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George Gershwin WORLD WIDE WEB

www.gershwin.com

Official web site with history, anthology, and jukebox (click and hear selections)

www.gershwinfan.com

George and Ira educational fanpage with biographies, discography, and multimedia with images and sound clips

www.hypermusic.ca

Brief history of jazz (and other forms of music)

www.classical.net

Biography and resources for many composers

www.wikipedia.com

Free online encyclopedia with information about composers and styles of music with links to other information

www.ffaire.com

Webzine that celebrates music with terrific timeline/info on Gershwin

www.teach-nology.com

Great site with lesson plans in music and the arts

www.pianola.co.nz

This and many other pianola sites give history and midi

www.pbs.org

Information on all the arts but also specific information on Gershwin, Broadway, jazz. Also a "Virtual Vaudeville"

www.pbskids.org

Great "jazz" section for younger students with timeline, jazz greats, and bandleader with interactive music listening

www.loc.gov

The Library of Congress has the largest collection of Gershwin brothers work and much information online

www.americaslibrary.gov

Student version of information from the Library of Congress

www.npr.org

National Public Radio site with searches to programs and features about Gershwin

Music Glossary

Beat

A unit of measure in rhythmic time.

Rhythm

The combinations of long and short, even or uneven sounds that convey a sense of movement in time.

Form

The organization and structure of a composition and interrelationships of musical events within the overall structure.

Melody

An organized sequence of single notes.

Harmony

The simultaneous sounding of two or more tones.

Tone Color

Quality of sound (timbre).

Syncopation

The placement of rhythmic accents on weak beats or weak portions of beats.

GERSHWIN LEARNING MODULES

RHYTHM

Steady Beat	<i>It Ain't Necessarily So/I Got Plenty of Nuthin'</i>
Pattern	<i>American in Paris</i>
Meter	<i>Strike Up the Band</i>
Syncopation	<i>I Got Rhythm</i>
Even and Uneven (Ragged Rhythm-Smooth Rhythm)	

FORM

AB
AABA
Call & Response
Improvisation
12 Bar Blues

I Got Rhythm
Let's Call the Whole Thing Off
Strike UP the Band
Any Blues Selections

STYLE

Jazz/ Blues/Ragtime
Life & Times in America
Syncopation & Improvisation
Bridge Composer

Summertime
Rhapsody in Blue
Swanee
American in Paris
Orchestra/Broadway/Movies/Opera/Pop/Radio/Piano Rolls

MELODY

Horizontal Lines
Let's Call the Whole Thing Off
Blue notes
Motion and Emotion

Summertime
Rhapsody in Blue
I Got Rhythm

Movement Mapping

TONE COLOR

Instrument Families
Musical Colors
Solo and Ensemble
Piano

Concerto in F
Rhapsody in Blue
American in Paris
Swanee
Cuban Overture

George Gershwin

CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF COMPOSITIONS

- 1913 Since I Found You
- 1916 When You Want 'Em, You Can't Get 'Em, When You Got 'Em, You Don't Want 'Em
- 1918 The Real American Folk Song (Is a Rag)
- 1919 La, La, Lucille
- Lullaby
- Swanee
- 1920-1924 George White Scandals
- 1922 Blue Monday (one-act opera)
- 1924 Rhapsody in Blue
- Lady, Be Good!
 - Fascinating Rhythm
 - Oh, Lady Be Good!
- 1925 Concerto in F
- 1926 Oh, Kay
 - Clap Yo' Hands
 - Someone to Watch Over Me
- Preludes for Piano
- 1927 Strike Up the Band
 - The Man I Love
 - Strike Up the Band
- Funny Face
 - 'S Wonderful
- 1928 American in Paris
- 1930 Girl Crazy
 - Embraceable You
 - I Got Rhythm
 - But Not For Me
- Strike Up the Band (Revision)
- 1931 Delicious
- Of Thee I Sing
- 1932 George Gershwin's Song Book
- Second Rhapsody
- Cuban Overture
- 1933 Pardon My English
- Let 'Em Eat Cake
- 1934 Variations on "I Got Rhythm"
- 1935 Porgy and Bess
 - Summertime
 - A Woman Is a Sometime Thing
 - I Got Plenty o' Nuthin'
 - Bess, You Is My Woman Now
 - It Ain't Necessarily So
- 1936 Suite From Porgy and Bess
- Ziegfeld Follies of 1936
- 1937 Shall We Dance
 - Slap That Bass
 - Walking the Dog
 - Let's Call the Whole Thing Off
 - They Can't Take That Away From Me
- A Damsel in Distress

A Foggy Day in London Town
Nice Work If You Can Get It

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The Goldwyn Follies
Love Walked In
Love Is Here to Stay

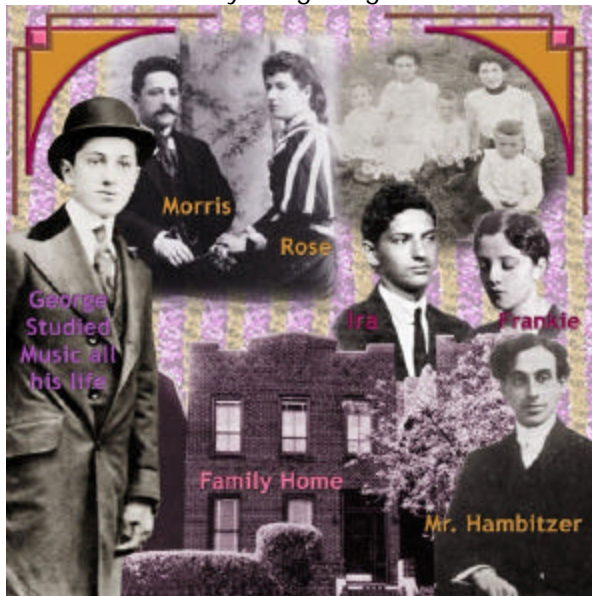
Prelude Assembly Center Panel



Prelude Assembly Stage Left Panel



Prelude Assembly Stage Right Panel



George Gershwin Finds His Dream

By Carole Cooney, Class Act's Lady Storytell

This "playlet" is based on the true story of George Gershwin's life and music as told by Lady Storytell and Tony Cool Cat in our Class Act Prelude Assemblies

Cast of Characters:

Narrator

George Gershwin, age 11

Max Rosen, age 11

Joey, a classmate

Mrs. Malady, their teacher

A group of their classmates

Narrator: It was a typical end of the school day except for one thing. Today, the students were going to a violin concert given by their classmate, Max Rosen. And typical of George Gershwin, he didn't know what was going to happen to him. George's class is waiting to be dismissed to the auditorium.

George: (Looking out the classroom window) Oh! Golly, it's raining "cats and dogs!" But when ya gotta go, ya gotta go!

Mrs. Malady: All right class. It's time for the assembly. Line up in ORDER, please.

(Students stand and get in line. George moves to the *back* of the line.)

George: O.K., guys. Let me in at the *end* of the line.

Several students: George, you know you're supposed to be in the front of the line.

George: Come on... just this once.

(The whole class giggles then quiets as Mrs. Malady turns and glares.)

Narrator: As the class passes the front school door, George sneaks out into the rain. Once inside the auditorium, the class sits.

Mrs. Malady: Children, today we have a surprise. Your classmate, the young musical genius, Max Rosen, will play Anton Dvorak's "Humoresque" on his violin.

(Max enters with his violin, bows and begins to play.)

Narrator: Meanwhile, George waits for the rain to stop - but it doesn't. So, he begins to sneak home. After a short distance, he stops abruptly and listens as if hypnotized. Loud applause is heard coming from the auditorium. Bell rings and students exit school.

George: Hey, Joey!

Joey: Hey, Cheesecake. You are going to get in trouble when your Ma sees you ringing wet! (Cheesecake was George's nickname as his father was a baker)

George: Forget about that! Joey, who was making that music?

Joey: You know. It was Max Rosen - you know - the geee-nius.

George: Do you know where he lives?

Joey: Yeah! Down on 23rd St. Why?

George: Oh, I just gotta meet him.

Joey: Why?

George: I'll tell you later. Gotta go!

Narrator: George walks and walks many blocks to Max's house. Finally, he knocks on the Rosen's front door. Mrs. Rosen answers.

Mrs. Rosen: Oh! (Surprised to see rain-soaked George) May I help you?

George: Are you Mrs. Rosen? I've just gotta see Max!

Mrs. Rosen: I'm sorry, but Max isn't home right now. Why don't you come by tomorrow after school? I'll tell him you came by - and your name is?

George: George - George Gershwin!

Narrator: The next day George and Max walk home after school.

George: Max, I sure liked that music you were playing yesterday.

Max: Thanks, George, but it was nothing. Pretty easy, I'd say.

George: Could you maybe show me your stuff? - I mean, about music... I mean... how could I get started?

Max: Sure, George. I could show you a thing or two - but George, you're just a beginner. I've been at this for a long time - eight years to be exact. I'm a genius and I guess that makes you a nobody. Are you sure you want to work hard and practice?

George: Yes! Max. More than anything else in the world.

Max: Well, O.K., but remember I know I'm going to make it big in the world of music. Who knows what you will become.

Narrator: Max Rosen did something wonderful for George Gershwin. The sounds of Max's violin brought George his dream - which was MUSIC. Max Rosen *did* become a world famous violinist - but little did he realize that George Gershwin would become a world famous American composer and pianist.