom</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KCcf7GeBq-M&ab_channel=ChicagoSymphonyOrchestra</p>

		<p>We have looked at ‘Carnival of the Animals’ by Camille Saint-Saëns before. Here is the movement number 5 for piano and double bass called <i>L'Éléphant</i> (The Elephant). It is written in a waltz style (which has a metre of 3) and the composer has chosen the lowest and heaviest sounding instrument in the orchestra to play the melody.</p> <p>Also take a listen to the bass section of the Chicago Symphony orchestra playing together in an ensemble. This is not written by Saint-Saëns but is another musical arrangement for a famous animal... the Pink Panther!</p>	
6.12.20	Generosity	<p><u>Lute and guitar</u> The lute is a kind of musical instrument with strings.</p> <p>It first came from the Middle East (from Persia and Arabic descent), through to Spain and then across Europe. It is an ancestor to the classical guitar.</p> <p>A lute is made of wood. It has an oval-shaped back and a flat front, with a neck attached to it. Early lutes had four strings or eight sets of two strings. Beneath these strings, there were strings tied to the neck, where the player pressed down to make the notes. These strings were called frets.</p> <p>The flat front is known as the sound board. It has a beautifully carved hole in the centre which is called the rose.</p> <p>The lute is played by strumming or plucking at the strings.</p>	<p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QvWIPgSSWiE&ab_channel=FUNDACI%C3%93NJUANMARCH</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wfjDc0Z053s&ab_channel=JoshTurnerGuitar</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tYliMs9Gg0Q&ab_channel=SonoLuminus</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pOACfqKKHXI&ab_channel=MyYearsWithEarlyMusic</p>

		<p>King Henry VIII – when King Henry came to the throne, the lute wasn't that popular (you were more likely to hear a harp played). Playing the lute became a Tudor family pastime. Henry VII gave a lute to each of his children, and all of Henry VIII's children learned to play the lute as well. Henry also composed music and here is one of his songs performed with a lute and a harp as accompaniment.</p>	
<p>13.12.20</p>	<p>Thankfulness</p>	<p>Harp The harp is a stringed musical instrument which dates back to 4000 BC when the Egyptians used them in holy places. . On a harp, each string is tightly tied to a frame, so it makes the right note. The frame can be made from wood or metal and needs to be strong, so that the many tight strings do not break it. The side of the triangle that leans on the player's body, is the sound-box. Empty boxes can make sounds louder. The top side of the triangle has a lot of pegs in it. There is one peg for each string on the harp. The top of each string is tied to one peg, and twisted around the peg. The player turns the peg to make the string more tight or less tight. This is how the player makes each string make the right note. The last side of the triangle is called the pillar which makes the frame very strong, so that the strings will not break it.</p> <p>Pedal harps were invented during the 1800's CE - this is the harp you are seeing played here. Pedal harps are about two meters tall and have 47 strings. The lowest and highest notes on a pedal harp are the</p>	<p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gFG-IIVV19E&ab_channel=KatherineSiochi</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w3ZIBckIIW4&t=213s&ab_channel=100huntley</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S1-LCnGojnw&ab_channel=ClassicMmediaGroup</p>

		<p>same as the lowest and highest notes on a piano. The pedal harp is tuned like the white keys on a piano. There are seven pedals to let the harp player play songs in different musical keys.</p> <p>Alisa Sadikova (born 30 March 2003) is a prodigy classical harpist from Russia. In this video, she is just 9 years old.</p>	
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