

## Listening 18: Lilacs

*Warm up:*

*Optional: get sillies out and zip lips*

*Warm up ears to listen to music.*

*Warm up hands on heart to feel the music.*

*Warm up hands to draw what you feel.*

*There is no wrong thing to draw!*

FIRST: (and this is different from other lessons) Introduce the first stanza of the poem. Teach difficult vocabular. Try choral reading. Then...

1. Play 1st song. Have children draw
2. Share info-
  - a. *Lilacs for Voice and Orchestra* (1996)
  - b. 1996 Pulitzer Prize for Music
  - c. Based on “When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom’d” (1865) by American poet Walt Whitman (who was born on Long Island)
  - d. Soprano and Orchestra
  - e. George T Walker Jr (b. 1922), American, Born in Washington DC
  - f. Sung by Faye Robinson
3. Listen again and draw.

\*Break to clap and move x2.

4. Play 2nd song. Have children draw, but don’t introduce song.
5. Share info-
  - a. *When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom’d* (1946)
  - b. Based on “When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom’d” (1865) by American poet Walt Whitman (who was born on Long Island)
  - c. Mezzo-Soprano, Baritone, SATB Chorus, Full Orchestra
  - d. Paul Hindemith (1895-1963), German composer born in Frankfurt.
  - e. Performed by Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau, Brigitte Fassbaender and the Vienna State Symphony Orchestra.
  - f. Location
6. Listen again and draw.

The poem was written just after the Assassination of President Lincoln in 1865 and is a reaction to the recently ended Civil War and this tragic event.

“1.

When lilacs last in the dooryard bloom’d,  
And the great star early droop’d in the western sky in the night,

I mourn'd, and yet shall mourn with ever-returning spring.

Ever-returning spring, trinity sure to me you bring,  
Lilac blooming perennial and drooping star in the west,  
And thought of him I love. “

-Walt Whitman