Musician of the Month by Manic Street Teachers Coverage and Rationale

Our Resources

Each 'Musician of the Month' pack that we create contains an assembly, a biographical knowledge organiser and multiple-choice quiz. We also provide a range of other activities such as listening activities, geography, music videos and lessons which explore their musical or cultural importance. Resources can be used as part of whole school 'Musician of the Month' resource or allocated to specific year groups. We would recommend using the idea of a 'Musician of the Month' for the whole school and continually roll the 6-year program, as this could then be used in school assemblies as well as creating consistency and focus through school and, at the same time, allowing for staff discussions, training and support.

Termly Music Assembly Videos

We have also started providing a 30-minute music assembly video once a term. This can be watched by children at school or remotely or may be used as CPD for staff. Lessons include the following: breathing exercises, body percussion, tongue twisters, notation, singing warm-ups, information about the musician, listen/respond activities and singing practice. Each session will also involve some of the indicative musical features (elements) that give language to concepts such as pulse and rhythm, pitch and melody, structure and form etc.

Musician Choices

Careful consideration has been given to the list of 66 musicians/traditions. We have drawn from a range of Western Classical composers and film composers, popular music and musical traditions from around the world. Within each year, there are 3 classical composers, 3 musical traditions and 5 popular musicians.

Across the 6-year cycle, we have ensured that there is a completely even gender split: there are 31 male musicians, 31 female musician and 4 mixed groups. We have also chosen many artists based on the Equality Act 2010, ensuring that a range of musicians with protected characteristics are studied. This can all be seen in the information below.

Musician of the Month List

Western Classical Tradition and Film

Musician (Country of Origin)	Period	Year Group
Hildegard of Bingen (Germany)	Early	
Barbara Strozzi (Italy)	Baroque	
George Frideric Handel (Germany)	Baroque	
Antonio Vivaldi (Italy)	Baroque	
Ludwig Van Beethoven (Germany)	Classical	
Amadeus Wolfgang Mozart (Austria)	Classical	
Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (Russia)	Romantic	
Clara Schumann (Germany)	Romantic	
Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (U.K.)	20 th Century	
Florence Price (U.S.A.)	20 th Century	
Ethel Smyth (U.K.)	20 th Century	
Gustav Holst (U.K.)	20 th Century	
Grażyna Bacewicz (Poland)	20 th Century	
Hans Zimmer (Germany)	21st Century	
A.R. Rahman (India)	21st Century	
Anna Clyne (U.K.)	21st Century	
Jacqueline du Pré (U.K.)	21st Century	
Anna Meredith (U.K.)	21st Century	
Delia Derbyshire (.U.K.)	21st Century	

Musical Traditions

Musician (Country of Origin)	Tradition	Year Group
Gurinder Kaur Kainth (India)	Bhangra	·
The Chieftains (Ireland)	Celtic	
Lord Kitchener (Trinidad)	Calypso	
Ladysmith Black Mambazo (South Africa)	Choral	
Babatunde Olatunji (Nigeria)	Drumming	
Amalia Rodrigues (Portugal)	Fado	
Gong Kebyar (Indonesia)	Gamelan	
Guan Pinghu (China)	Guqin	
Kishori Amonkar (India)	Indian Classical	
Te Waka Huia (New Zealand)	Māori Kapa Haka	
Reem Kelani (U.K.)	Palestinian Folk	
Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan (Pakistan)	Qawwali	
Cartola (Brazil)	Samba	
Fisherman's Friends (U.K.)	Sea Shanties	
Buena Vista Social Club (Cuba)	Son Cubano	
Astor Piazzolla (Argentina)	Tango	
Alan Dawa Dolma (China)	Tibetan Folk	
Kodo (Japan)	Taiko Drumming	

Popular Music

Musician (Country of Origin)	Style	Year Group
Destiny's Child (U.S.A.)	90s RnB	
Damon Albarn (U.K.)	90s Indie	
Elton John (U.K.)	80s Pop/Rock	
Freddie Mercury (U.K.)	80s Pop/Rock	
Annie Lennox (U.K.)	80s Pop/Rock	
David Bowie (U.K.)	60s Pop/Rock	
The Beatles (U.K.)	60s Pop	
Édith Piaf (France)	50s Pop	
Bjork (Iceland)	Art Pop	
Kate Bush (U.K.)	Art Pop	
Bessie Smith (U.S.A.)	Blues	
Sister Rosetta Tharpe (U.S.A.)	Blues/Rock n Roll	
ABBA (Sweden)	Disco	
Kraftwerk (Germany)	Electronic	
Tracy Chapman (U.S.A.)	Folk	
Joni Mitchell (U.S.A.)	Folk	
Stevie Wonder (U.S.A.)	Funk	
Aretha Franklin (U.S.A.)	Gospel	
Nina Simone (U.S.A.)	Jazz	
Ella Fitzgerald (U.S.A.)	Jazz	
Shirley Bassey (U.K.)	Рор	
Angélique Kidjo (Benin)	Рор	
Idina Menzel (U.S.A.)	Pop/Musicals	
Kylie Minogue (Australia)	Рор	
Sigur Ros (Iceland)	Post Rock	
Bob Marley (Jamaica)	Reggae	
Elvis Presley (U.S.A.)	Rock n Roll	
Jimi Hendrix (U.S.A.)	Rock n Roll	
The Supremes (U.S.A.)	Soul	

Musician of the Month - Cycle A, B, C, D, E and F

Each cycle represents a year's worth of musicians, except August due to extended school holidays. Schools can start at any cycle point but are recommended to start at Cycle A.

Month	Cycle A	Cycle B	Cycle C	Cycle D
September	David Bowie	Bob Marley	Kate Bush	ABBA
October	Nina Simone	Tracy Chapman	Stevie Wonder	Jimi Hendrix
November	Ethel Smyth	<mark>Bjork</mark>	Hildegard of Bingen	George Frideric Handel
December	Elton John	Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky	Ladysmith Black Mambazo	Astor Piazzolla
January	Florence Price	Ludwig Van Beethoven	Hans Zimmer	Gustav Holst
February	Reem Kelani	Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan	The Supremes	Destiny's Child
March	Amadeus Wolfgang Mozart	Freddie Mercury	Annie Lennox	Cartola
April	Joni Mitchell	Kraftwerk	Bessie Smith	The Beatles
May	Fisherman's Friends	Gamelan gong kebyar	Kishori Amonkar	Babatunde Olatunji
June	Aretha Franklin	Clara Schumann	Buena Vista Social Club	Grażyna Bacewicz
July	Gurinder Kaur Kainth	Alan Dawa Dolma	<mark>Barbara Strozzi</mark>	Angélique Kidjo

Month	Cycle E	Cycle F
September	Lord Kitchener	Anna Clyne
October	Sister Rosetta Tharpe	Ella Fitzgerald
November	Jacqueline du Pré	Te Waka Huia
December	<mark>Anna Meredith</mark>	Sigur Ros
January	Damon Albarn	Elvis Presley
February	<mark>Antonio Vivaldi</mark>	Delia Derbyshire
March	The Chieftains	ldina Menzel
April	Samuel Coleridge-Taylor	A.R. Rahman
May	Édith Piaf	Amalia Rodrigues
June	Kodo	Shirley Bassey
July	Kylie Minogue	Guan Pinghu

Male musicians = 31

Female musicians = 31

Mixed groups = 4

Male composers = 9

Female composers = 9

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Protected Characteristics from the Equality Act 2010

Age	Disability	Race	Religion or Belief	Sex	Sexual
					Orientation
Performed at	Beethoven (Deafness)	Bob Marley	Bob Marley (Rastafarianism)	Nina Simone	Nina Simone
older age	Stevie Wonder (Blindness)	Nina Simone	Reem Kelani (Islam)	Ethel Smyth	Ethel Smyth
	Jonsi (Sigur Ros)	Florence Price	Nusrat Khan (Islam)	Florence Price	Elton John
Elton John	(Sight Loss)	Reem Kelani	Freddie Mercury (Zoroastrian)	Reem Kelani	Tracy Chapman
Kraftwerk	Joni Mitchell (left hand	Aretha Franklin	Gamelan gong kebyar	Joni Mitchell	Freddie Mercury
Kishori Amonkar	due to polio)	Lord Kitchener	(Hinduism)	Aretha Franklin	Bessie Smith
Buena Vista	Mozart (suspected autism)	Tracy Chapman	Hildegard of Bingen	Bjork	Tchaikovsky
Social Club	The Beatles (John Lennon -	Nusrat Khan	(Christianity)	Clara Schumann	
Cartola	suspected dyslexia)	Freddie Mercury	A.R. Rahman (Islam)	Kate Bush	
Ella Fitzgerald	Jacqueline du Pré	Gamelan gong kebyar	Kishori Amonkar (Hinduism)	The Supremes	
Amalia Rodrigues	(multiple sclerosis)	The Supremes	David Bowie (Buddhism)	Hildegard of Bingen	
The Chieftains		Ladysmith Black Mambazo	Gurinder Kaur Kainth (Sikhism)	Bessie Smith	
Angélique Kidjo		Stevie Wonder	Alan Dawa Dolma (Buddhism)	Kishori Amonkar	
		A.R. Rahman	Kodo (Buddhism)	Destiny's Child	
Performed at		Bessie Smith	ldina Menzel (Judaism)	Anna Clyne	
younger age	Pregnancy/Maternity	Kishori Amonkar	Jacqueline du Pré (Judaism)	Alan Dawa Dolma	
		Buena Vista Social Club	Sister Rosetta Tharpe	Barbara Strozzi	
Mozart	Destiny's Child (Beyonce	Jimi Hendrix	(Christianity)	Grażyna Bacewicz	
Beethoven	has performed pregnant	Cartola	Aretha Franklin (Christianity)	Sister Rosetta Tharpe	
Gustav Holst	several times)	Babatunde Olatunje	Elton John (Atheism)	Jacqueline du Pré	
		Destiny's Child	Amadeus Wolfgang Mozart	Anna Meredith	
		Sister Rosetta Tharpe	(Christianity)	Kylie Minogue	
		Kodo	Stevie Wonder (Christianity)	Edith Piaf	
		Samuel Coleridge-Taylor	Ladysmith Black Mambazo	Annie Lennox	
	Marriage / Civil	Ella Fitzgerald	(Christianity)	Ella Fitzgerald	
	Partnerships	Te Waka Huia	Hans Zimmer (Judaism)	Delia Derbyshire	
	Elton John	Guan Pinghu	George Frideric Handel	ldina Menzel	
	2	Gurinder Kaur Kainth	(Christianity)	Amalia Rodrigues	
		Alan Dawa Dolma	Destiny's Child (Christianity)	Shirley Bassey	
		Shirley Bassey	Babatunde Olatunji	Angélique Kidjo	
		Angélique Kidjo	(Christianity)		
				+31 male musicians	