

Classical Music

It's not just about dead European men anymore!

We are all in changing times

- I am by no means an expert
- I am in the same boat as you! I continue research and learning.
- Here is the little I knew going in to this.

Given the times, an emphasis has been made in the presentation on Black musicians. However, we need better representation of all groups. Other diversity ideas are scattered throughout.



Music for early Violin study

Grades 0, 1, 2

“Music by Black Composers Vol. 1” - Ludwig, 2018

<https://www.musicbyblackcomposers.org/>

“Violin Music by Women” - Dr. Cooper

“The Blue and Green Book of Violin Tunes” edited By Bonnie Greene



Warm up chorales

So much lovely Bach! Then “Bach and Before for Strings” brought in a few more composers! But is there anything more recent that 225 years old?

Quincy Hilliard “Chorales for Beginning and Intermediate String or Full Orchestra”

Kjos, 2000 [http://kjos.vo.llnwd.net/o28/pdf/O1077F%20-%20Score%20\(24p\).pdf](http://kjos.vo.llnwd.net/o28/pdf/O1077F%20-%20Score%20(24p).pdf)



Music for the String Classroom

Grade 2, 3

Joseph Boulogne arr. Burns "[Symphony No. 2](#)" - String Orchestra, Medium

Florence Price arr. Perna "[The Old Boatman](#)" - String Orchestra, Medium

William Grant Still "[Danzas de Panama](#)" - String Orchestra or Quartet, Medium to Medium Advanced



trad. arr. Gruselle “Follow the Drinking Gourd” - String Orchestra - Medium

(White Female arranger of an African American spiritual)

William Owens “Carpathia” FJH, Grad 2.5 <http://www.fjhmusic.com/strings/st6247.htm>



Reynard Burns

This wonderful educator and composer and a huge range of original compositions and arrangements

He writes for string orchestra, mixed ensemble, in many
diverse styles

And he has FREE LESSON PLANS

<http://www.stringssheetmusic.com/>



Advanced String Orchestra works

Ulysses Kay - "[Six Dances for String Orchestra](#)"

[Rudy Perrault](#) - "[Exodus](#)" for quartet is his best known work



Adolfus Hailstork

An incredible living African American Composer.

“Sonata de Chiesa” - for String Orchestra. Advanced

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ANxqlgHgxpA>

“Essay for Strings” is a bit like “Adagio for Strings”. Not much to the bass part, but a beautiful work https://issuu.com/theodorepresser/docs/hailstork_essay_issuu_complete



Music for Full Orchestra in the Classroom

Joseph Boulogne “Symphony 1”/”Overture to L’Amant Anonyme”

- 0200 2000 Strings, Medium

Joseph Boulogne “Symphony 2”

- 0200 2000 Strings, Medium



Advanced Quartet

Florence Price - String Quartets - Advanced <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FHFyiNLWCjc>

Florence Price - 5 Folksongs in Counterpoint - Medium Advanced

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=clUMejdXoM4>



Kevin Volans “String Quartet No. 1” A South African born composer of Irish decent trained in Germany goes back to Africa to collect folk music and presents it in the form of a string quartet. Movements range from Medium Advanced to Expert.

Excerpts from the score:



FOURTH DANCE

♩=80

arco, con sord., senza vibrato

sempre pp, legato

arco, con sord., pochiss. vibrato

sempre pp, legato
(arco) con sord., senza vibrato

sempre pp, legato
(arco) con sord., pochiss. vibrato

sempre pp, legato

10

18

20

A 25

26

30

23

K

151

(pizz.)

mf

(sempre arco)

pizz.

(pizz.)

x 4

L

155

pizz.

(pizz.)

x 2

M

159

arco

pp

arco

pp

arco

pp

arco

pp

160

163

pizz.

mf

pizz.

mf

pizz.

mf

165

2nd time poco rall.

x 2

Collegiate/Professional - Full Orchestra

William Dawson “Negro Folk Symphony”

Duke Ellington “Les Trois Rois Nois”, “Black, Brown, Beige”

Florence Price “Symphony No. 1” (I think she and Dvorak were listening to the same thing....)

Nkeiru Okoye “Invitation to a Die-in”

William Grant Still “Afro American Symphony”



Books


Read for yourself!

But also, have some books in your classroom.

Even at the high school, I have “childrens books”. They are handy once in a while.

“The Black Mozart” by Walter E Smith is a wonderful look at the life of Joseph Bolougne: Chevalier de St Georges.

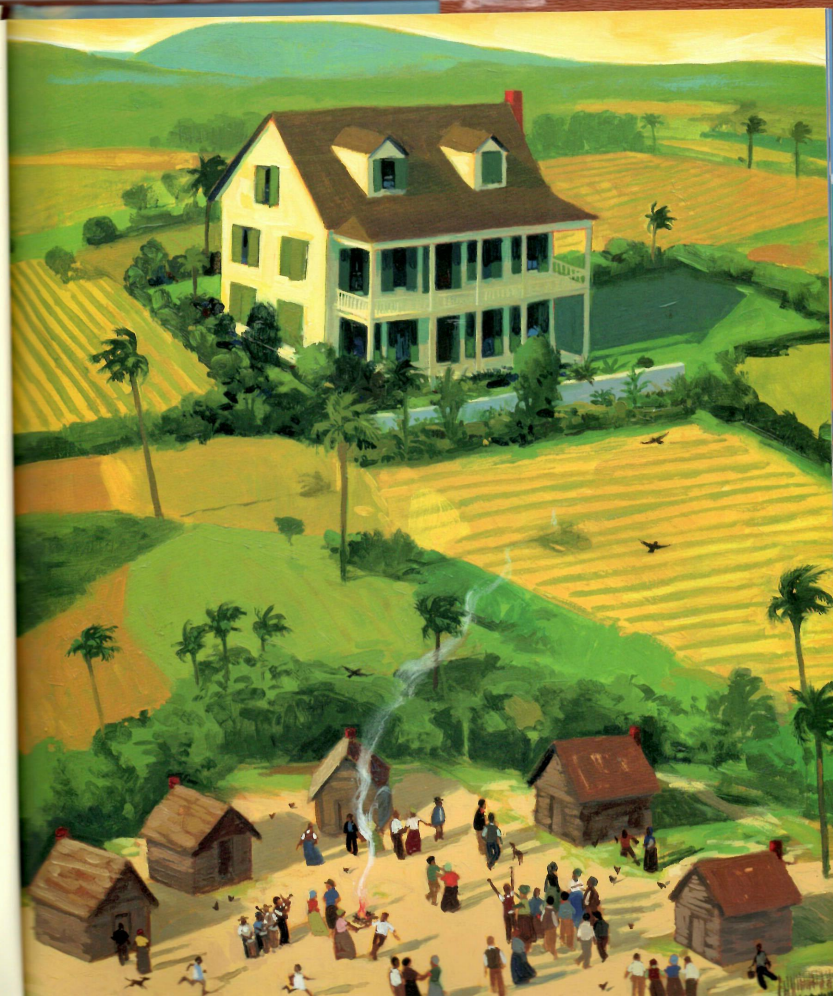
Here are some images from “Before there was Mozart” by Lesa Cline-Ransome and James Ransome:



❧ *First Movement* ❧

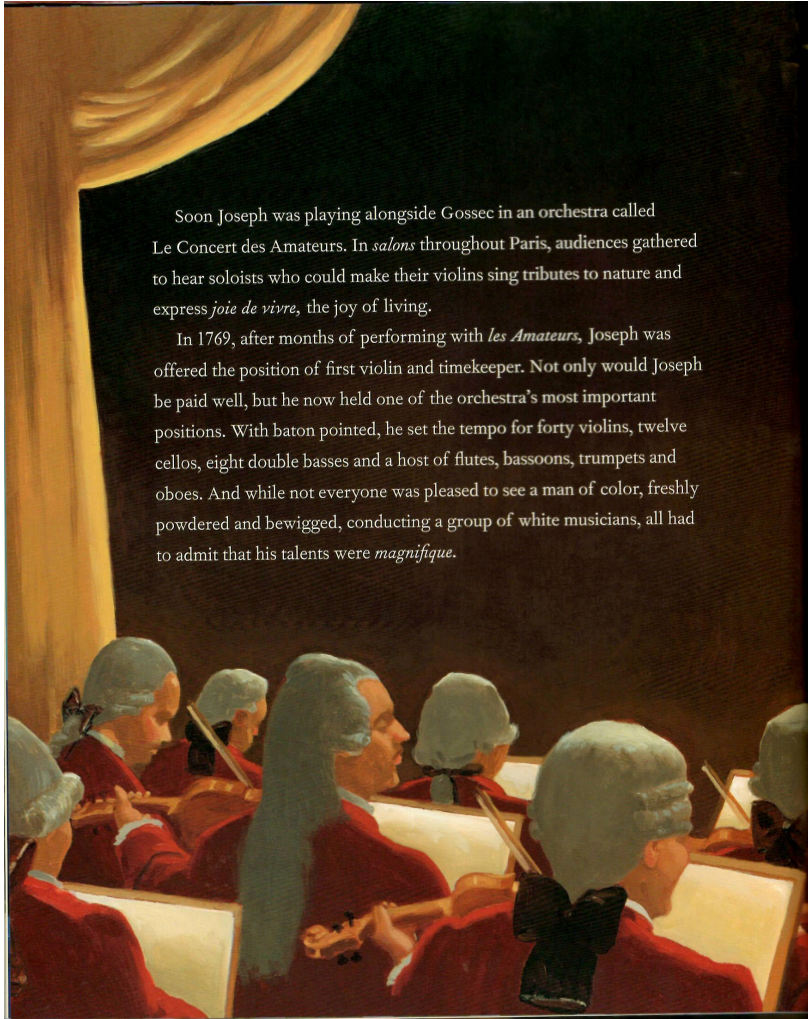
Tropical winds blew across the sugar plantation of Guillaume-Pierre Tavernier de Boullongne. It was Christmas morning 1739, on one of the tiny islands of Guadeloupe in the West Indies, and through her open window, Nanon could hear the beating of drums and the strains of song. She knew that the slaves in their quarters were enjoying their own celebrations, away from the watchful eye of their master.

But Guillaume-Pierre had little interest in the holiday preparations of his slaves. He was anxiously awaiting the birth of his first child.



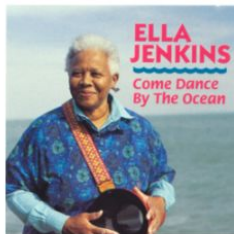
Soon Joseph was playing alongside Gossec in an orchestra called Le Concert des Amateurs. In *salons* throughout Paris, audiences gathered to hear soloists who could make their violins sing tributes to nature and express *joie de vivre*, the joy of living.

In 1769, after months of performing with *les Amateurs*, Joseph was offered the position of first violin and timekeeper. Not only would Joseph be paid well, but he now held one of the orchestra's most important positions. With baton pointed, he set the tempo for forty violins, twelve cellos, eight double basses and a host of flutes, bassoons, trumpets and oboes. And while not everyone was pleased to see a man of color, freshly powdered and bewigged, conducting a group of white musicians, all had to admit that his talents were *magnifique*.

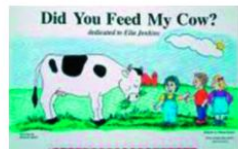


Ella Jenkins

<https://musicselementary.com/product-category/music-books/early-childhood-cddvd/music-books-early-childhood-cddvd-ella-jenkins/>



Come Dance by the Ocean (CD)
\$16.95

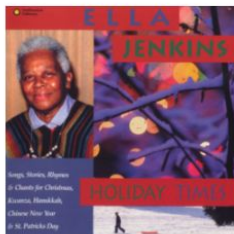


Did you feed my Cow?
\$14.00

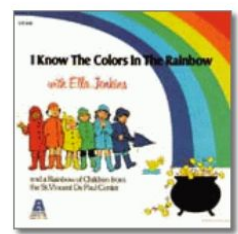
♥ Add to Wishlist



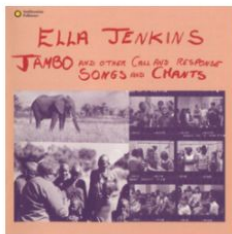
Early, Early Childhood Songs (CD)
\$16.95



Holiday Times (CD)
\$16.95



I Know the Colors in the Rainbow (CD)
\$15.95



Jambo and Other Call-and-Response Songs and Chants (CD)
\$16.95

Music Theory

Music Theory is almost always taught from a Eurocentric point of view

While most of the music we study is of this tradition, all examples need not to have originated from the Europe of antiquity.

Why are modes still mostly taught thru Gregorian Chant, rather than Jazz and Rock?

Why is Joseph Boulogne omitted from Classical Era music history?

20th Century music history is already poorly taught, but do not whitewash it further



Anthony Braxton

20th century composer

Graphic Notation

Open Instrumentation

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108a, 108c, and 108d typeset by Carl Testa

Composition No. 108
by Anthony Braxton

Each structure in this group can be utilized as a separate or combination structure- to be used as a platform for extended improvisation. This material can be integrated with any mixture of structures and/or strategies. Each structure can be viewed as an "imprint logic" that establishes its own operational and conceptual particulars.

Nine pages of notated music with positioned improvisation spaces for structural improvisation. Duration is open.

Notable Recordings:

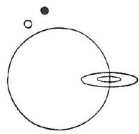
Anthony Braxton
Five Compositions (Quartet) 1986
Black Saint BSR 0106 (LP, 1986)
Black Saint BSR 120106 (CD, 1993)

also included in
The Complete Remastered Recordings on Black Saint and Soul Note
Black Saint/Soul Note BXS 1012 (8-CD, 2011)

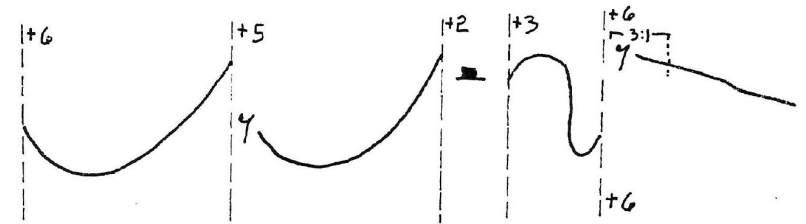
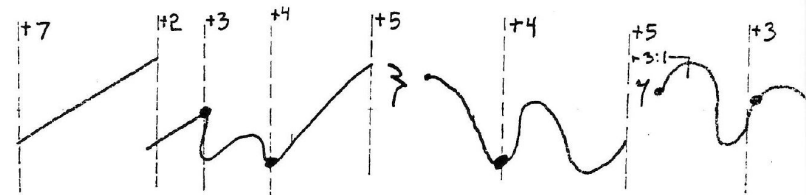
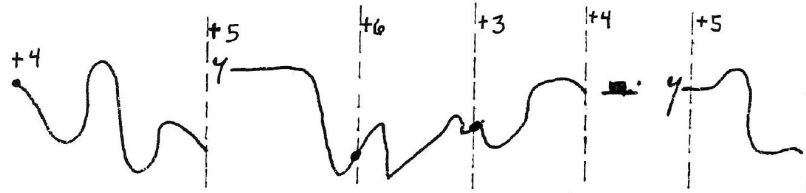
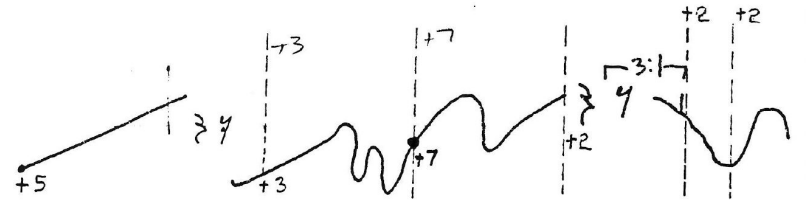
The Tri-Centric Foundation



Composition No. 108a



Anthony Braxton



Performers

Who do you look up on youtube to show examples?

Do your students see a wide range of people on your screen?

There are way too many to list, but here are some of my favs:

[Esperanza Spalding](#)

[Black Violin](#)

[Victor Wooten](#)

[Tosin Abasi](#)

[Sheku Kanneh-Mason](#)

[Christen Lien](#)

[Kevin Olusola](#)

[Boyd Tinsley](#)

[That Cello Guy](#)

