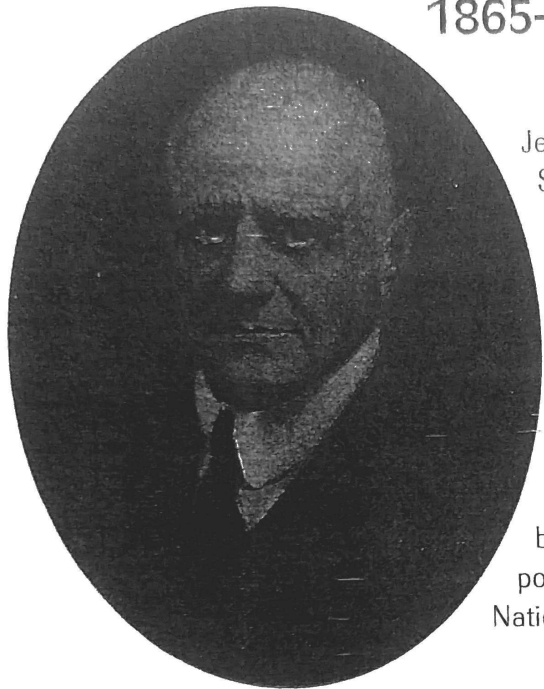


JEAN SIBELIUS 1865-1957



Jean Sibelius is certainly Finland's most well-known composer. Like Grieg, Sibelius wrote during the Romantic Period and is considered a nationalistic composer. He didn't use Finnish folk tunes directly in his music, but he was inspired and greatly influenced by Finnish literature and folklore. Sibelius wrote many pieces of music, including symphonies, suites, vocal music, and tone poems, which are one-movement compositions that often suggest a story or mood.

Finlandia, a tone poem, is Sibelius' most famous work. It aroused great feelings of patriotism among his countrymen, which resulted in Sibelius being granted a pension from the Finnish government, allowing him to compose full-time. The main theme from this composition was chosen to be the National Anthem of Finland.

- 1865 Birth of Jean Sibelius, 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution-abolishes slavery
- 1867 Russia sells Alaska to U.S.
- 1871 P.T. Barnum opens his circus *The Greatest Show on Earth* in Brooklyn, N.Y.
- 1882 Robert Louis Stevenson writes *Treasure Island*
- 1904 The Spanish-born artist Picasso arrives in Paris and begins his Rose Period
- 1908 Wilbur Wright flies 30 miles in 40 minutes
- 1933 Franklin Delano Roosevelt inaugurated as 32nd President of the U.S.
- 1949 The most popular song of the year— *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*
- 1957 Dr. Seuss writes *The Cat in the Hat*

QUESTIONS

1. Jean Sibelius was born in what country?
2. A one movement composition which often suggests a story or mood is called a _____.
3. What is the title of the tone poem that includes the National Anthem of Finland?
4. Unscramble the letters to find the name of the famous artist who was painting during Sibelius's lifetime. -
SOAPSIC

Optional Listening Response
Please complete for each composer

Using YouTube, Spotify, iTunes, or another music playing app or service, please listen to one piece from the composer and answer the following:

Composer name:

Title of composition:

Was this a fast or slow song?

What instrument or voice performed the melody?

What emotion would you give this piece?

Other thoughts you had about this piece of music:

If you could not do the listening for this assignment, it's ok. I hope you have the opportunity to hear the composers' works someday.



REINHOLD GLIERE 1875-1956



Reinhold Gliere was born in the city of Kiev, Ukraine and studied music at the Moscow Conservatory in the former Soviet Union. From 1920 to 1941 he taught composition at the same conservatory. Gliere was also active in the study and use of folk music in his compositions. Although most of Gliere's music was written in the twentieth century, his style is more closely connected to the late Romantic period.

Gliere's most famous work is *The Red Poppy*, a ballet in three acts. First performed in 1927, this colorful ballet tells the story of a Soviet sailing crew that lands in China and encourages the Chinese peasants to rise up against their feudal lords. The *Russian Sailor's Dance* is from this ballet. Ballet, the dancing of a story set to music, is an important art form in many parts of the world. Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker* is another famous ballet.

■ **1875** Birth of Reinhold Gliere, Mark Twain writes *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*

■ **1889** North and South Dakota, Montana and Washington become states of the U.S.

■ **1893** Dvořák composes his *New World Symphony*

■ **1901** Pablo Picasso is painting in his "Blue Period"

■ **1915** First transcontinental telephone call between Alexander Graham Bell in New York and Dr. Thomas Watson in San Francisco

■ **1927** The baseball player, Babe Ruth hits 60 home runs for the New York Yankees

■ **1937** Walt Disney produces the film *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*

■ **1943** The drug Penicillin is successfully used to treat diseases

■ **1956** Martin Luther King is the leader of the campaign for desegregation in the U.S.

QUESTIONS

1. True or False. Gliere not only was a student, but later taught composition at the Moscow Conservatory.
2. Gliere's most famous composition is the ballet _____.
3. This ballet was written in 1927, the same year that _____ hit 60 home runs.
4. At the end of Gliere's life, what famous man was leading the campaign for desegregation in the U.S.?

Optional Listening Response
Please complete for each composer

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Composer name:

Title of composition:

Was this a fast or slow song?

What instrument or voice performed the melody?

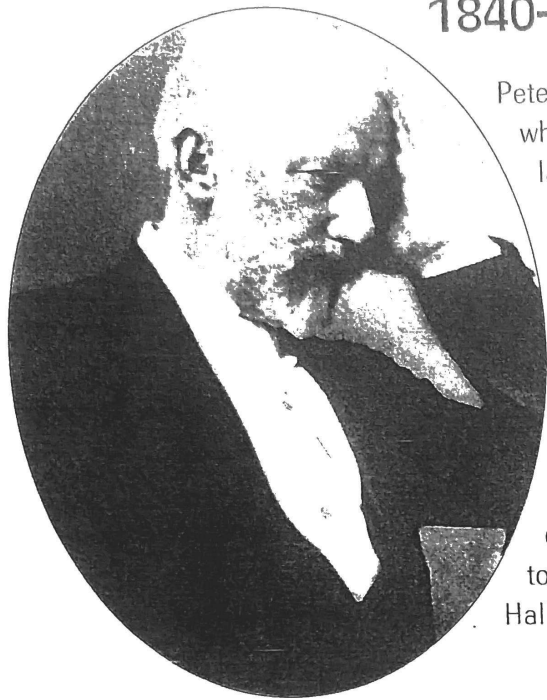
What emotion would you give this piece?

Other thoughts you had about this piece of music:

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PETER ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY 1840-1893



Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky was born in Russia. His father was a mine inspector who encouraged him to study to become a lawyer. After graduating from law school and working awhile for the government, Tchaikovsky studied piano and composition at the St. Petersburg Conservatory with Anton Rubinstein. He was such a superior student that after graduating from the conservatory, he became Professor of Harmony at the Moscow Conservatory for 12 years.

Tchaikovsky's six symphonies are among the most well-known and performed works of the Romantic period. In addition, he wrote the music for three ballets, *Swan Lake* (1876), *The Sleeping Beauty* (1889), and the ever popular *Nutcracker* (1892). In 1891, Tchaikovsky was invited to come to America to take part in the concert that marked the opening of Carnegie Hall in New York City.

■ 1840 Birth of Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky, Lower and Upper Canada united by Act of Parliament

■ 1846 Famine in Ireland caused by failure of the potato crop

■ 1852 Harriet Beecher Stowe writes *Uncle Tom's Cabin*

■ 1855 Van Diemen's Land is renamed Tasmania (Australia)

■ 1863 Roller skating introduced to America

■ 1879 First large scale skiing contest in Oslo, Norway

■ 1883 U.S. Frontiersman, W.J. Cody ("Buffalo Bill") organizes his "Wild West Show"

■ 1889 Paris: The Eiffel Tower is completed

■ 1893 Tchaikovsky composes *Symphony #6 Pathétique*

QUESTIONS

1. What instrument did Tchaikovsky play?
2. What job did Tchaikovsky have during his twelve years at the Moscow Conservatory?
3. The Eiffel tower was completed and Tchaikovsky composed *The Sleeping Beauty* ballet during what year?
4. True or False: Tchaikovsky wrote twelve symphonies.

Optional Listening Response
Please complete for each composer

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Composer name:

Title of composition:

Was this a fast or slow song?

What instrument or voice performed the melody?

What emotion would you give this piece?

Other thoughts you had about this piece of music:

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EDWARD ELGAR 1857-1934



Edward Elgar is an English composer who wrote a number of well-known and frequently performed compositions towards the latter part of the Romantic period. He had a few violin lessons, but was largely self-taught, learning a lot by hanging around his father's music store. Starting at age 16, Elgar worked as a conductor, teacher, and performer on violin, bassoon, and organ. He started composing around this time, but his most famous works were not written until he was over 40 years old.

The famous *Pomp and Circumstance* that is often played at high school graduations is one of several *Pomp and Circumstance* marches he composed between 1901 and 1907. Elgar's most famous orchestral work is *Enigma Variations* (1899). Each variation of the *Enigma Variations* musically describes one of Elgar's friends. Elgar's music has a distinctively British sound, and because of his musical contributions he was knighted, and so is commonly referred to as Sir Edward Elgar.

- **1857** Birth of Edward Elgar, James Buchanan becomes 15th President of the U.S.
- **1864** Gen. Ulysses S. Grant becomes Commander-in-Chief of Union armies, during the U.S. Civil War
- **1874** First American zoo established in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- **1880** The game of Bingo is developed from the Italian lotto game of Tumbula
- **1891** Conan Doyle writes *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*
- **1901** Ragtime Jazz develops in the U.S.
- **1914** World War I begins
- **1927** Australian federal capital is moved from Melbourne to Canberra
- **1936** Boulder (Hoover) Dam on the Colorado River in Nevada and Arizona, is completed, creating Lake Mead, the largest reservoir in the world.

QUESTIONS

1. True or False: Edward Elgar composed during the Romantic period of music.
2. The *Pomp and Circumstance* marches were composed between _____ and _____.
3. Who was President of the U.S. at the time of Elgar's birth?
4. When Elgar began composing his *Pomp and Circumstance* Marches in 1901, what other form of music was developing in the U.S.?

Optional Listening Response
Please complete for each composer

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Title of composition:

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JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

1854-1932



John Philip Sousa is often referred to as "The March King," since he wrote some of the most famous marches ever. He served as the Director of the United States Marine Band in Washington D.C. from 1880-1892. He later organized his own professional band which toured the United States, Canada and Europe until 1931. Sousa was a master showman, whose concerts successfully blended classics, popular tunes, opera medleys, and marches to produce a crowd-pleasing spectacle that changed the American musical scene at the turn of the century.

Sousa's marches are known and loved worldwide. Some of Sousa's most famous marches are *Semper Fidelis*, *Manhattan Beach*, *The Thunderer*, and the *Stars and Stripes Forever*. He also wrote a lot of vocal music, including some operettas. *Stars and Stripes Forever* was recently declared the official U.S. National March.

1854 Birth of John Philip Sousa

1864 Tolstoy writes *War and Peace*

1873 Color photographs are first developed

1882 Tchaikovsky composes *1812 Overture*

1895 First professional football game played in U.S. at Latrobe, Pennsylvania

1901 Following a "century of steam" the "century of electricity" begins

1910 Father's Day is first celebrated in Spokane, Washington

1920 Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, gives American women the vote

1931 Statute of Westminster passes, Canada becomes independent.

QUESTIONS

1. John Philip Sousa wrote many great marches and was often referred to as _____.
2. What was Sousa's job between 1880 and 1892?
3. True or False: Sousa conducted and toured with his own professional quartet.
4. Toward the end of Sousa's life, what country became independent?

Optional Listening Response
Please complete for each composer

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