

# Lucy's Race to Space!

Get ready to be taken on a magical tale of space travel and adventure through some of the greatest music ever written, guided by **our presenter Lucy**. The Cambridge Philharmonic Orchestra will be led by **our conductor Harry**. Harry shows the musicians how to make the music, and encourages them to play beautifully!

## Programme

### 'Star Wars' by John Williams

John Williams has written some of the best film music EVER! You know **Superman, Harry Potter** and **Home Alone**? He wrote the soundtracks for all of those, and many more. In fact, he's written music for over a hundred films. He's also composed for television, and no less than four Olympic opening ceremonies. John Williams is still busy writing today – great news!

**Star Wars** is set in a galaxy which is oppressed by the menacing Galactic Empire. Its freedom is fought for by the struggling Rebel Alliance, led by the heroes and heroines of the film. We hope you enjoy the excitement and drama of the main title theme!

### 'Also Sprach Zarathustra' by Richard Strauss

This famous piece of orchestral music depicts the rising sun. The music at the start is soft, but then gets louder and louder. **Can you hear the sun bursting over the horizon?**

This exciting piece forms part of the soundtrack to Stanley Kubrick's film **2001: A Space Odyssey**, which made it very famous. The composer Richard Strauss thought it was his most important work. We think it's one of the best openings of all time!

In the film, the music accompanies images of a satellite docking with a space station, and the Earth in shadow against a sliver of the sun. **What space pictures does it make you think of?**

### 'Short Ride in a Fast Machine' by John Adams

The American composer John Adams is one of the most famous composers in the world, and this is the piece that made him famous. **Short Ride in a Fast Machine** is one of the most widely performed pieces of music. In fact, it is estimated that **Short Ride in a Fast Machine** is performed somewhere in the world at least once every day! Today, that's in Cambridge, for you. **Where in the world do you think it will be performed tomorrow?**

This piece is described as a fanfare, which means a piece that's designed to introduce someone or something, and grab your attention. It certainly does that! The style of the music is – fancy word alert! – minimalist. Minimalism is music made up of short musical patterns which are repeated over and over again. **Listen out for those repeated patterns, and for the steady beat played on the woodblock** – it's like the heartbeat of the piece.

'Short Ride in a Fast Machine' was inspired by a ride in John Adams' brother's new sports car! **What kind of fast machine does this make you think of? Would you like to go for a ride in it?**

### 'The Planets' (excerpts) by Gustav Holst

Gustav Holst was a British composer living and working in London 100 years ago. He was a very interesting man who was fascinated by space, astrology, alternative faiths, meditation and vegetarianism – in many ways he was completely ahead of his time.

**The Planets** orchestral suite describes the mood and character of seven planets in music. Each one has a subtitle that further explains the character of the music. This afternoon, you're going to hear two of them.

### 'Mars, the Bringer of War'

This piece is unusual because it has five beats in each bar (2, 3 or 4 is much more common). Holst's Mars was a big inspiration for John Williams when he wrote the Star Wars music, some of which you heard at the start of the concert today.

### 'Jupiter, the Bringer of Jollity'

This beautiful movement has a very famous tune, which has been used as both a hymn and a rugby anthem!

### 'Flying Theme' from E.T. by John Williams

E.T. is a film which was directed by the famous director Stephen Spielberg. The music for the film was composed by the equally famous John Williams, whose music you've already heard today. When E.T. was first released in 1982, it sold 120 million tickets, which is the same as one ticket for every two people living in North America! So, pretty popular!

E.T. tells the story of an alien, who is stranded on Earth. A boy and his family keep the alien hidden from a group of government agents, and manage to help the alien get safely home.

**Listen to the music and draw a funny face on the alien opposite!**

### Symphony No. 9 'From the New World' (Largo) by Anton Dvořák

Dvořák was inspired by the folk music of his native Czech culture, but wrote his ninth and final symphony in 1893, while he was living and working in America. At the time, America was known as the 'new world'. Dvořák used the sights and sounds he experienced in America to inspire this symphony, which seems to be all about the discovery of new places and people.

Dvořák was, however, horribly homesick. The part of the symphony you're going to hear today is slow, reflective and melancholy (sad). It starts with a beautiful melody played on the cor anglais, which sounds a bit like someone singing a lullaby. It is full of longing. **Do you think this is the sound of Dvořák's homesickness? Would you like to travel to a land far away? What do you love about home?**

### Overture to 'Ruslan & Ludmilla' by Mikhail Glinka

Mikhail Glinka was a popular and influential composer in Russia in the nineteenth century. Today, he's mostly remembered for two of his operas: **A Life for the Tsar** and **Ruslan and Ludmila**. The story of Ruslan and Ludmila is based on a complicated fairy tale about (wait for it...) love, a flying dwarf who gets power from his beard, a fight with a giant disembodied head, a hero who dies but comes back to life and... a happy ending! Perfect material for an opera! An overture is the first piece of music you hear in an opera. This particular overture is very well known.

**Circle the words that you think best describe this piece of music:**

sad

fast

happy

old

moody

new

scary

busy

funny

slow

fun

exciting

lazy

cheeky

# Lucy's Song

Lucy has written a song that everyone can sing. Here are the words:

## 'Are we nearly there yet?'

### Chorus

Flying in a rocket, going to the moon,  
Hey there aliens, we'll see you soon!  
High up in the atmosphere the earth  
looks like a dot,  
Are we nearly there yet? No we're  
not!

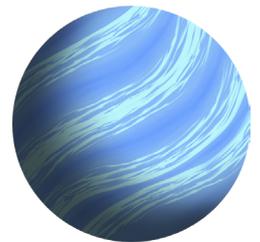
### Layering section

1. One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.
- 2: The dream is alive, the dream is alive.
3. The stars don't look bigger, but they do look brighter, the stars don't look bigger but they're brighter.
4. Houston, we have a problem! Houston, we have a problem!

### FUN FACT

This is Bob, the CP alien...  
Bob enjoys swimming in the river Cam and exploring the galaxy. Can you spot him in the auditorium?

Neptune is known for its extreme weather, including supersonic winds,



Hello earthlings!



How many rings does Saturn have?

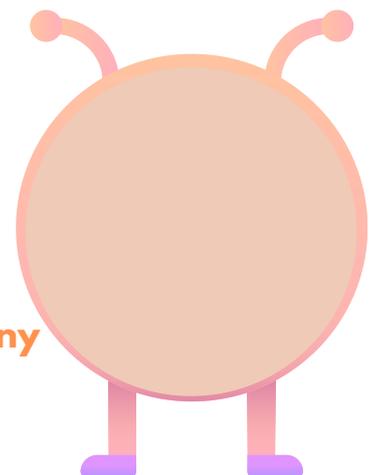
1245  
7  
24

What is the largest planet in our solar system?

Earth Mars

Jupiter

Draw a funny face on the alien...





Colour in the CP rocket!

Can you spot these instruments in the orchestra?

**FUN FACT**

Galileo Galilei was the first to observe Saturn's rings in 1610

The whole of Mars is as cold as the South Pole  
Saturn's rings are 90% water

Gustav Holst wrote The Planets after he returned from a trip to Spain, where some friends introduced him to astrology

Want to learn more about the performers Cambridge Philharmonic and what we do? Watch our new film here...



Thank you so much for coming to our concert!  
We hope you enjoyed it, and that we'll see you again soon.  
Harry Sever, Lucy Hollins and the Cambridge Philharmonic  
[www.cambridgephilharmonic.com](http://www.cambridgephilharmonic.com)  
Registered Charity 243290