

West Coast Chamber Music — Peter & the Wolf (Interdisciplinary)

KNOW

About the Artist



West Coast Chamber Music is in its 22nd Season. Besides providing four chamber music concerts each year it has combined classical music, storytelling, acting, dance and mime to produce shows for young audiences. Since 2010 their production has been Peter and The Wolf. All the members of the show teach and perform for young children and have enjoyed bringing this show to schools throughout Metro Vancouver.

About the Performance

Peter and The Wolf is a world famous, classical piece for narrator and orchestra. Our arrangement is a 40 minute performance using a pianist, a narrator playing drums and cymbal, a multi-instrumentalist playing Flute, Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Soprano Saxophone and Bass Clarinet. The characters in the story are presented by a multidisciplinary artist using masks and puppets to depict the story through acting, mime and dance. A class is pre-selected to join in the parade at the end of the piece.

- westcoastchambermusic.org
- www.angelabrown.ca

About the Art Form

This is a great introduction to classical music and a unique opportunity to see and hear the piano, major members of the woodwind family, a snare drum and a cymbal. The combination of the music, narration and the theatricality, dance, masks, puppets and mime is a stimulating and educational experience for all.

Links to Curriculum

Development of literacy. Acquiring and expressing ideas and information. Discussion of personal thoughts, images and feelings. Understanding and appreciating classical music. Communication without words.

Pre-Performance Discussion Questions

Who is the main character in the story? What kind of music is in Peter & the Wolf? How is Classical music different from other kinds of music? What is the difference between acting and mime?

Post-Performance Activities

- Create a story in a group with animal and human characters without using words.
- Draw a picture of your favorite part of the story
- Act and move like one of the characters in the story.
- Listen to other introduction to the orchestra pieces; Benjamin Britten's The Young Person's Guide To The Orchestra, narrated versions of Saint-Saens' Carnival Of The Animals, Tubby The Tuba or P.D.Q. Bach's version of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony

Post-Performance Discussion Questions

- Out of the animals in the story (cat, bird, duck and wolf) which animals would be friends and which animals would chase each other?
- Which one of these themes in the story would you choose: Friendship, problem solving, risk taking. How did the actress portray ideas and emotions of Peter (or an animal) without using words? How did the music and movement work together to help you understand the story?
- Choose an instrument and character that went with the music of the instrument and explain why it worked.

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