



“Farandole”

from *L’Arlesienne* Suite No. 2

Georges Bizet
 Born: October 25, 1838
 Died: June 3, 1875

Georges Bizet was born in Paris, France. Both his parents were musicians, and they actually wanted their son to become a composer when he grew up! Bizet loved music, but he also loved to read books. His parents wound up hiding his books so that he would spend more time on his music.

When Georges was 10 years old, his father enrolled him in the Paris Conservatory. While there, he wrote his only symphony, but it wasn’t performed until many years after he died. Bizet graduated from the Conservatory with awards in both composition and piano.

Bizet also composed operas, the most famous of which is *Carmen*. When *Carmen* first opened in Paris, the reviews were terrible. Many critics said there were no good tunes in it,

so audiences stayed away. During the first round of *Carmen* performances, Bizet died. He was only 36. Four months later, *Carmen* opened in Vienna, Austria, and was a smash hit. It is now one of the most popular operas ever written. Bizet never knew that audiences would come to consider it his masterpiece.

Bizet was also very good at writing dramatic music. The music he wrote for the play *L’Arlesienne* (*The Girl from Arles*) is still enjoyed today, especially the “Farandole” from the *L’Arlesienne Suite No.2*. A farandole is a dance from Provence, an area in Southern France. Bizet used two traditional French tunes in his “Farandole.” One is a dance; the other is the “March of the Kings,” a traditional French Christmas Carol.



Georges Bizet

1



2



Bailey and Emily are going to go for a sled ride. The music begins with a march. Can you hear them march up the long hill?

Emily goes first. She glides down the hill to a new tune. What fun!

3



Bailey joins in and follows Emily down the hill. Can you hear both melodies? They are following each other.

4



Down at the bottom of the hill, a snow couple have a musical conversation.

5



The kids and the snowman play together. Can you hear both melodies at the same time? Listen for the cymbals as they play in the snow.

Snow Fun!

Write two sentences about each of the snowmen pictured below. Choose one of your ideas to develop into a story. How did the snowman come be pictured this way? What is going to happen next? Think about the kind of musical instruments you could use for the telling of your story. Compose a theme for your snowman and use your instrument of choice. You could even write your own song and record it on a tape recorder. It's snow much fun!







Where do giant Eskimos
live?
In Bigloos



Knock, Knock
Who's there?
Tuba
Tuba who?
Tuba Toothpaste

Where does Santa swim?
In the North Pool

Listen Up - circle the correct answer

1. The music begins with a **march** **dance**
2. This melody is a **pop song** **carol**
3. The dynamic **stays the same** **changes**

Why not create your own original piece
of art while listening to "Farandole."

Draw a picture, or write your own story,
if you wish, on blank 8 1/2" x 11" paper.
Send us your art and we may post it on our
Classics for Kids website for you
to share with others.

Our address is:
Classics for Kids
c/o WGUC
1223 Central Parkway
Cincinnati, OH 45214



Or E-mail us at mail@classicsforkids.com

