

PEABODY CADENZA - Course Offerings & Descriptions

Enoch, Patti

A History of Ballet

Choreographers and Their Landmark Works: George Balanchine, Agnes deMille and Jerome Robbins

Explore three outstanding choreographers of the 20th century, who are considered artistic geniuses. Review their backgrounds and choreography to discover why their contributions to the art of dance are so important.

Dancing Ladies

The changing role of the ladies of dance in America from chorine (chorus girl) to choreographer. We take a look at the "female influence" on Broadway, in film and in classical theatre dance in 20th century America.

Gene Kelly: Dancer/Choreographer

This versatile song-and-dance man was one of America's leading entertainers who helped convince millions that "real men" could and should dance! Enjoy a biographical overview of Kelly's art highlighted with film clips.

The Russian Ballet

Dancers and choreographers Pavlova, Nijinsky, Fokine, and Balanchine are legacies of ballet performance still remembered today. Explore the history of these remarkable dancers and their innovative choreography introduced in the early 20th Century.

Women Choreographers

Faatz, Kris

The Evolution of the Piano

The first organ was built by ancient Greeks. Over centuries, the form of the instrument changed: keys were added and independent builders experimented with strings to create sound. Explore the evolution of an entirely new instrument –the piano.

The Language Of Music

Music of various composers and periods have characteristic differences in their sounds. What elements define the styles of different composers' works? Learn to hear the differences between Bach and Brahms, Mozart and Mahler.

The Science of Sound

Explore the connections between math and music and science and artistry, from the way instruments are built to the question of musical beauty.

Fields, Andy

Baltimore And All That Jazz

Survey the evolution of jazz in Baltimore, Maryland, and its natives who entertained the world, including Eubie Blake, Cab Calloway, Chick Webb and Billie Holiday.

Beiderbeck, Basie & Brubeck

Considered a true "American" art form, the history of jazz and its development will be traced the legendary performances of Leon Bix Beiderbeck, William "Count" Basie and Dave Brubeck.

From Broadway To Harlem

Explore the fascinating history and interpretation of Broadway show tunes by jazz musicians through a chronological survey of Louis Armstrong, Charlie Parker and John Coltrane.

Great Lyricists Of American Popular Song

Jule Styne once said, "A song without words is just a piece of music." Examine the work of some of the greatest writers of popular song lyrics including Ira Gershwin, Lorenz Hart, Dorothy Fields, and many more.

Hoagy Carmichael: Those Stardust Melodies

The composer of Stardust and Georgia on My Mind influenced the early jazz age and became a movie icon. Explore Carmichael's life and the performers and lyricists who worked with him, through vintage recordings, videos, and performances.

Jazz Pianists

The stylistic traits of jazz piano playing include Boogie-Woogie, Stride, Swing, and Bebop. Experience the legacy of trend-setting pianists such as Jelly Roll Morton and Oscar Peterson through audio and video examples.

Listening to Jazz

Jazz has many stylistic traits to listen for, such as the difference between dixieland, swing, bebop, and fusion. Compare and contrast these traits through the use of live music, vintage recordings and videos.

Satchmo and Duke

Jazz musicians, Louis Armstrong and Duke Ellington, had a profound impact on twentieth-century culture. Enjoy vintage video footage, recordings, demonstrations and discussions, which highlight the biographies and music of these individuals.

The Jazz Singers

Examine "jazz" vocal techniques such as blues, swing and scat through lectures, discussions, audio, and video recordings. Explore jazz greats such as Louis Armstrong, Connie Boswell, Bing Crosby, Billie Holiday, Cab Calloway, and others.

Good, Allen

Concertos For Piano

Examine the development of the concerto through history by comparing several recorded and video performances. Discuss concertos by Mozart, Beethoven, Rachmaninoff, Barber, and Schumann.

Great Pianists

From Mozart and Clementi to Artur Schnabel and Van Cliburn, discuss, compare and analyze the development of piano performance since its inception over two centuries ago.

Piano Music of Chopin

Explore the style, innovation and powerful communication of this "poet of the keyboard" through a sampling of solo piano works. Enjoy the enchanting Mazurkas, the mysterious Nocturnes, the dramatic Ballades, and the virtuosic Etudes.

Piano Music Of Franz Liszt

Franz Liszt's virtuosity revolutionized how the piano is played and his visionary compositional style was a doorway to the next century. Explore a number of his exceptional works for the piano.

The Beethoven Concertos

Beethoven's concertos rank among the most highly regarded in musical literature. Using a variety of recordings, discuss the history and development of the concerto and Beethoven's influence on the form's evolution.

Vladimir Horowitz

Examine the long and brilliant, if interrupted, career of Horowitz through his extensively recorded legacy. Discuss the unique qualities that made him the most sought-after pianist of his day.

Heist, Doug

Beethoven's Early Piano Sonatas

Beethoven, the pianist, amazed the Viennese with his unique and dramatic music. Explore his early sonatas, which exhibit a "classical" style, form, and texture similar to Haydn and Mozart, but bearing the personal compositional traits of Beethoven.

Beethoven's Late Piano Sonatas

Beethoven's late works, composed in total deafness, are deeply personal, original and sublime. Explore his last five sonatas to experience their vast textural and emotional variety, sometimes contained within altered Classical forms.

Brahms Solo Concertos

In Brahms' concertos, the virtuosity of the soloist is never used for sheer dazzling display--it always has a deeper musical purpose. Explore his two piano concerti and the violin concerto in order to understand Brahms' unique style of Romanticism.

Debussy Preludes For Piano

While Debussy's preludes entice the ear, it is also music that is harmonically daring and prefigures later twentieth-century techniques. Examine his two books of preludes, which celebrate Debussy's sensuous pianistic colors and textures.

Impressionistic Piano Music

Discover the beautifully written works of Debussy and Ravel, composers inspired by the Impressionistic Movement. Explore similarities and contrasts to discover what makes this music sound so distinct.

Mozart Piano Sonatas

Mozart's piano sonatas were usually written for his own use as a performer. Investigate Mozart's concern for classical elegance and an Italianate singing style.

Music Theory: The Grammar Of Music

What is the basis of the infinite variety of sound in music? Learn some building blocks: pitch, rhythm, melody, harmony. Some emphasis will be on developing sight reading skills and ear training.

Piano Music Of Chopin and Liszt

Chopin and Liszt were famous performers as well as brilliant composers. Chopin's elegance and technique were remarkable, while Liszt's virtuosity revolutionized how the piano is played. Explore some of their impressive, enduring works for piano.

The Art Of Fugue

Examine fugal style and other imitative contrapuntal forms (invention, canon) found not only in Baroque works but in music from other eras as well, including the 20th Century.

Two Handel Oratorios: Comparisons and Contrasts

Explore the extraordinary achievements of two of Handel's greatest oratorios: "Israel In Egypt" and "Messiah." Study their textual and musical styles, their place in the culture of 18th century England, and their continuing popularity.

Understanding Sonata Form

Explore one of the most important principles of musical form--sonata form. Sonata form is an organizing principle that pervades Classical, Romantic and even 20th Century music and found in diverse instrumental music from Mozart to Samuel Barber.

What Is Orchestration?

Discover the varied "voices" that comprise music's greatest instrument: The Orchestra. Learn how instrument's capabilities and varied, interesting combinations, contribute to texture and form in symphonic music.

Kibel, Seth

Clarinetists of the Swing Era

Go back to the days when the clarinet was the Granddaddy of all jazz horns. Take a look at the careers of Benny Goodman, Artie Shaw, and Woody Herman as well as their lasting impact on jazz history through recordings, videos, and live performances.

Duke Ellington & Count Basie

Survey the two most prominent figures in America's jazz royalty: Duke Ellington & Count Basie. Trace their entire careers, including the decades spent changing the shape of American music. Survey audio and video excerpts of the pianists.

Jazz In The Big Apple

Although New Orleans rightfully claims to be the birthplace of jazz, its true epicenter has been New York City. From the Harlem Renaissance, through Swing, Bebop, and beyond, survey musicians who made the Big Apple their musical laboratory.

Klezmer: American Music

Celebrate klezmer! Trace its origins in Jewish communities of Eastern Europe to its modern transformation into a unique art form. Encounter klezmer through recordings, videos, and a lively evening performance by a professional klezmer band.

Roots of the Blues

Explore the origins of the blues in post-Reconstruction times and discuss musicians such as Robert Johnson, Sonny Boy Williamson, T-Bone Walker, and others. Trace the history of the northward migration to Chicago, culminating in Muddy Waters (1950s).

The Duke & The King of Swing

Examine the lives, careers, and music of two of the most influential jazz royals: Pianist, the "Duke" Ellington and Clarinetist, "King of Swing," Benny Goodman. Recordings, video excerpts, and live music are sure to entertain!

The Evolution of Jazz

Explore the origins of this uniquely American music, from its birth in New Orleans, to its development in Chicago and New York City. Explore dixieland, stride pianists, and the birth of the big band/swing through audio, video and live performance.

The Great Saxophonists

Discover the music and lives of the greatest practitioners of jazz's favorite instrument--the saxophone. Explore the careers of Frankie Trumbauer, Coleman Hawkins, Lester Young, Ben Webster, Charlie Parker, John Coltrane, Sonny Rollins, and more.

Killian , Amy

At the Piano with Robert Schumann

Journey through Schumann's life via his imaginative and poetic works for piano, including touches of piano chamber music, piano and voice, and the A minor piano concerto. You'll never forget the trip!

Schubert Piano Music and Lieder

Schubert was considered the first great melodist of the 19th Century. Explore the interweaving of melody, color, piano and voice in his hauntingly beautiful works, including his masterpieces Wintereise, Impromptus, and the B Flat Piano Sonata.

The Aura Of Chopin

Explore the style, innovation and powerful communication of this "poet of the keyboard" through a sampling of solo piano works. Enjoy the enchanting Mazurkas, the mysterious Nocturnes, the dramatic Ballades, and the virtuosic Etudes.

Kurzava, Julie

Gershwin And Gershwin

George and Ira Gershwin were brothers and a great composer/lyricist team. Examine their familial professional relationships, and enjoy recordings and discussions of some of the finest songs of the American musical theater.

Lerner And Loewe

The lyricist/composer team of the magical My Fair Lady created memorable musicals including Brigadoon, Camelot and Gigi. Explore their unique partnership, follow their road to success, and enjoy many of the great "hits" that are their claim to fame.

Rodgers And Hammerstein

"Oklahoma!" ushered in a new era of musical theater, setting the world standard that continued through "The Sound of Music." Experience American musical treasures as you once again explore the treasured music of Rodgers and Hammerstein.

Stephen Sondheim

Examine works by Stephen Sondheim, prominent musical theater figure, American lyricist and songwriter, and composer of musicals, including *A Little Night Music* and *Sweeney Todd*.

The Music Of Andrew Lloyd Webber

For more than thirty years, Andrew Lloyd Webber has been creating musicals of stunning popularity. Explore the different musical styles that make Sir Andrew's works so universally beloved.

Liotti, Ernest

A Survey Of Program Music

Whether from literary sources or the imagination, composers have set wordless stories in music for centuries. Explore this genre through works such as Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*, Berlioz' *Symphonie Fantastique* and Beethoven's *Pastorale*.

Bernstein On Broadway

Bernstein's success as a composer ranged from Broadway to the world's greatest concert halls. Marvel at his compositional versatility in some of his most profound compositions: "Candide," "West Side Story," "On the Town," and "Trouble in Tahiti."

Chaplin and Chaney

These men were two greats of the silent cinema, both of whom resisted sound. Explore the career of "The Man of a Thousand Faces" and "The Little Tramp" through video clips and discussion.

Great Comedy Classics

Survey Hollywood's golden age of comedy from legends Keaton to Chaplin, as well as directors such as Preston Sturges, noted for the genre.

Great Pianists

Trace the development of the piano, the history of recorded sound, and discuss the development of piano performance since its inception over two centuries ago. Compare and analyze recorded performances.

Great Piano Concertos

Trace the structure of the concerto, from Classical to the 20th Century. Compare various recorded and video performances and discuss intriguing works by Mozart, Beethoven, Schumann, Rachmaninoff and Barber.

Maria Callas: Flawed And Flawless

Trace the career of this great soprano who captured the world's attention with her uniquely expressive voice and dramatic skill. Compare her performances of "Traviata," "Lucia," "Norma," and "Tosca" with divas such as Tebaldi, Price, and Sutherland.

Old-Time Horror Films

"Things that go bump in the night." Classic greats of horror cinema will be discussed through clips of Chaney, Karloff, Lugosi, etc.

Opera 101

Beyond the dramatic and musical hyperbole of opera lies an art form which is actually quite accessible. Explore a few representative works from opera's earliest days to the present.

Opera Greats: A Treasury Of Recorded Sound

Through the history of recorded sound, celebrate the "Golden Age" of singing from Galli-Curci and Caruso to Callas and Tebaldi.

The Baroque Style

The 17th Century was an era of great musical developments. Examine concerto grosso, suite, and vocal styles through the music of Bach, Vivaldi, Scarlatti and others.

The Classical Style: Architectural Perfection

Examine music from the "Age of Elegance" through its various forms and structures. Survey examples of sonata, rondo, theme and variations, and more.

The Golden Age Of Hollywood

Examine the great age of American film making, from silent classics, 3D movies of the 50s, and to the industry's failed attempt to lure audiences away from TV. Study films directed by Wylar, Hitchcock, Huston, Vidor and others.

The Watchful Eye: Alfred Hitchcock

As the master of suspense, Hitchcock left an indelible mark on cinema history and his artful hand is evident in all his pictures. Investigate the director's discriminating style through various video examples.

Titanic: Triumph To Tragedy

What fascinates us about this tragedy, over ninety years old, which changed society's view of "man over nature"? Class will revisit events leading to and including the disaster with particular emphasis on film accounts of the event.

Toscanini: Legends And Myths

Toscanini was possibly the most influential conductor of his time. Discuss his recording legacy from early sessions through his TV years, dispelling myths about adherence to score, disinterest in contemporary music, and musical rigidity.

Verdi and Shakespeare

Macbeth, Othello, and the fruit of old age, Falstaff, are discussed including the composer's relationship with his librettist. Various performances are compared.

Verdi's Il Trovatore

Verdi's Il Trovatore is one of music's most "bizarre" operas including plot twists, switched babies, poison, lust, and vengeance. Discuss this enduring classic through sound and video clips.

Verdi's La Traviata: The Lady Of The Camellias

Verdi took his inspiration for one of the world's most popular operas from "La Dame aux Camellias" by Dumas. Learn about historical and societal conditions surrounding the story and the opera, while listening to great performances, past and present.

Verdi's Otello: Seamless Perfection

No doubt Verdi's masterpiece, Otello, is the greatest dramatic Italian opera of the late 19th century, in which Verdi and Boito collaborate for their 1st operatic treatment of Shakespeare. Analyze the opera and numerous famous performances.

Verdi's Rigoletto: La Maledizione

Discuss Verdi's middle period masterpiece, Rigoletto, which is a story of deceit, lust and treachery. Also compare various performances of this famous opera.

Verismo Opera

Graphic, gut-wrenching depictions of the seamy side of life, verismo operas became king of the operatic stage. Operas discussed include *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *I Pagliacci* and later operas influenced by verismo such as *Madama Butterfly* and *La Bohème*.

Vladimir Horowitz

Examine the long and brilliant, if interrupted, career of Horowitz through his recorded legacy. Discover the unique qualities that made him the most sought-after pianist of his day.

"What A Dump": The Career Of Bette Davis

Once referred to as "Hollywood's best actress and worst performer", uncover the star's often controversial but never dull filmography from box office flops to acting triumphs.

Messenger, Bill

Berlin & Gershwin: A Study in Contrast

Irving Berlin's childhood poverty and youthful tragedies starkly contrast with George Gershwin's comfortable family life and his evolution from songwriter to serious composer. Explore how they both created a unique and lasting body of American music.

Irving Berlin: King of Tin Pan Alley

Explore the life and works of the man who created more lasting hits than any other popular composer. His creative output never ceased being revived. Discover why Jerome Kern said "Irving Berlin has no place in American music, he ~~is~~ America's music."

The Big Band Era

Out of the Great Depression emerged a unique American art form--big band swing--a compromise between dance band arrangement and jazz improvisation. Explore the music of the 1930s and 1940s and the relationship between the times and the music.

Three Dynamic Decades: The 20s, 30s, and 40s

From flappers to bobby soxers, from Valentino to Crosby and then Frank Sinatra, from the roaring 20s through the Depression and World War II. Relive it all through the unique sounds of each era.

