GAC Program 1, This is the String Bass!!!

by

James Barket

Ashokan Farewell Jay Ungar

(B. 1946)

Freely adapted from the string arrangement by Calvin Custer

Two Movements from the *Suite in the Old Style* Hans Fryba

Prelude (1899-1986)

Courante

Two Pieces Camille Saint Saens

The Elephant (1835-1921)

The Swan

Three Movements from Suite No. 1 in G Johann Sebastian Bach

Prelude (1685-1750)

Sarabande

Gigue

Three Russian Songs Arr. James Barket

Amazing Grace Arr. James Barket

This program will introduce students to string instruments and specifically the string bass. It will feature a short history of the string instruments, various playing techniques for the instrument including arco and pizzicato, and demonstrate the large range of string instruments. It will also allow students to participate in various aspects of music performance including rhythmic clapping and singing. Georgia Standards: General Music A (Skills and Techniques), MKGM.1; B (Creative Expression and Communication) MKGM.4; and C (Critical Analysis/Investigate) MKGM.6 & MKGM.7.

Lesson Plan

Essential Question: What makes a String Instrument Unique?

Activator: Performance of Ashokan Fairwell.

Teaching:

1. Introduce Rhythm and Beat—students clap various rhythms and beats they will hear in the music
2. Performance of Fryba
3. Introduction to the major scale: Do Re Mi Fa So La Ti Do. Students learn this scale by singing and learn to sing some of the melodies I will play.
4. Performance of Saint Saens
5. Performance of Bach
6. Students learn to clap on the beat using various rhythmic patterns.
7. Performance of Russian Songs (students will clap on the beat during part of the performance)
8. String Instruments:
   1. Very long history—at least 500 years
   2. Can be bowed—Arco
   3. Can be plucked—Pizzicato
   4. The string bass is the largest and lowest sounding
   5. All string instruments can play very high--harmonics
   6. Bow is made of horse hair—horse is not harmed!

Summary: Performance of Amazing Grace