908-654-5899

Weekly Lesson   **December 10 - 14, 2018**

THE NUTCRACKER SUITE
Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Our classical music selections during our Winter Session feature movements from Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker Suite." "The Nutcracker" premiered as a ballet in 1892, in St. Petersburg, Russia - to surprisingly disappointing reviews. Tchaikovsky created "The Nutcracker Suite" pulling music from the full ballet, for concert purposes only. This concert version actually premiered 9 months before the ballet version. In contrast to the ballet's luke-warm reception, the concert version gained popularity very quickly.

During the holiday shopping season, the iconic melodies from this classic suite become a part of our lives - literally! Whether it's snippets of The Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy while picking up sugar at the super market, or strains of the Waltz of the Flowers while weaving through crowds at the mall, or the leaping rhythms of the Russian Dance on more than one TV commercial - this is music you hear the moment the holiday shopping season descends.

Your Sing a Song teachers introduce your children to classical and culturally iconic music using interactive and gross motor play. Your child will dance, march and jump around to this music as easily as they do to every other kind of music. No one has told them that classical music is "boring" yet! Hopefully, by introducing it to them while they are having FUN, no one will ever be able to convince them it's boring - ever!

All Sing A Song songs and activities develop various areas of age-appropriate skills, including language development, gross motor skills, fine motor skills, creative thinking, listening skills, social interaction skills, self-expression, imaginary play, autonomy and self-esteem.

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