

SYMPHONY NO. 1, JOHANNES BRAHMS



JOHANNES WHO? JOHANNES LULLABY!

Johannes Brahms' name may not ring as much of a bell as those of Mozart or Beethoven. But you very likely are familiar with his music. Listen to this tune: [https://youtu.be/ K9oM1RWZnWI](https://youtu.be/K9oM1RWZnWI).

You will certainly remember having heard it before. Although the Lullaby is now more than 150 years old, it still rocks babies to sleep today. Here you can see a dad who has made his own version, and how the baby begins to yawn after just 5 notes: <https://youtu.be/Ow0lbyPkpnU>
And this is what it sounded like in Brahms' day: <https://youtu.be/kPRPnHPL7wM>



* WHO ARE YOU A FAN OF? WOULD YOU WANT TO HAVE A STATUE OF HIM OR HER IN YOUR ROOM? WHAT WOULD IT LOOK LIKE? DRAW OR MAKE AN IMAGE!

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YAAAAAAAWN... ZZZZZZ...

JOHANNES BRAHMS

Johannes Brahms was born in 1833 into a poor family. His father was a musician, and so he imbibed music with his pablum. His family supported his passion to make music his life's work.

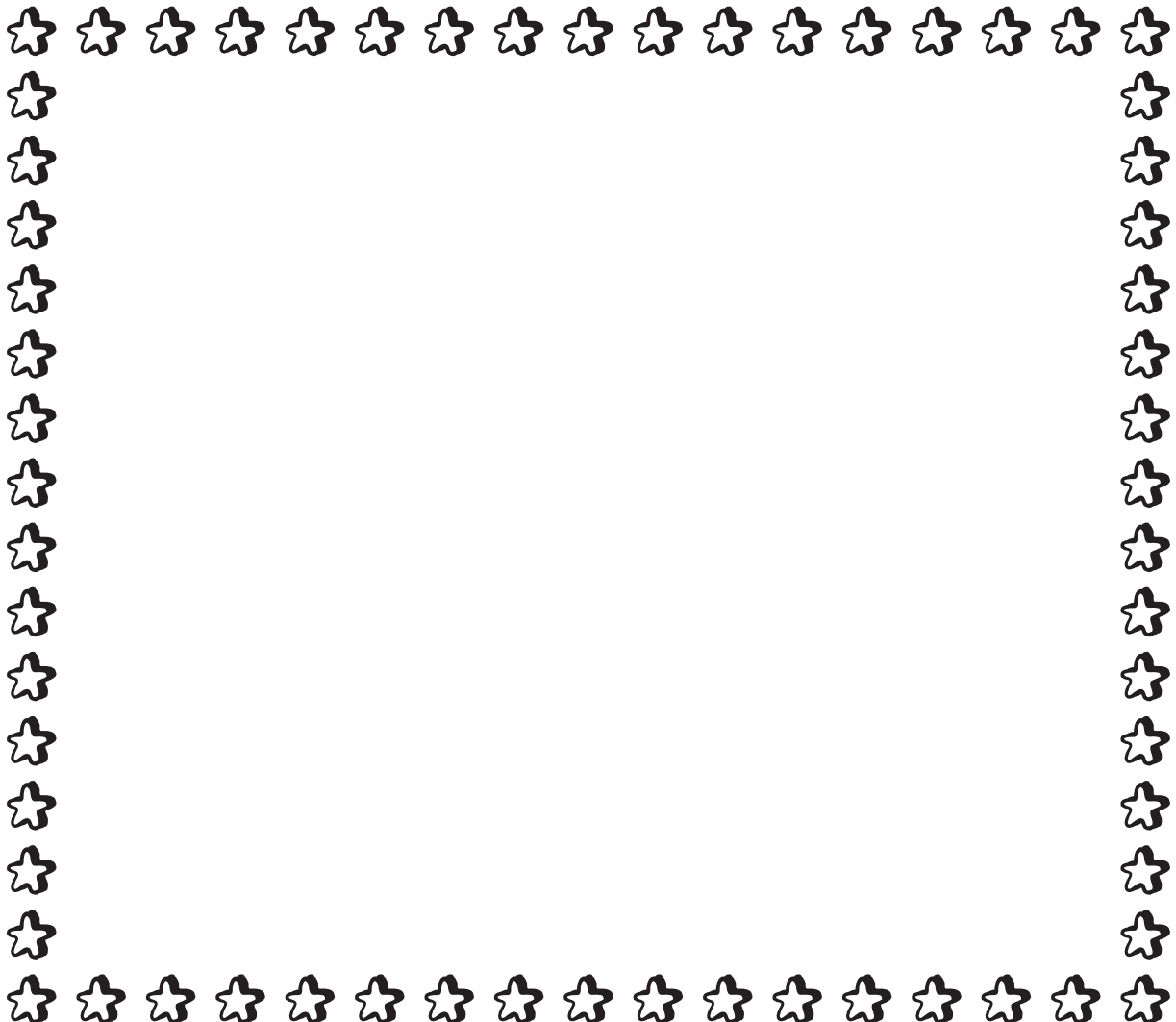
The music of Brahms was popular, and so he earned a good living. But he always remained modest, and didn't crave any luxuries. Johannes led a simple life and had many friends.

He was certainly a perfectionist. And so he had many of his own compositions destroyed because he didn't find the music good enough. For example, he spent more than 20 years working on this first symphony - can you believe it? Of course, you can't write a symphony just like that, but 20 years is a very long time. Naturally, during those years he wrote other pieces.

Johannes' great model was Ludwig van Beethoven, and he even had a bust of him standing on his grand piano.



★ Who are you a fan of? Would you want to have a statue of him or her in your room? What would it look like? Draw or make an image!



COLOUR THE SOUND

Music

Just as you can distinguish and recognize different people's voices, you can do the same with musical instruments.

Every instrument has its own colour, but this is a colour you can hear but not see.

Brahms' First Symphony can be compared to a very colourful painting - the music is constantly changing colours! Which ever-changing colours do you hear in the music?

- * Colour the sound! Get some pencils, pens, chalk, paint ... whatever you like. Listen to the music and let the world of sound colours open up before you!



First movement

Un poco sostenuto – Allegro

In the opening of his first symphony, Brahms has the orchestra sound like a great big pounding heart.

The first movement is like a Dickens novel, with a new twist around every corner.

Second movement

Andante sostenuto

The second movement is traditionally in a slower tempo.

The violins open with a romantic melody - Brahms was a true romantic.

Third Movement

Un poco Allegretto e grazioso

The joyful rhythm of flutes and other woodwinds lend a lively mood to this movement.

Fourth Movement

Adagio – Più Andante – Allegro non troppo, ma con brio

The fourth movement begins very unusually with an adagio (a slow passage), but after that, tense and anxious passages alternate with meditative ones.

- * Now perform the task again, at a different time, with a different colour technique. Who knows, a fragment may now sound spring grass green or thunderstorm dark! Perhaps even peacock blue, firework pop read or rain grey!

Fun fact: an excellent musician can also play many different colours on his or her instrument. In a symphony orchestra, that happens all the time. If you play an instrument, you can go and experiment. Can you simply play a long 'A' three times, each time with a different colour? What colours do you play?

Here is some inspiration in any case: swimming pool blue, magician purple, moon white, cactus green, freshly squeezed orange juice orange, etc. Can you play these colours?