

'All Change' Lesson 4: The Ballroom – Part II



Curriculum focus – History, Music and Literacy – Story writing

Look at and discuss the painting with the class using the Teacher's Notes. The organ that George IV had in his seaside palace in Brighton was dismantled and installed on the balcony in the Ballroom.

Consider the materials it was made of and how it was decorated for the Ballroom. Why do you think they chose to put the composer Handel on the spandrel?

Listening Activity

Play some of Handel's organ concertos in different spaces though out the school and ask the class to compare and contrast the different spaces. Is the larger space the best option? How does the music

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sound if it is played outside? Ask the class to consider what the iPod of the 1800s might have been? How could someone listen to music on their own?

Writing Activity

Listen to a recording of Bach’s Toccata and Fugue in D Minor. Ask pupils to write down how each section of the music makes them feel. Encourage them to jot down any words or images that spring to mind or words to try to explain how it makes them feel.

Does it conjure up any characters or a particular landscape? Ask them to create a poem that is inspired by the music or that has the music as a soundtrack?



Music composition

The organ was heard publicly for the first time on 2 July 1855, when Queen Victoria gave a concert to inaugurate ‘the new Ball and Concert-room’. Using keyboards or a music app on iPad (church organ, music studio or Symphony pro), compose the opening of a piece of music to celebrate this occasion or another more recent royal occasion, such as The Queen’s 90th birthday.