

EPISODE 13: HOW MANY HANDS, PT. 2 RAVEL "Empress of the Pagodes"

TODAY'S WORKSHEET

In this week's episode, Buddy's friend Evan Mitchell joins us as a guest. The two pianists played together as an **ensemble**. An ensemble is a group of two or more people singing or playing music together. When two people make music together, the ensemble is called a **duo**. Three musicians playing together is called a **trio**.

WHICH ENSEMBLE IS THIS?

Draw a line from the ensemble name to the correct picture it describes!

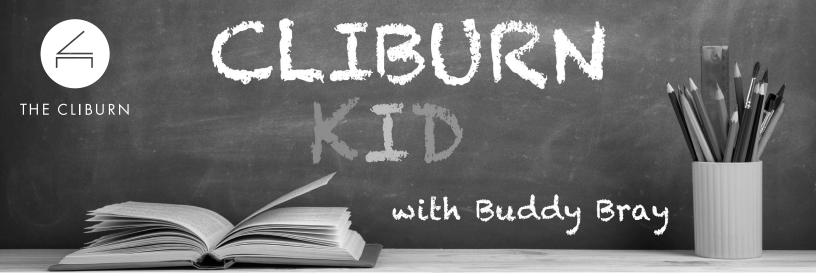
SOLO

DUO

TRIO

ORCHESTRA



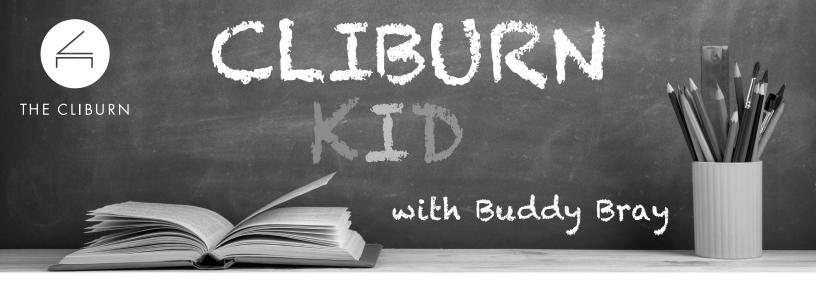


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CHARACTERS IN MUSIC

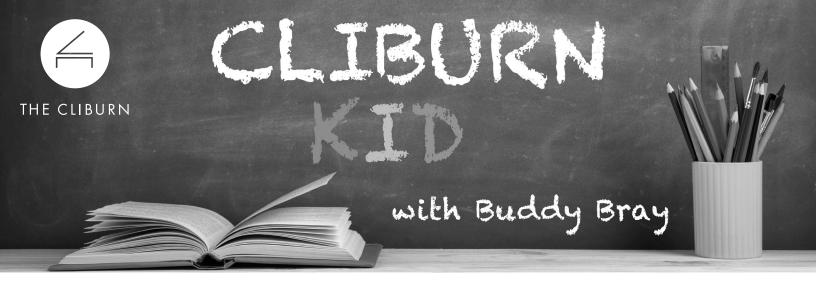
Buddy tells us that there are three characters that appear in this music. Who are they?
1
2
3
Buddy mentions that all three characters' tunes have something in common. Can you remember?
Circle the correct answer!
All of these character's tunes are played only using WHITE or BLACK keys.
Buddy plays two popular songs that only use black keys. Can you name those songs?
1
2
There are 88 keys total on the piano keyboard.
Can you count how many black keys there are? How about white keys?



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NOW LET'S DRAW!

Laideronnette, the Empress of the Pagodes, is an Asian Princess, cursed and made ugly-looking by an evil fairy. She was a sweet child and decided to live far away from her castle home alone, in order to not cause distress to her family. One day, she finds herself in the land of the Pagodes. Pagodes are beautifully embellished tiny Chinese dolls with wobbly heads. The music you heard today paints a picture of Laideronnette taking a bath, surrounded by the pagodes singing and playing on their miniature instruments. How do you think the princess is feeling? Relaxed and happy, or upset and sad? How many pagodes do you think there are, making music for the princess? What kind of instruments are they playing? Use the space below to create your own picture!



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LEARN ABOUT THE COMPOSER!

MAURICE RAVEL 1875–1937

Maurice Ravel was born in France in 1875. His father was a Swiss civil engineer, and his mother was a native of France. He inherited a gift for music and an aptitude for mechanical things from his father. He began to take piano lessons when he was 7 years old, and a few years later he started to compose music of his own. Ravel was just 14 when he entered the Paris Conservatory.

When World War I began, Ravel was anxious to enlist and serve his beloved France. After the war, he traveled around Europe conducting and performing his music. He made an American tour in 1928.



Ravel was influenced by Impressionistic and Russian music. However, he did not stay with any one style of composition and once said that a composer should create what he feels without regard to style. He believed that great music came from the heart. Ravel always worked slowly and carefully on his compositions. He achieved originality, grace, and intense beauty in his music.