

The Examined Life

Music: Eight Great Pieces of Music, Eight Great Composers, and Eight American Songs

INSTRUCTOR
Claudia Franklin
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Syllabus—2008-2009 Academic Year

Eight Great Composers and Eight Great Pieces of Music

- George Gershwin and *The Rhapsody in Blue*
- Camille Saint-Saens and *The Carnival of the Animals*
- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and *The Magic Flute*
- Modest Mussorsky and *Pictures at an Exhibition*
- Ludvig van Beethoven and *The Heroic Symphony*
- Johann Sebastian Bach and *The Goldberg Variations*
- Franz Joseph Haydn and *The Farewell Symphony*
- Carl Orff and *Carmina Burana*

Eight American Songs

To be mastered at the rate of one song per month for a graduation concert at the end of the year:

- *God Bless America*
- *Summertime*
- *Blowin' in the Wind*
- *This Land is Your Land*
- *I've Been Working on the Railroad*
- *Amazing Grace*
- *The Gift to Be Simple*
- *Go Down, Moses*

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Syllabus

In every four week period, listen to the music over and over. Learn about the composer. Learn about the piece of music. The child should be able not only to identify the piece, but also the different movements of the piece.

As for the song: Learn the song by heart. Learn about the song, its composer, and its history.

Reading Level = R.L.

Week 1-4.
George Gershwin and <i>The Rhapsody in Blue</i>
Recommended Text: <i>Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue</i> by Celenza, A.
R.L.: 4.6
Song: <i>God Bless America</i>
Week 5-8.
Camille Saint-Saens and <i>The Carnival of the Animals</i>
Recommended Text: <i>Carnival of the Animals</i> by Saint-Saens by Turner, B.
R.L.: unavailable
Song: <i>Summertime</i>
Week 9-12
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and <i>The Magic Flute</i>
Recommended Text: <i>The Magic Flute</i> by Gatti, A.
R.L.: 5.2
Song: <i>Blowin' in the Wind</i>
Week 13-16
Modest Mussorsky and <i>Pictures at an Exhibition</i>
Recommended Text: <i>Pictures at the Exhibition</i> by Celenza, A.
R.L.: 4.6
Song: <i>This Land is Your Land</i>

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NOTES:

Week 17-20

Ludvig van Beethoven and *The Heroic Symphony*

Recommended Text: *The Heroic Symphony* by Celenza, A.

R.L.: 4.8

Song: *I've Been Working on the Railroad*

Week 21-24

Johann Sebastian Bach and *The Goldberg Variations*

Recommended Text: *Bach's Goldberg Variations* by Celenza, A.

R.L.: 3.7

Song: *Amazing Grace*

Week 25-28

Franz Joseph Haydn and *The Farewell Symphony*

Recommended Text: *The Farewell Symphony* by Celenza, A.

R.L.: 5.2

Song: *The Gift to Be Simple*

Week 29-32

Carl Orff and *Carmina Burana*

Do your own research.

Song: *Go Down, Moses*

Week 33-36

Review and Concert