

Listening to and composing music about space

Key composer, genre and instruments

Gustav Holst
1874-1934

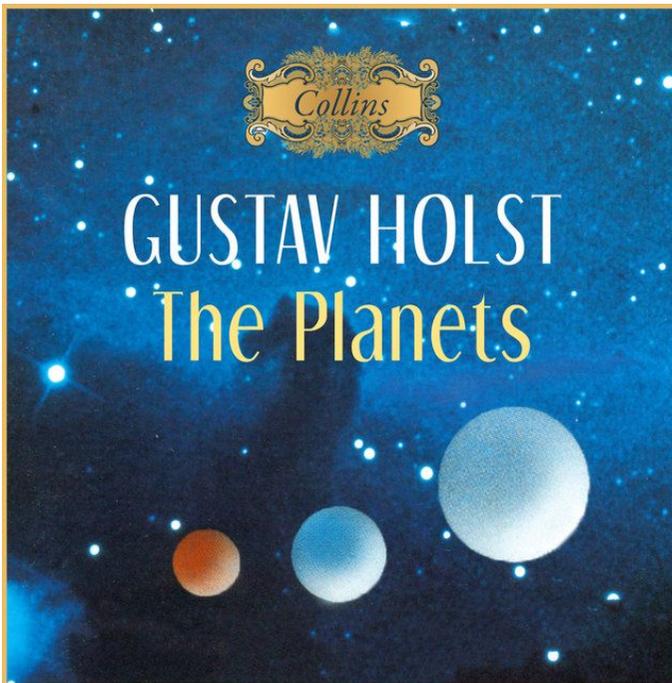
Gustav Holst was an English composer. He is best known for the *Planet Suite* which he composed between 1914-1917.



Style Classical - music for the orchestra

Instruments The whole orchestra

Famous pieces Holst did not write a piece of music about planet Earth but he did write music for Mars, Venus, Mercury, Saturn, Uranus, Jupiter and Neptune. Each piece brings a character to the planet, for example 'Mars the Bringer of War' sounds like it could have been used in the film *Star Wars* - it is very dramatic and full of tension!



Key Skills

Listen for a sustained amount of time to a classical piece of music and comment on it.

Use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs.

Experiment with, create, select and combine sounds.

Begin to understand how music is created understanding terms such as tempo, structure and pitch.

Work in groups to compose a simple piece using vocal sounds.

Take turns at being conductor of a group.

Experiment with percussion to create a piece about space.



Relevant songs

Use your imagination
Zoom zoom zoom, we're going to the moon.
Bounce Patrol

Key Vocabulary

suite	A group of songs/music pieces.
pitch	High, middle, low sounds.
structure	The way a piece is put together.
tempo	The speed of the piece.
Classical music	A style of music that is usually played by a full orchestra and often has no words.
improvise	Create quickly on the spur of the moment.
compose	Organise music ideas and write them down.
composer	Someone who writes music.
cymbal	Large metal discs which make a long sound.
castanets	A wooden percussion instrument which makes a short sound.
wood block	A wooden percussion instrument which makes a short sound.



cymbal



wood block