

Star Wars: Imperial March

Another march tune, but this time it's the bad guys so it sounds much scarier. Listen for the drum beat at the beginning with the strings (violins, violas and cellos) driving it forward. Nothing's going to stop this machine!



And then the heavy brass comes in ... look out! It's Darth Vader!

In the middle, you hear a quieter theme on the flute. Is that people scurrying away to hide from the storm troopers?

They're coming again ... Run!

E.T. – Adventures on Earth

This one is much safer. E.T. is a young alien discovered by two children, and the film shows him exploring Earth for the first time.

He finds it all very strange, and you can hear the rhythms doing funny things.

This is another piece by John Williams, so of course it has a great tune to finish with!



Michael Bell MBE, Conductor

Michael Bell was born in Neath and studied music at Cardiff University.

In 1982 Michael formed Cardiff Philharmonic Orchestra and has conducted the orchestra for 37 years. He has always had a great enthusiasm for film music, and in 1994 introduced 'A Night at the Movies' as an annual feature of CPO's repertoire.

Michael has conducted the Brecknock Sinfonia since 2010 and was invited to conduct the Abergavenny Symphony Orchestra in the orchestra's summer concert in 2017. Michael is delighted to be conducting the ASO's Family Concert for the third successive year and to be working again with the orchestra in its spring concert in 2020.

In the 2018 New Year's Honours, Michael was awarded an MBE and presented with the award by HRH the Prince of Wales at Buckingham Palace in March.



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Symphony Orchestra

INTO SPACE

A Concert for Children



Sunday
8th Dec
2019



Guest Conductor: Michael Bell, MBE

Sunrise

This big fanfare comes from a piece called “*Also sprach Zarathustra*” by Richard Strauss. It might make you think of the big, orange sun rising into the sky in the morning, or maybe a huge rocket lifting off from the launch pad.



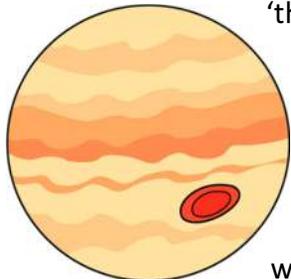
Some of the orchestra members remember this music being used in

the television coverage of the Apollo moon landing 50 years ago. Some of the orchestra members are very old!

Jupiter

Gustav Holst wrote a set of piece called “The Planets” and this one is Jupiter. You know Jupiter as the biggest of all the planets, but did you know that the planets are named after ancient Greek gods? In the old Greek stories, Jupiter was

‘the bringer of jollity’ or happiness and you can hear the bouncy, bubbling joy in this music. Listen carefully and see if you can hear a well-known hymn tune too.



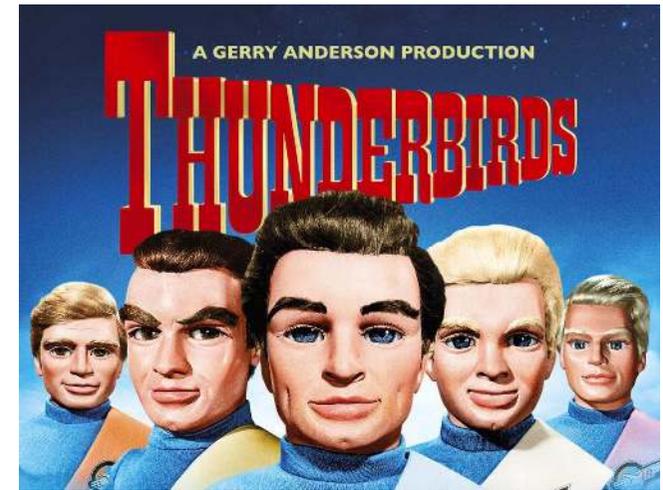
Here Comes the Sun



This song, by George Harrison, lead guitarist of The Beatles, is all about feeling the warmth of the sun at the end of a long, cold winter. Why not dance along?

STAR WARS THE FORCE AWAKENS

John Williams has written a lot of music for films and this is one of his best known. This is what is called a ‘Suite’ and it has several pieces of music from different parts of the film all joined together. It starts with the famous *Star Wars* theme, but listen out for *Rey’s Theme*, *March of the Resistance*, *Jedi Steps* and the *Finale*.

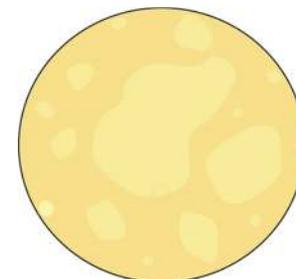


Stand by for action! 5-4-3-2-1 Thunderbirds are Go!

The puppets might have been a bit shaky back in the day, but there was this great march tune at the end by Barry Gray. A march has 4 beats in the bar. F.A.B.

Moon River

A long time ago, on a film set far, far away, Audrey Hepburn sang this song in a film called *Breakfast at Tiffany’s*. It’s written by Henry Mancini, who also wrote the *Pink Panther* theme. This is a jazz tune, so it has a very different sound from most of the other music.



If you want to dance to this one you’ll need to do a *Waltz* because there are 3 beats in each bar. Triangular music!