

# Stan and Mabel

## RESOURCE PACK



SCHOOLS CONCERTS:

**Friday 7 November 2014, 11.00am & 1.30pm**

FAMILY CONCERTS:

**Saturday 8 November 2014, 11.00am & 1.00pm**

**Wigmore Hall**

With Ensemble 360 and Polly Ives

*Stan and Mabel* composed by Paul Rissmann, based on the book written by Jason Chapman and published by Templar.

*Stan and Mabel* commissioned by Music in the Round with funding from Sheffield Town Trust | Andrew McEwan Fund | Garfield Weston Foundation



Supported using public funding by  
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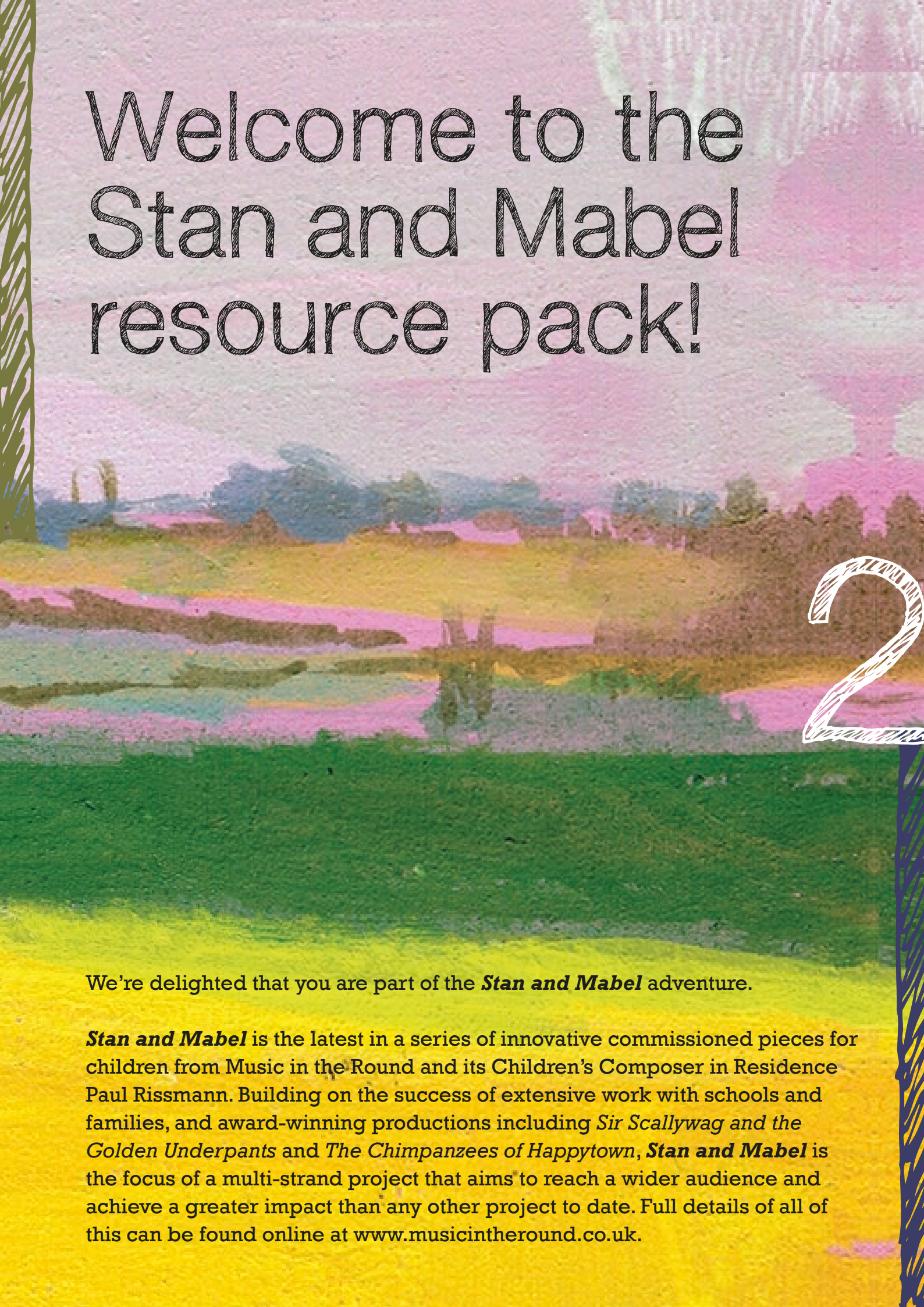
ENSEMBLE  
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**MUSIC IN THE  
COMMUNITY**



**MUSIC IN  
THE ROUND**



# Welcome to the Stan and Mabel resource pack!

We're delighted that you are part of the *Stan and Mabel* adventure.

*Stan and Mabel* is the latest in a series of innovative commissioned pieces for children from Music in the Round and its Children's Composer in Residence Paul Rissmann. Building on the success of extensive work with schools and families, and award-winning productions including *Sir Scallywag and the Golden Underpants* and *The Chimpanzees of Happytown*, *Stan and Mabel* is the focus of a multi-strand project that aims to reach a wider audience and achieve a greater impact than any other project to date. Full details of all of this can be found online at [www.musicintheround.co.uk](http://www.musicintheround.co.uk).



# In this pack

In this pack there is an introduction to the story of *Stan and Mabel*, the music and the audience participation songs written by composer Paul Rissmann with audio tracks for you to listen to and learn before attending the concerts.

You can download a folder of mp3 files to your computer by following this link:  
<http://tinyurl.com/stanandmabelmp3s>

You can also sing along with narrator Polly Ives by watching this film:  
<http://tinyurl.com/stanandmabelfilm>

We have included suggestions for additional activities that you can explore at home or at school.



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# Meet the team



## Jason Chapman Author and Illustrator

Jason Chapman is an award-winning illustrator and children's author. As well as *Stan and Mabel* he has written *Ted, Bo and Diz*; *Five Little Ducks*; *One Kiss, One Hug!* and *Grunt and Snort*. He has also illustrated *My First Classical Music Book*, written by Genevieve Helsby, which is also available as an app.

He has produced illustrations for the Natural History Museum, Singapore Science Centre, Chicago Field Museum, Battersea Dogs and Cats Home, and the NSPCC and Father Christmas on their hugely successful 'Letters from Santa' campaign.

Jason was born in Cambridge, grew up in Yorkshire, and studied in Bradford. He now lives in Devon, just outside Axminster, with his wife, three children, and a decreasing number of small animals (23 legs at the last count, not including fish). He likes cake, swimming, and toads; but doesn't like flies, coat hangers, or cling film.

[www.jasonchapman.co.uk](http://www.jasonchapman.co.uk)

**Did you know:**  
Jason is a fan of Bradford City FC, and you can often spot the club's colours (claret and amber) in his illustrations...

Can you find them anywhere in *Stan and Mabel*?

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# Meet the team



## Paul Rissmann Composer

*“In 2013, I was commissioned by Music in the Round to set this zany story to music. It is such a fun book and Jason’s pictures are so brilliant, that they were perfect inspiration for my music. Plus, given that all the animals in the story play the same instruments as Ensemble 360 - it seemed like a perfect match. So I’ve composed a 25-minute musical adventure for narrator and ensemble with lots of opportunities for the audience to join in with the action.”*

Paul Rissmann is a composer, presenter, and music educationalist working with orchestras and ensembles around the world. He is Children’s Composer in Residence at Music in the Round and the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, and Animateur with the London Symphony Orchestra.

Paul has written hugely popular pieces for Music in the Round which have reached well over 45,000 people including *Giddy Goat*, *The Lion Who Wanted to Love*, *Sir Scallywag* and *the Golden Underpants*, *Giraffes Can’t Dance* and *The Chimpanzees of Happytown* for which he won an award at the 2012 British Composer Awards. He has also won a Royal Television Society Award.

Paul has worked with Microsoft, Philharmonia Orchestra, Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Royal Scottish National Orchestra, New York Philharmonic Orchestra and many others. *Bamboozled*, his interactive composition for orchestra and audience, has been performed by over 50,000 people - from Daytona Beach, Florida to Melbourne, Australia. In 2012 it was performed at an Olympic Torch relay in Leicester by the Philharmonia Orchestra. He has also written a bespoke soundtrack to *The Presents*, a play for babies aged 6 - 18 months produced by Reeling and Writhing.

[www.rissmann.co.uk](http://www.rissmann.co.uk)





# Meet the team



## Polly Ives Presenter and Narrator

Polly Ives enjoys a varied career as a concert narrator and presenter, workshop leader, trainer, teacher and cellist, and she is Creative Producer at Music in the Round.

She has led numerous projects with Music in the Round over the last 12 years and has worked with Wigmore Hall, the Royal Opera House, Ensemble 360, The Leonore Trio, the Elias

and Sacconi string quartets, Philippe Graffin, Michael Collins, Trevor Pinnock, and the European Brandenburg Ensemble. She has conducted children's and youth orchestras including the National Children's Orchestra, adjudicated at music festivals, and performed live on BBC Radio 3's In Tune. Over the last eleven years she has involved over 30,000 children aged 2 - 7 in the pioneering Music Box project.

Polly enjoys playing netball, entertaining her niece and nephew, and horseriding. Not many people know that when she was growing up Polly had black East Indian ducks called Scott and Charlene!

# Meet the team

## Ensemble 360

Music in the Round's resident group, Ensemble 360, performs in *Stan and Mabel*. Ensemble 360 has gained an enviable reputation across the UK not only for the quality and integrity of the members' playing, but also for their ability to communicate the music to a range of different audiences. Formed in 2005, eleven musicians of international standing came together to take up residency in Sheffield with Music in the Round, establishing a versatile group comprising five string players, five wind players and a pianist. They are also members of some of the greatest orchestras in the world, have recorded lots of CDs and recorded music for film and TV including *Pirates of the Caribbean* and *Love Actually*!

Most importantly – they all love music, and love sharing it with the people they meet.



AMY - Bassoon



CLAUDIA - Violin



MATT - Clarinet



LAUREÈNE - Double Bass



TIM - Piano



BEN - Violin



JUDITH - Viola



GEMMA - Cello



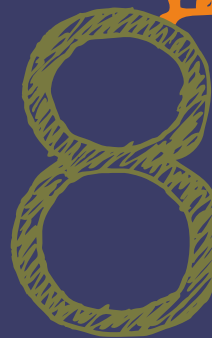
ADRIAN - Oboe



JULIETTE - Flute



NAOMI - Horn





# The story begins...

**Stan and Mabel** tells the story of two neglected animals – **Stan** (a dog) and **Mabel** (a cat) – who live in a tall tower block in the city.

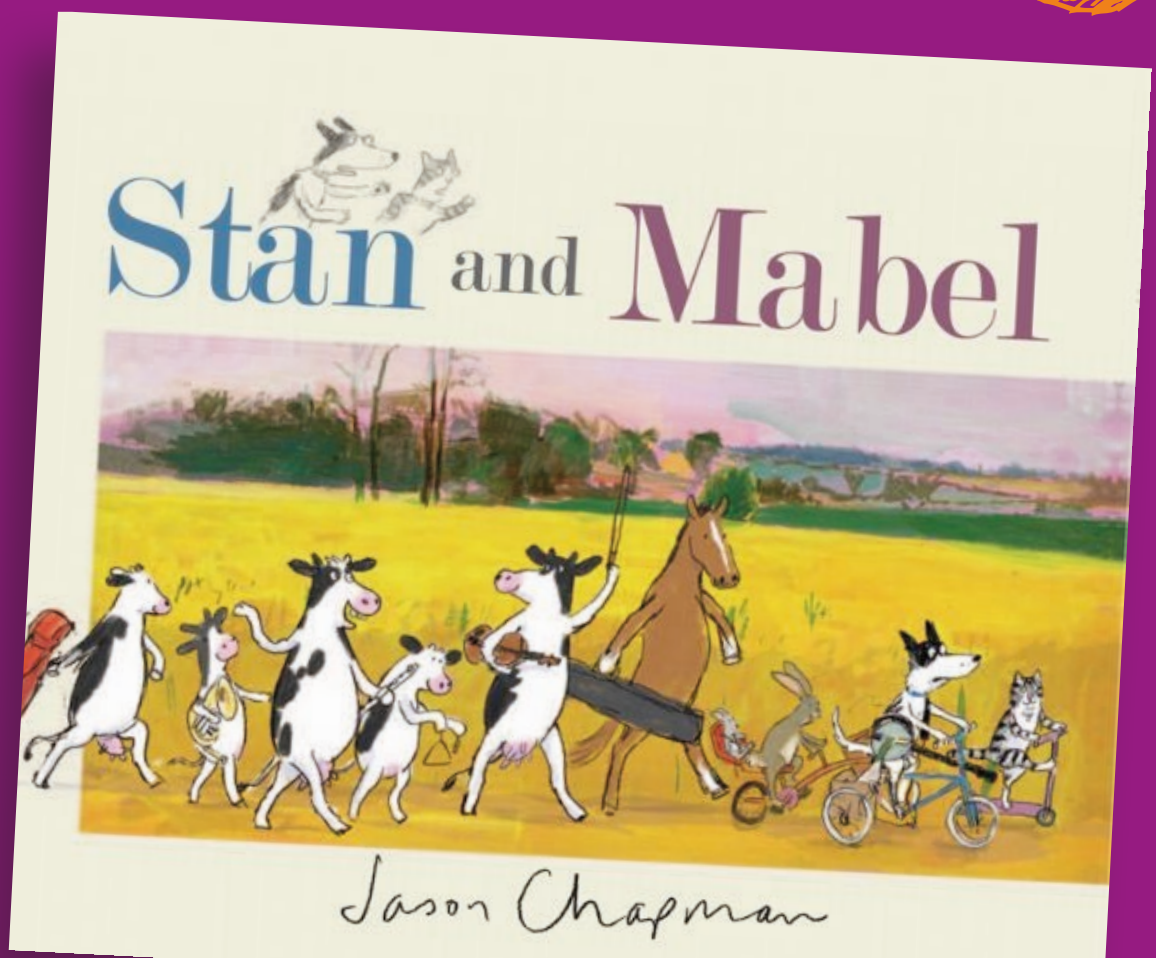
Although their owners ignore them, Stan and Mabel find great comfort in the music played by the flute lady, who lives downstairs. But one day the music stops.

When Stan and Mabel go to investigate, they discover that their beloved neighbour has gone to Italy, to a competition to find the greatest orchestra in the world.

In a flash, Mabel decides that they should follow in her footsteps and visit the famous La Scala opera house in Milan. They just need to find some friends to join their animal orchestra first!

**And so the adventure begins...  
Read the book to find out what happens!**

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# Learn the audience participation songs



## Stan and Mabel's Theme

Because Stan and Mabel are such important characters, they both get their very own tune - or theme - in the music.

**Mabel**, of course, is a clever and brave cat, so her music is really quite sophisticated. **Stan**, on the other hand, is not so independent, so his theme is much simpler. When the animals are introduced at the beginning of the story, you'll hear their two themes very clearly in the ensemble, and then they'll pop up in various guises throughout the adventure.

But as the excitement builds, a new theme appears for Stan and Mabel. This one is very clear, very easy, and very short – and **we need you to sing it with us!**

It goes like this:

G F G Eb

Stan and Ma - bel

You will sing this short theme many times in the concert! Polly will tell you when to sing by saying “off we go”.

*You can practise singing this theme using Tracks 1, 2 and 3 in your download.*

Track 1 is straight, Track 2 is a bit scary, and in Track 3 Stan and Mabel are on the run!

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# Learn the audience participation songs

## The Greatest Song in the World! (for the Greatest Orchestra in the World)

This is the main song in the piece. You'll sing it four times during the story, but to keep you entertained, the song will change ever so slightly throughout the performance.

The best way to learn it is by listening to Polly via the download or video link. The melody and lyrics are very repetitive, and the first three times you sing it, the words remain exactly the same.

A A A A B B B G A A A B  
F# F# F# D  
We're going to I-tal-y to au-di-tion in a com-pe-ti-tion.

(exactly the same as before) D D E  
We're going to I-tal-y to au-di-tion in a com-pe-ti-tion. To be the

F G E D C D A G D D E F G E C D (exactly the same as before)  
great-est or-ches-tra in the world, To be the great-est in the world. To be the

great-est or-ches-tra in the world, To be the great-est in the world.

*Sing along with Tracks 4, 5, and 6.*

Track 4 is quite relaxed, Track 5 is very bouncy, and Track 6 is sung when the animals are on the aeroplane.



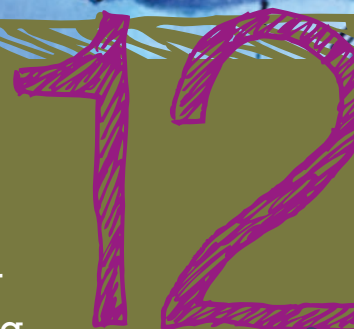


# Learn the audience participation songs



## I Like the Beat of Your Feet

When Stan and Mabel discover Roberta and Bobby - the drumming rabbits - we all sing the words "I like the beat of your feet". This music is very repetitive (but very funky) - so we'll sing this next phrase many times.



G# G# B G# G# B G#      G# G# B G# G# B G#

I like the beat of your feet      I like the beat of your feet

*Try singing along with Track 7.*



# Learn the audience participation songs



## The Italian Song

We've reached our destination! La Scala, the magnificent, world-famous opera house!

We all sing a jolly song to the opera house. This music is in 3/4 time, which means its rhythm makes you want to swing from side to side, or dance a waltz!

This is what the melody looks like:

B $\flat$  B $\flat$  A $\flat$  G A $\flat$  A $\flat$  F A $\flat$  A $\flat$  G F G

La Sca - la mag - ni - fi - co La Sca - la Mi - lan.

We sing this short tune, twice in a row. Then Polly narrates a bit more of the story, and then we sing it again.

The challenge with this song is that the musicians will play around with its speed – quite a lot I expect. Italian songs are very popular, and often quite over the top – so watch Polly very closely so that you know exactly what is about to happen.

*Practise singing The Italian Song using Track 8.*



# Learn the audience participation songs

## The Final Medley

At the very end of the story, once our friends have been voted the greatest animal orchestra in the world, we sing a medley of three songs we've already learned:

- The Greatest Song in the World
- I Like the Beat of Your Feet
- Stan and Mabel's Theme

However, since we are now at the end of the story, some of the lyrics have to change a little.

So in *The Greatest Song in the World*, we now sing:

We came to Italy to audition, in a competition,  
We came to Italy to audition, in a competition  
Now we're the greatest animal orchestra,  
Now we're the greatest in the world,  
Now we're the greatest animal orchestra,  
Now we're the greatest in the world,

*I like the beat of your feet* becomes ***They*** like the beat of ***our*** feet!

And Stan and Mabel's Theme stays the same.

*You can practise these changes using Track 9 and Track 10.*



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# Also in the concert

As well as performing *Stan and Mabel*, Ensemble 360 will also play the following pieces in the concert:

MOZART	Overture from <i>The Marriage of Figaro</i>
DVOŘÁK	Scherzo from String Quintet in G major Op.77
CHOPIN	Revolutionary Étude Op.10 No.12
JIM PARKER	'Les Animaux' from <i>Mississippi Five</i>

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# Additional creative activities to explore

## Animal music

Listen to these pieces of music and watch the videos. Discuss your own ideas about the music.



### Cats

Listen to this music from *Peter and the Wolf* by Sergei Prokofiev about a cat prowling around on his soft paws, meowing and licking his whiskers, and then he climbs higher and higher up into a tree...

**Find the track at [alturl.com/7xj5o](http://alturl.com/7xj5o).**

### Dogs

Have a listen to this piece all about a dog by Leonard Bernstein: it's called *Elegy for Mippy II* – a piece for solo trombone. **Listen to it at [alturl.com/oxjmv](http://alturl.com/oxjmv).**

### Ducks

Just like in *Stan and Mabel*, the duck in Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf* is played on the oboe. Watch the video of the ducks and geese waddling about, quacking and gliding on the water.

**You'll find it at [alturl.com/65pse](http://alturl.com/65pse).**

### Bees

Here is some music played on the flute (just like the flute lady downstairs). It is called *The Flight of the Bumblebee* and it's by the Russian composer Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov.

**You can watch and listen to it on YouTube at [alturl.com/k2ga8](http://alturl.com/k2ga8).**

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# Additional creative activities to explore

## Telephone chat

In pairs, children can create their own *Stan and Mabel* 'Great Escape' telephone conversation.

Where are they going? What will they do? What do they need to pack?

Why not make your own cup and string telephones. Share your ideas with the group.

Sing *Old MacDonald had a Farm* featuring the animals in the story

Introduce each of the characters as you go along:

**Stan** the dog

**Mabel** the cat

**Roady** the duck

**Bobby and Roberta** the rabbits

**Houston** the horse

**Margaret, Tony, Mrs Drake, Jo, Jackie P, Dale, Betty and Evelyn** the cows

## Making masks

Children can make their own animal masks – there are lots of good templates online.

Sing each verse of Old MacDonald in smaller groups (all the children in dog masks sing the dog verse).

The children can re-enact sections of the story in groups. Get all the children with rabbit masks to create a little paw dance; the children with horse masks a gallop dance, etc.



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# Additional creative activities to explore

## Standing ovation

In the story, there is a standing ovation which everyone will do in the concert. Choose one child to start the applause by standing up and clapping, then others copy until everyone is standing and clapping. When the child who started it sees that everyone is standing, they can sit down and stop clapping – and everyone else does the same.

- Talk about how it starts as a solo (just one person), then becomes a duet (two), a trio (three), and finally an ensemble (lots of people)
- Talk about how it starts with silence, the sound gets louder and louder and then quieter and quieter
- Talk about starting and stopping
- Talk about following the leader

## The Journey

The animals go on a journey in lots of modes of transport (see pages 18 and 19 of the book).

In the concert, we will do the following actions:

Taxi – move your arms like you're holding a car steering wheel

Bus – move your arms like you're holding a bigger bus steering wheel

Train – move your arms by your sides like a train

Plane – hold out your arms like the wings of a plane

Firstly, ask the children to do each of the actions above.

Secondly, use flashcards of each of the vehicle illustrations (you will find these towards the end of this pack); the children can then follow the instructions by watching your 'conducting'. A child can then lead the group in which actions to do.

Thirdly, choose one sound or tune for each of the vehicles either played by the grown-up or child. This can be an improvised tune on the piano/guitar or just a single sound e.g. a triangle for the taxi, a bell for the bus, a cabasa for the train, or shakers for the plane.

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# Listen and watch

Listen to some more travelling tunes!

**John Adams** *Short Ride in a Fast Machine* - [alturl.com/ovaqq](http://alturl.com/ovaqq)

**Richard Wagner** *The Ride of the Valkyries* - [alturl.com/4nt8t](http://alturl.com/4nt8t)

**John Williams** *Superman Theme* - [alturl.com/9qh42](http://alturl.com/9qh42)

**Ron Goodwin** *Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines*  
[alturl.com/7f4c3](http://alturl.com/7f4c3)

**Eric Coates** *Dambusters March* - [alturl.com/9es34](http://alturl.com/9es34)

## **Verdi: O Sole Mio**

This music is one of the most popular operatic songs and has been performed at La Scala Opera House probably thousands of times! - [alturl.com/pnk5s](http://alturl.com/pnk5s)

## **Mozart: Overture from The Marriage of Figaro**

A perfect introduction to the instruments in the orchestra. An overture is the opener to an opera so grabs everyone's attention right away! - [alturl.com/qbweh](http://alturl.com/qbweh)

- Ask the children which instruments they can hear
- Can they describe the music (is it fast/slow, happy/sad, loud/quiet)?
- What can they imagine happening if it was a story?
- How did it make them feel?

## **Rachmaninov: Italian Polka**

Rachmaninov wrote this piece after a family holiday in Italy in 1906. While travelling there, he met a street musician singing a Neapolitan song which inspired the theme for this piano piece - [alturl.com/3tkpt](http://alturl.com/3tkpt)

## **Duelling Banjos**

Watch this video of some young boys performing a wonderful piece on the banjo. Listen to how it starts slowly and how they copy each other and how it then gets really fast! - [alturl.com/imr5h](http://alturl.com/imr5h)

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# Share!

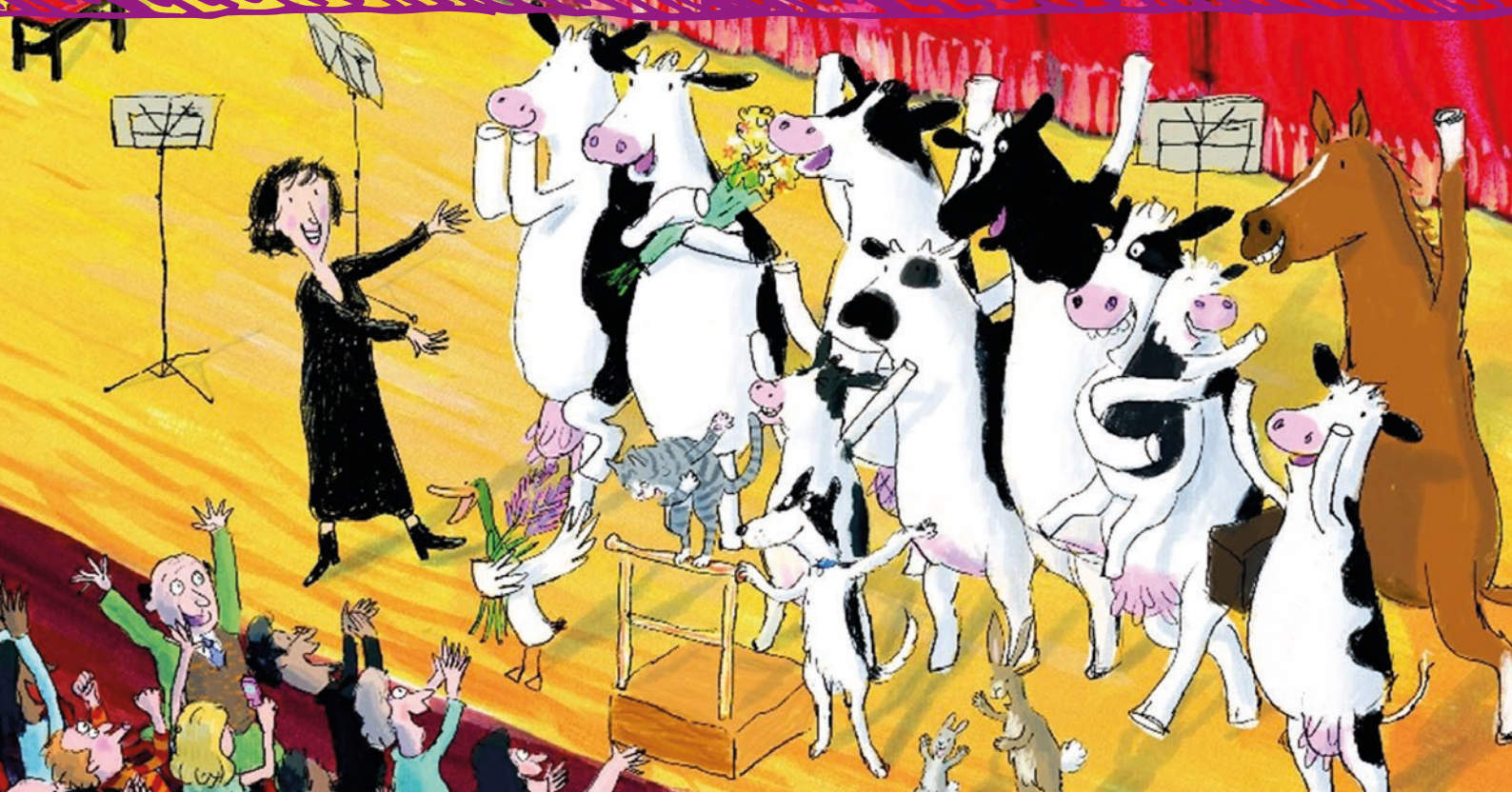
Feel free to send us your pictures, videos and stories – we'd love to see what you have created.

Or why not write a letter to the composer, author, narrator, or musicians telling them your favourite bits? (You can send it to us here at Wigmore Hall and we can forward it to them.)

We really hope you enjoy exploring all these activities at home or at school.

We look forward to seeing you at the concerts!

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# About Wigmore Hall

Europe's leading venue for chamber music and song, Wigmore Hall currently presents over 400 concerts a year in addition to 250 education events. Many of the Hall's concerts are recorded for broadcast on BBC Radio 3, including a live broadcast every Monday lunchtime.

Wigmore Hall is renowned for its excellent acoustics and intimate atmosphere. It has just 550 seats compared with nearly 6,000 at the Royal Albert Hall. The size of the Hall makes it ideal for singers and small groups of players. These are ensembles that would have originally been heard in people's living rooms!

Wigmore Hall was built in 1901 and is a beautiful example of Renaissance-style architecture and many original characteristics remain - gas lights are still lit for every concert. Wigmore Hall's auditorium features a cupola above the stage with a beautiful mural depicting the 'Soul of Music'.

Wigmore Hall Learning provides access to chamber music and song through innovative creative programmes, online resources and events. We invite a broad audience to get involved in music-making of the highest standard, particularly focusing on those who may be excluded from regular arts provision. We make connections through projects and partnerships, using music to inspire people, to explore opportunities and to enhance learning and development.

For further details about Wigmore Hall Learning contact us:  
020 7258 8247 [learning@wigmore-hall.org.uk](mailto:learning@wigmore-hall.org.uk) [www.wigmore-hall.org.uk/learning](http://www.wigmore-hall.org.uk/learning)

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# About Music in the Round

Music in the Round is the largest promoter of chamber music outside London. We take our unique, informal, and informative style of performance to numerous venues around the country as well as presenting two concert series and an annual May Festival in Sheffield at our home venue, the Crucible Studio.

Our resident group Ensemble 360 is made up of dynamic, world-class musicians selected for their excellent communication skills as well as for their highly accomplished musicianship. They are at the heart of Music in the Community, our learning & participation programme, which engages over 17,000 people every year with high-quality music-making. Led by professional musicians and inspirational animateurs, our workshops, concerts, talks, bring-and-plays, and special projects aim to inspire, enthuse, and engage people of all ages.

Resource pack written by Paul Rissmann and Polly Ives, edited by Fraser Wilson and Daisy Swift  
Photo by Benjamin Ealovega  
Designed by Susannah Swift Ltd

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Illustrations and book © Jason Chapman, 2010

