#Beethoven250

250 years ago, the famous composer Ludwig van Beethoven was born. In 2020 the world is celebrating his extraordinary life and musical achievement. With his glorious tunes and expansive style, Beethoven transformed music and influenced so many people. These days, neither the world in general nor our music-making would be as it is today without Beethoven.



Teacher's information

#Beethoven250/4ALL

... is a collaborative initiative which allows teachers to engage with students using Beethoven's music and to share resources on Beethoven, opening up the possibility of performing Beethoven's most famous music (even during lockdown!). Teachers can either be independent using the resources with their own pupils or they can collaborate with other SSLP schools (see below) in contributing recorded material to a final product mixed down by Peter Gritton – contact details below.

#Beethoven250/4ALL/Symphony6Finale

... focuses on the beautiful theme from the final movement of Beethoven's Symphony No.6 (The "Pastoral"). In the spirit of inclusivity, the finale has been shortened and adapted in order to supplement the original orchestration with other parts that include a range of standards and a wider choice of instruments – e.g. saxophone, guitar and mallet percussion. Teachers can peruse the list of parts or the scores to allocate the instrumental parts to their students should they need guidance and then decide how to move through the levels below with their students. Each student...

Level 1: ... learns to play their part with the backing tracks provided Benefit: Improve their sightreading/learning skills

Level 2: ... performs/records the part with the backing track (no metronome) playing in the background. This could be then enjoyed as an end result, or progress to Level 3!

Benefit: Improve their performing skills

Level 3: ... records their part on one device while listening in one ear to the backing track (the one with a metronome) playing on another device – the backing mustn't be audible on the instrumental recording. The student then submits the recording to you as their teacher.

Benefit: Extend their performing skills; gain a sense of achievement

Level 4: ... can submit their recording to peter.gritton@jags.org.uk, Cc-ing you as their music teacher, which will go into the mix with many other recordings to create an end product. The emphasis is on ensemble rather than solo.

NB: only mp3 and m4a audio-files are accepted – video files will be too large to receive and also will not be accepted on safeguarding grounds.

Benefit: Sense of fulfilment through contributing to a collaborative project

Resources – available from 11 May on the SSLP website (pdfs of instrumental parts and backing tracks). Recordings can be submitted at any time up to and including 30 June. The end product will be shared in mid-July on the SSLP website.