

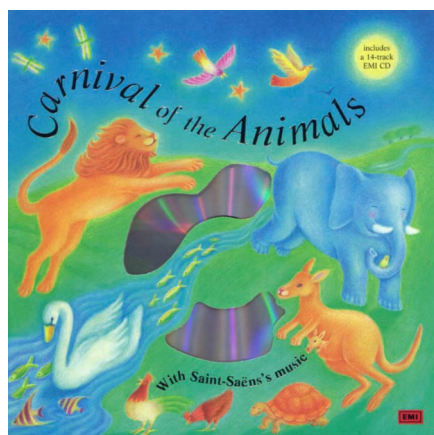
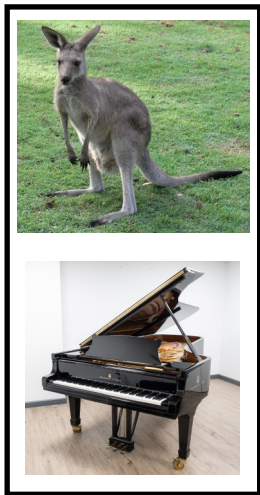


Camille Saint-Saens

Camille Saint-Saens was a French composer who was born in 1835. He wrote lots of music. He initially wrote the piece **The Carnival of the Animals** as a joke for his friends. He never meant for anyone to hear it because he wanted to be seen as a serious composer, but it's incredibly famous today.

Key Vocabulary

instrument	an object that is played to make musical sounds
composer	a person who writes music
represent	to show or be a symbol of something
pitch	how high or low the notes sound
tempo	how fast or slow something sounds
dynamics	how loud or quiet the music is



Listening Skills

In *The Carnival of the Animals*, each animal is **represented** by a different musical **instrument**. Saint-Saens chose these instruments because he wanted them to have a certain effect on the listener. Instruments can be played at different **tempos**, **pitches** and **dynamics** to change the way they sound. When composing *The Carnival of the Animals*, Saint-Saens thought about how the different instruments represented the different animals. To understand why Saint-Saens made the choices that he did, you must listen closely to spot the differences between the pieces of music.