

CLIBURN

with Buddy Bray

EPIDSODE 7: BACK IT UP! HAYDN Menuet al rovescio from Piano Sonata in A Major, Hob. XVI:26

TODAY'S WORKSHEET

WHAT IS A MINUET?

The minuet (or "menuet" in French) was an elegant social dance most popular in France and England from about 1650 to about 1750. Like a waltz, a minuet is typically in triple meter, or beat groups of three. The minuet was especially popular with the wealthy, higher classes, and was often performed in royal courts. King Louis XVI of France loved it so much, he made changes to the dance in his court. It became slower, and dancers used elaborate gestures before and during dancing to represent their social status.

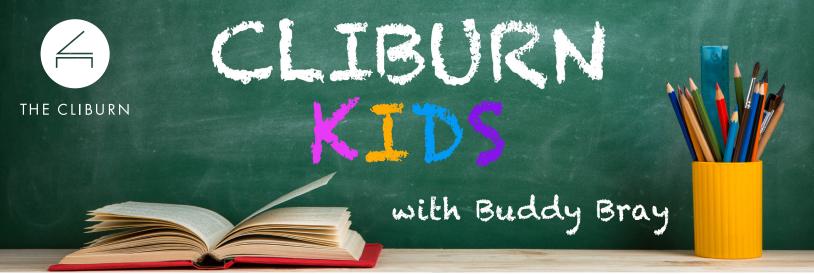
Let's watch a video of a group of dancers performing a minuet: CLICK HERE



What did you notice about the steps the dancers were taking? Were they fast or slow? Big or small?

Did the dancers mostly stay in one place, or did they move all across the dance floor?

Listen to the music Buddy plays. Is it choppy or smooth? Cheerful or sad? Then, think about how the dancers will move and describe their movements below. Will they go fast or slow? Move in a straight line or twirl? Use your imagination!



EPIDSODE 7: BACK IT UP!

HAYDN Menuet al rovescio from Piano Sonata in A Major, Hob. XVI:26

MUSICAL PALINDROMES

This **minuet** is written like a mirror image of itself—the second half of the piece is actually all the same notes as the first half of the piece, simply flipped and played in reverse! We have words and phrases like this in language, too, called palindromes.

A **palindrome** is a word, phrase, or sequence of numbers that reads the same backward as forward. Some examples are words like madam or kayak, phrases like nurses run, and numbers like 02/02/2020 (February 2, 2020).

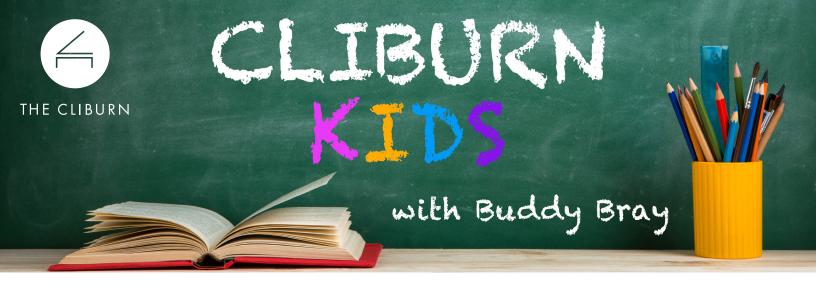
Do this word search to learn some more palindromes!

Can you think of other palindromes?

Ex. MOM___

V R R A E E M A D A M C T E R E A O L O C R O R A R O T O R A C S E M R L S E A G A O E R A E A V A M R O V O C N K A A R C G E R N R R I M L D A A D E A A L D O V E V R E E Y T A F R S R C O R A E A R O A C R E N E T R N O C R R A T K E K R E O V Y R A R O T A T O R E O R A S R E D D E R E L M E D

LEVEL • REDDER • RACECAR REFER • RADAR • SAGAS • NOON MADAM • REVIVER • KAYAK ROTOR • ROTATOR



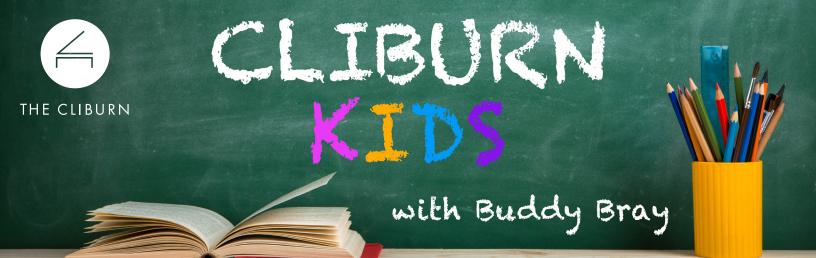
EPIDSODE 7: BACK IT UP!

HAYDN Menuet al rovescio from Piano Sonata in A Major, Hob. XVI:26

Haydn's minuet is a musical palindrome! We have other musical palindromes as well, such as **arpeggios**. An arpeggio is musical figure in which the musician plays all the notes of a chord in order, usually going up and then going back down in pitch. They look like this:



Even without knowing what the notes are, you can see that they are the same because of where they sit on the lines and spaces in the staff. In fact, musical palindromes are so common that musicians have a special term, **retrograde motion**! It simply means that a piece of music, or series of notes, is played once forward (like a car moving forward), and then played again in reverse (like a car backing up!).



EPIDSODE 7: BACK IT UP! HAYDN Menuet al rovescio from Piano Sonata in A Major, Hob. XVI:26

LEARN ABOUT THE COMPOSER!

FRANZ JOSEPH HAYDN 1732-1809

Franz Joseph Haydn was born in Austria in 1732. He grew up in a musical home. His parents recognized that he was musically talented, and when he was 6 years old, Haydn was sent to study music with a relative who lived near Vienna, Austria. He never again lived with his parents. When Haydn was 8, he became a member of the famous boys choir at Vienna's St. Stephen's Cathedral. For nine years he was a chorister.

In 1759 Haydn was appointed music director of the small musical



establishment of Count Morzin. Haydn's reputation grew, and in 1761 he became conductor of the private orchestra of Prince Esterházy, who came from a wealthy, noble Hungarian family. The orchestra he conducted became known as one of the finest of that time. This post, which he filled for almost 30 years, was ideal for Haydn because it gave him the opportunity to work with a group of fine musicians. He wrote music, directed the court orchestra, hired musicians, and generally provided entertainment for the palace. Unfortunately, his contract with the family said that every composition he wrote belonged them, which was common in the Classical Period.

Later in his life Haydn traveled to London, where he wrote 12 very popular symphonies and gave concerts for English aristocrats. Haydn wrote many compositions, including 104 symphonies, 32 piano trios, and 60 piano sonatas.

Haydn was often called "Papa Haydn" by his friends because of his good sense of humor and likable disposition. He was one of the greatest composers of the Classical Period.