



Sid City Social Club
Classical Playlist
Liner Notes



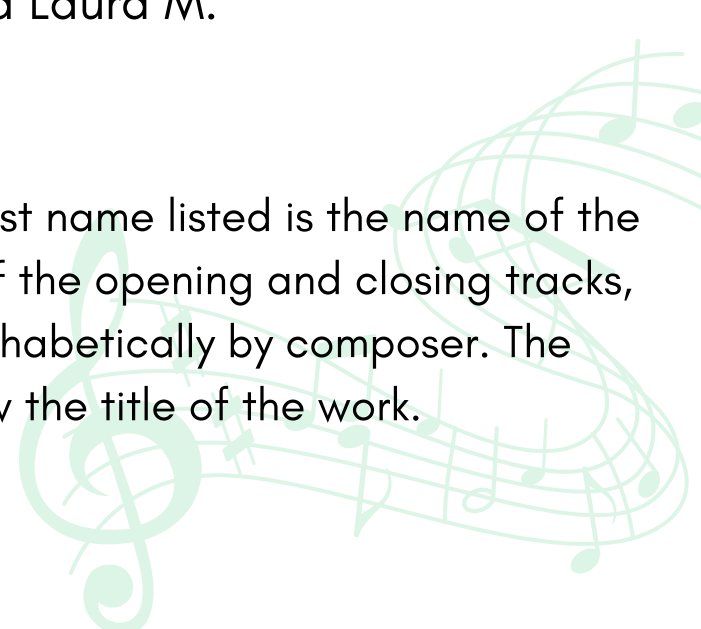
A WORD ABOUT THE PLAYLIST...

A recurring and unifying theme in the Sid City Social Club is a talent for and appreciation of music of all genres and styles. In the eight months or so that the Club has met, we have enjoyed live performances, engaged in wide-ranging discussions about musical expression and meaning, and reflected on the power of music to heal, console, and offer hope.

With this playlist, we share our COVID-19 selections with one another as a gift in this time of isolation. Many of these works are perennial favorites, but the lens for these choices was life during COVID-19. What's getting us through these days? Inspiring us? Warming our hearts? The list both embodies the hope and encouragement we need at present and, when this is all behind us, will offer a musical time capsule of 2020.

Regards,
Nicky, Renee, and Laura M.

Note on the organization of titles: The first name listed is the name of the SCSC contributor. With the exception of the opening and closing tracks, the Classical Playlist is organized alphabetically by composer. The contributor's comments follow the title of the work.





Nicky, Renee, and Laura M.

PERFORMED AND ARRANGED BY ALEX, HARRIS AND
IRENA AND PRODUCED BY RANDY
CAIRO TIME MIX: JULIETTE IS HAPPY (BASED ON THE
ORIGINAL SCORE BY NIALL BYRNE)

When Cairo Time writer and director Ruba Nadda visited the Social Club in July 2020, the club greeted her with this beautiful mix, created by club members Alex, Harris, Irena and Randy, of the soundtrack from Cairo Time



Tania

ARNO BABADSCHANJAN
ELEGY

My father liked to play it. He passed away in May. This performance is by the composer himself.



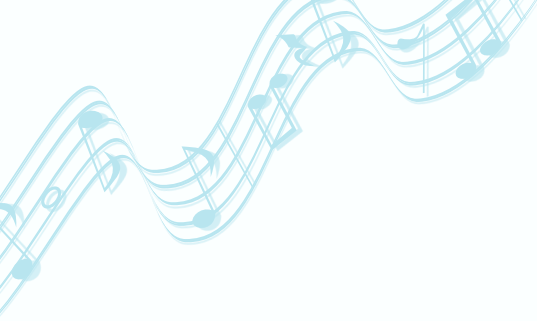


Porscha

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH
BRANDENBURG CONCERTO NO. 2
IN F MAJOR, ALLEGRO, BWV 1047

Several reasons but the biggest being, with all the chaos in the world, there's something really moving and comforting about knowing that somewhere in the universe this is out there forever. A part of humanity preserved and flying through space. Even if it feels like the world's ending down here some days.





Cidy

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH
CELLO SUITE NO. 1 IN G MAJOR, PRÉLUDE

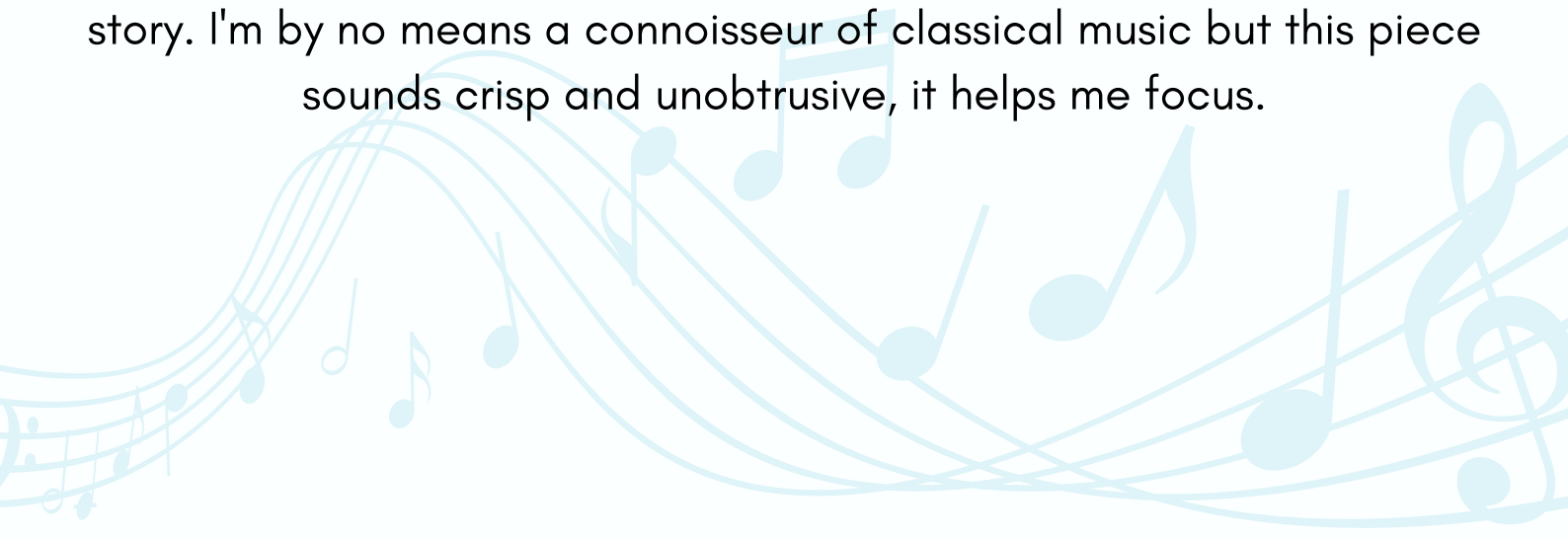
This piece is very soothing and reassuring, and Yo-Yo Ma's performance is brilliant. I like listening to it in the morning, while I'm working.



Deep

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH
PARTITA NO. 2 IN D MINOR
BWV 1004: V. CIACCONA (CHACONNE)

I love the violin in this piece. It somehow feels like it's telling a real story. I'm by no means a connoisseur of classical music but this piece sounds crisp and unobtrusive, it helps me focus.



Kas

FREDERIC CHOPIN
NOCTURNE IN C# MINOR

I heard this song nearly ten years ago when I saw the Karate Kid movie. I think I almost cried.



Alex

FREDERIC CHOPIN
NOCTURNE IN E FLAT MAJOR OP.9 NO.2

This piece was my lockdown personal project and I had high hopes I would be able to play it by the end of the crisis... Well I still can't play it as well as I would like to AND the crisis is still ongoing...

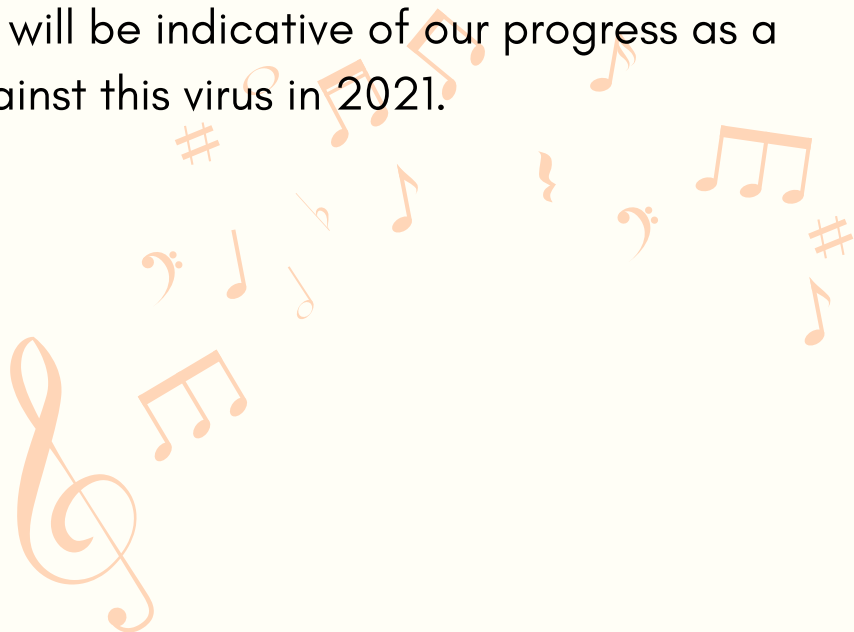




Matt

NAPOLEON COSTE
REVERIE, OP. 53 NO. 1
PERFORMED BY THE CONTRIBUTOR

I chose this piece because it reflects 2020 in several ways. It's introspective nature is appropriate for the tough year we have had in which many of us have had to look inside ourselves regarding a number of issues, and the irregular phrase lengths that create a halting feeling mirror the distorted perception of time many of us have experienced this year. I also personally enjoy the way the piece is put together, essentially consisting of a series of gestures that are strung together without giving the audience much to latch onto in terms of repeated melodic material, followed by a section beginning at 4:19 where the audience is finally rewarded for their patience with a rhapsodic series of arpeggios running up and down the length of the neck as we move towards the end of the piece. Perhaps those arpeggios will be indicative of our progress as a society, and against this virus in 2021.





Kerstin

BLAIR DALY, TROY VERGES, STEVE (GB) MAC,
PERFORMED BY IL DIVO
THE MAN YOU LOVE


That song is the most romantic song I know and it inspired me to write a love story. It would be a dream come true to find a guy who actually told me the words.



Nancy

PAUL DUKAS
THE SORCERER'S APPRENTICE

Because of Mickey Mouse! I hope you enjoy this piece. I love Disney and this piece is a classic scene from "Fantasia".





Elmie

EMANCIPATOR NEVERGREEN

This song is linked to so many good memories! For ten years this song has linked itself to happy, creative moments in my life: the first art project I did of my own volition; a moment in a rented beach-house where I realised the melody sounded like Savage Garden's "To the Moon and Back" and spent an afternoon painting the sun-glossed ocean with my mother; and now this special time, while I've been sharing music to connect to other Socialites, and listening to tunes while making art for my stories or organising projects for the SCSC. It's not just my go-to for Covid, it's my go-to for life. <3



Charlotte

ENYA
MAY IT BE

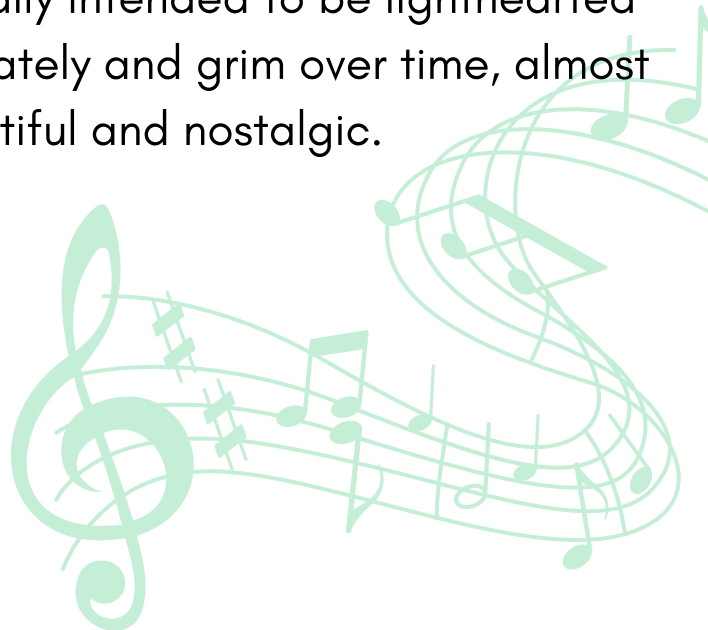
It's so tranquil and calming, with Voces8 sounding so divinely pure as usual. Voces8 are absolute masters at blending their voices, and it's their performances that really relaxed me and calmed my mind, especially at the onset of the pandemic. This piece is kind of reflective but also hopeful, which is how I needed to feel.



Bella

GABRIEL FAURÉ
PAVANE IN F-SHARP MINOR, OP. 50

This is a piece of music that was originally intended to be lighthearted and silly that gradually became more stately and grim over time, almost haunting. But it's also beautiful and nostalgic.

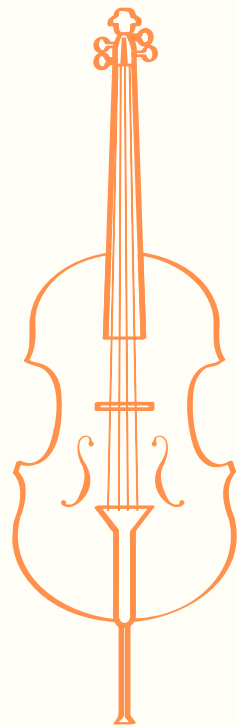




Victoria

JULIUS FUČÍK
ENTRY OF THE GLADIATORS

It sums up all the silly mistakes I've made getting used to our new ways of working.





Andrea

FRANCESCO GEMINIANI
CONCERTO XII IN D MINOR "FOLLIA": VARIATIONS 15-24

This is my absolute favourite piece of baroque music. This piece by Geminiani as performed by Andrew Manze and the Academy of Ancient Music starts slowly and quietly, to gradually lead to a beautiful, passionate climax. The way Andrew Manze combines superb skill, passion, but also subtlety and restraint inspired me to start playing baroque violin. Baroque music helps me to go back to the core and think about what's really important to me in life, despite everything that's going on in the world.





Laura M.

OLA GJEILLO
SERENITY: O MAGNUM MYSTERIUM

The serenity of the opening chords, the caress of the cello part, and the soaring vocal lines create a place of peace within my soul and remind me that the unknown -- the magnum mysterium -- that great mystery -- can be beautiful even if it's scary.



Alan

PHILIP GLASS
TIQUIÊ RIVER/JAPURÁ RIVER

I love instrumental groups and I love learning about music from around the world. They just went hand-in-hand. Years ago my dance group performed a piece by this group, by Uakti. When trying to find that one specific song, I came across everything else this group had done and was instantly entranced. This was the first song I listened to out of the lineup and it was the most memorable out of all of the ones I've heard so far. Perhaps this crosses the boundary of 'classical' a bit as it's more experimental, but that's one of the reasons I love this group, and especially the composer Philip Glass, so much. Glass composed one of my favorite operas of all time, so when I found out that this piece was written by him, it made me like it even more because, knowing his other works, I could connect to it more.





Homer

MURRAY GOLD (WITH THE BBC NATIONAL
ORCHESTRA OF WALES)
I AM THE DOCTOR

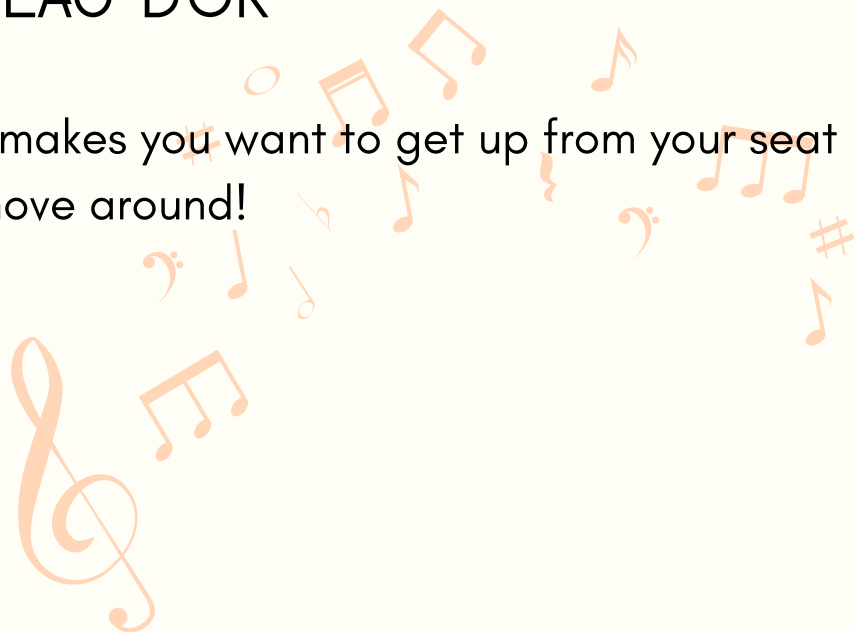
It's a pick me up. This song is used when the Doctor turns things around and is inspirational to me. I also have used it as an alarm in the morning - it'll get you going.



Grecia

CHARLES GOUNOD
LE VEAU D'OR

It's really good. I love it because it makes you want to get up from your seat and move around!



Marlowe

KEATON HENSON INITIUM FROM SIX LETHARGIES



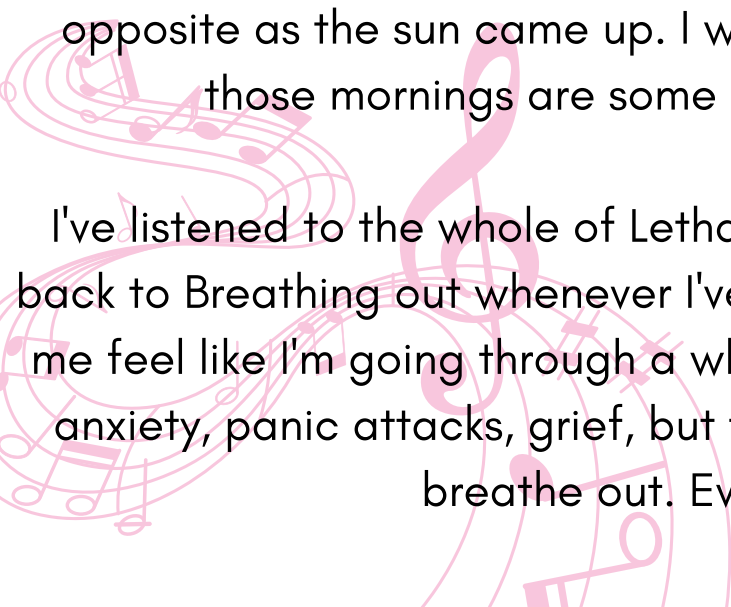
Keaton Henson just patted my soul gently and said I'd be okay.

Keaton Henson has spoken to me in all his music for years, about quietness, mental illness, about listening intently. Six Lethargies feels like a culmination of so much of his thinking - you have to hear all of it to get that full journey. I chose this version (although there is a great live performance at the Sidney Opera House that was just released as well), because of the videos for the first and last movement, and so there's no interruption, such as the clapping from the concert-version, in between them.

I would simply put them on a screen in a dark room and let them wash over me. The first Lethargy, Initium, feels like the beginning of drowning, something further explored moving on.

The last lethargy, Breathing out, is of the sun coming up over a forest. It reminds me of when I was 22 in the summer where my parents sold their house and for a month or so I was living there alone with my dog, while all the furniture was removed bit by bit (my dog, Neo, passed away a couple of weeks ago). I'd stay up until 6-7am and take him for walks by the lake opposite as the sun came up. I was very depressed during this time, but those mornings are some of my favourite of my life so far.

I've listened to the whole of Lethargies many times and specifically gone back to Breathing out whenever I've felt overwhelmed. Six Lethargies makes me feel like I'm going through a whole process - I engage with depression, anxiety, panic attacks, grief, but then at the end it holds me and lets me breathe out. Everything will be okay.





Vicki

SCOTT JOPLIN
PLEASANT MOMENTS

I like the Canadian Brass rendition because I imagine waltzing near a turn-of-the-century bandstand to it. (I used to imagine waltzing with Richard Attenborough to it.)



Layne

WOJCIECH KILAR
THE STORM

The whole soundtrack is great. My fav.



Irena

DARREN KORB
HADES - ON THE COAST

It sounds hopeful, and we all need that right now! I chose this piece because, like in the game it hails from, you only hear it once you've completed the game for the first time - to me it signals hope renewed after much toil and suffering. I find it both slightly melancholy and beautifully relaxing. It's a much needed touch of gentleness.



Tangerine

MASHROU' LEILA
MARRIKH (MARS) - مريخ

It makes me want to cry, like I'm actually ascending and then descending from Mars.





Giuditta

CLAUDIO MONTEVERDI
DISPREZZATA REGINA
FROM L'INCORONAZIONE DI POPPEA

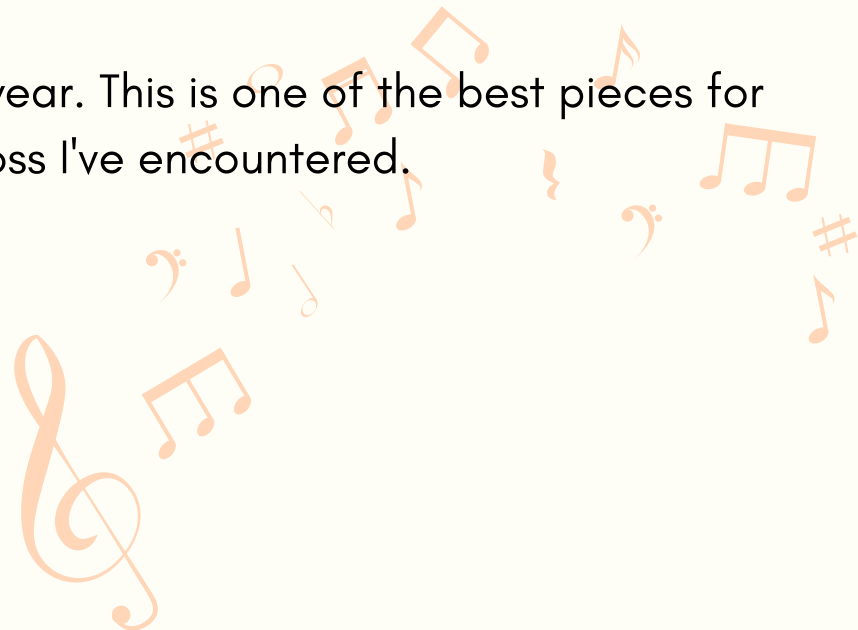
The "forced to stay with the same people over and over again" situation reminded me of when I was stuck at home with my flatmates who were studying baroque music at that time. This one is the only piece that I remember fondly of that time.

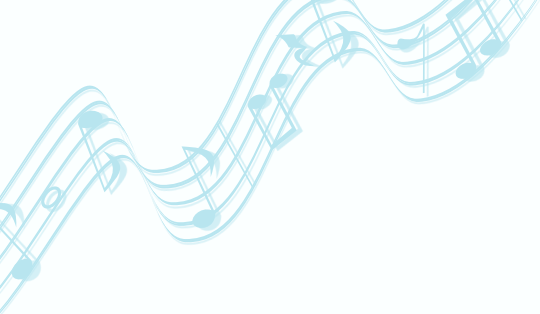


CJ

THOMAS NEWMAN
THAT NEXT PLACE

We've lost a lot of people this year. This is one of the best pieces for coping with loss I've encountered.





Kat

CARL ORFF O FORTUNA FROM CARMINA BURANA

Carl Orff composed Carmina Burana in 1935–1936 for a full orchestra, soloists, and children's choir. O Fortuna has resonated with audiences over time and seems particularly suited to the strange times that we're living in. I'm tickled that Orff composed such a dramatic piece for the children at his music school to perform. Years ago, I was at an outdoor performance of the Carmina Burana in Munich, and it began to pour. The organizers decided to halt the performance and move it indoors. This was no small feat, as performing this piece requires an orchestra, soloists, and a children's choir. I didn't have tickets, but I followed the crowd inside anyway. In a reception room, I tried out my "high school" German and made conversation with a brother and sister, who, as it turned out, spoke very good English. The sister gave me her ticket before she left. Since then, I've been grateful for her kindness. I also saw the piece performed by the Boston Symphony Orchestra at Tanglewood in the Berkshires.



Jesse

NICCOLÒ PAGANINI
CAPRICE NO. 5

Another cross-genre tune, but a classical rendition. I originally heard this as part of the "Headcuttin' Duel" from the movie "Crossroads". Ralph Macchio whips this out on guitar to beat Steve Vai for his friend's soul. The tune was so enchanting that I sought out some violin originals of the same piece.



Pat

GIACOMO PUCCINI
NESSUN DORMA FROM TURANDOT

This is one of my favorite arias. I've always enjoyed The Three Tenors concerts.





Patrick

MAX RICHTER
VIVALDI'S THE FOUR SEASONS, SPRING I
(RECOMPOSED BY MAX RICHTER)

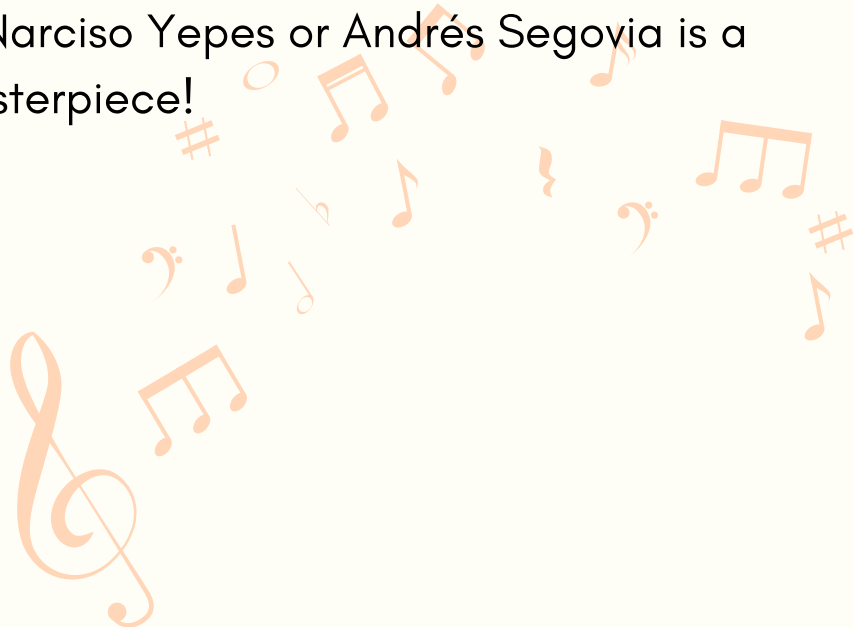
It's the perfect combination of hope, remorse, fortitude and sensitivity.



Cristina

JOAQUÍN RODRIGO
CONCIERTO DE ARANJUEZ (2)

Classical Spanish guitar has been very comforting for me this year. Any performance of this piece by Narciso Yepes or Andrés Segovia is a masterpiece!





Monster

GIOACHINO ROSSINI
THE THIEVING MAGPIE

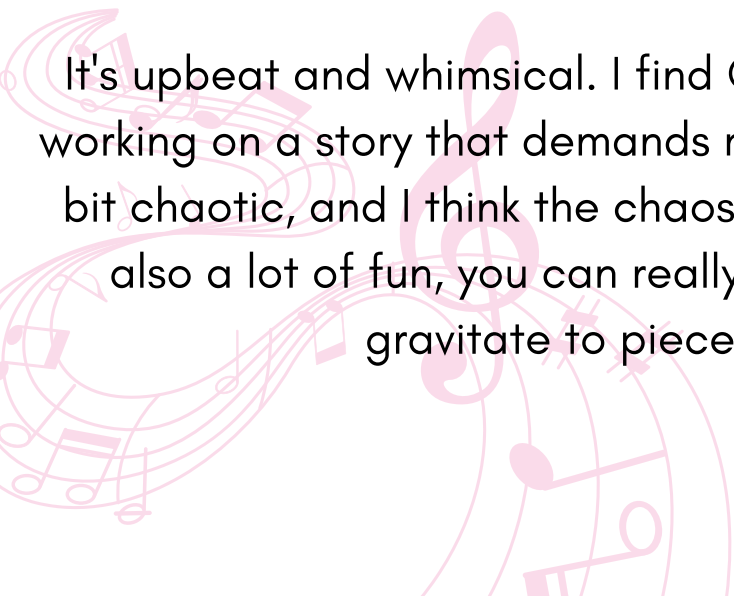
This is just one of my favourite pieces! Also I love A Clockwork Orange and it suits our current dystopian mess of a year!



Christie

CAMILLE SAINT-SAËNS
DANSE BACCHANALE

It's upbeat and whimsical. I find Camille Saint-Saëns helpful when I am working on a story that demands my full attention. Danse Bacchanale is a bit chaotic, and I think the chaos is helpful in focusing in sometimes. It's also a lot of fun, you can really get into it. And these days I tend to gravitate to pieces that keep up my spirit.





Valentina

CAMILLE SAINT-SAËNS
DANSE MACABRE

The song is fitting to exorcise fears in these times.



James

ERIK SATIE
GYMNOPÉDE NUMBER I

Love it when my boyfriend plays this for me. It's a beautiful performance, simple, restrained and just the piano as the focus.



Rob

DMITRI SHOSTAKOVICH SYMPHONY NO 2, 'TO OCTOBER', IN B MAJOR, OP. 14

The main reason why I selected this version is because Valery Abisalovich Gergiev is an amazing conductor who really understands the nuances of the piece. He also is a charismatic conductor whose passion for the piece is evident. This version really underscores the string section as well. History and music are two of my big passions, and with everything happening right now, I was reading about The Russian Revolution and the ensuing tumult it wrought. Shostakovich used this as the backbone of this piece so it brought everything full circle. It also kind of fits my quarantine moods in that it rises and falls and then it has these bombastic bits that are great. I also miss going to the symphony and hearing live music in general.





Michael

ALAN SILVESTRI
BRUSSELS PHILHARMONIC AND DIRK BROSSÉ
THE AVENGERS (FROM "THE AVENGERS")

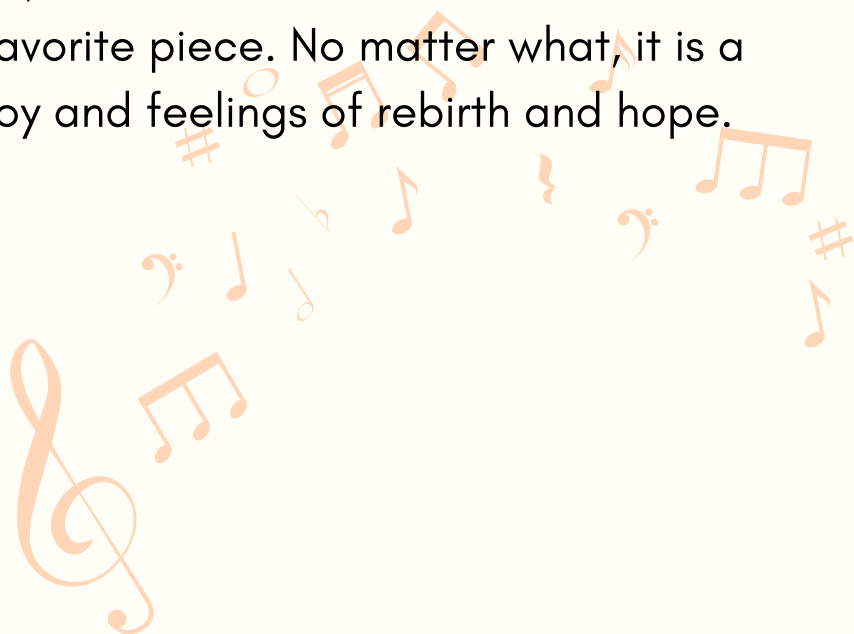
I really like to listen to this when I'm doing homework.



Prema

IGOR STRAVINSKY
FIREBIRD SUITE

I hope, if my soul makes a sound, it sounds like 5:55 to 6:29. This has always been my number one favorite piece. No matter what, it is a constant source of powerful joy and feelings of rebirth and hope.



Emma

THOMAS TALLIS
SPERM IN ALIUM



I like this piece because it sounds so familiar and alien at the same time. It sort of feels as though you can hear all these different voices from the 16th Century.



Jenaba

JOHN TAVENER
SONG FOR ATHENE

Several friends of mine have died this year, and this is a good lament and celebration in one.






Camille

PYTOR ILICH TCHAIKOVSKY
GRAND PAS DE DEUX FROM THE NUTCRACKER

Many people are familiar with this piece, but I still love it. Lately, I have been imagining putting together a "Far Beyond the Stars"-themed Nutcracker production with a local ballet company once quarantine is over. (This might never come to fruition, but a girl can dream.) It would be about Benny Russell and his coworkers escaping the segregated 1950s and entering the liberating world of Deep Space Nine. Benny Russell/Ben Sisko would be Clara, Cassie/Kasidy Yates would be the Nutcracker, Julius Eaton/Julian Bashir as the Snow Fairy, and Elim Garak as the Sugar Plum Fairy. I couldn't decide which couple should dance the Grand Pas de Deux, Clara and the Nutcracker or Sugar Plum and Snow Fairies, so I envision both couples dancing to this.



Jennyfer

VNV NATION
ILLUSION

Beautiful music, and great lyrics.



Nicky, Renee, and Laura M.

ANDREA BOCELLI
MUSIC FOR HOPE: LIVE FROM THE MILAN DUOMO

On April 12, 2020, with Italy in lockdown, Andrea Bocelli performed a live concert from the Milan Duomo on Easter Sunday that was live streamed to audiences around the world. Variety Magazine's Chris Willman wrote that it was "perhaps the signature cultural event of the pandemic" and that it "transcended religion, nationality, age demographic and even music preference." By April 13, the performance had nearly 32 million views.

