

Class 1 Guide

Orchestra 101 You Could Google it, or...

Description

We'll start by tackling a pressing question: just what does a conductor do, anyway? After we've shone some light on that issue (with the aid of many conductors and orchestras) we'll take a bird's eye look at the orchestra from its early days to the present, culminating in a trip through the orchestra's sections and instruments.

Outline

- Role of the Conductor
 - » Tempo
 - » Playing Style
 - » Staffing the Orchestra
 - » Instrumental Balances and Timbre
 - » Overall Ethos
- The Orchestra Down the Years
 - » The Earliest Orchestras
 - » The Baroque Orchestra
 - » The Early Classical Orchestra
 - » The Classical Orchestra in Maturity
 - » The Early Romantics
 - » The Late Romantics
 - » The Early 20th Century Efflorescence
 - » Today's Orchestra
- The Modern Orchestra Instruments
 - » Variations on a Theme
 - » Demonstration

Repertoire

Click on the links to enjoy Donato's favorite YouTube recordings.

If you find a broken link, please just Google the piece instead.

Role of the Conductor (all short excerpts)

[Ludwig van Beethoven: Symphony No. 9, II](#)

[Johann Sebastian Bach: B Minor Mass, Kyrie](#)

[Maurice Ravel: Mother Goose Suite, Laideronette Empress of the Pagodas](#)

History of the Orchestra (all short excerpts)

[Antonio Stradella: Sinfonia No. 2](#)

[J. S. Bach: Orchestral Suite No. 3 in D Major, Gavotte](#)

[Johann Stamitz: Symphony in D Major, Op. 2 No. 1, I](#)

[Joseph Haydn: Symphony No. 101 in D Major "Clock", IV](#)

[Ludwig van Beethoven: Symphony No. 9, II](#)

[Felix Mendelssohn: Symphony No. 3 in A Minor "Scottish", IV](#)

[Richard Wagner: Prelude to Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg](#)

[Maurice Ravel: Daphnis et Chloë, Lever du Jour](#)

[Mason Bates: Alternative Energy, II](#)

The Modern Orchestra

[Benjamin Britten: Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra, excerpts and fugue](#)