



ROYAL
COLLEGE
OF MUSIC
London

Royal College of Music Museum

My Art and Music Activity Book



Art and Music

Our senses are really important to us, particularly **sight** and **sound**.



Looking at art and listening to music helps us to...

THINK



FEEL



Making music and art helps us to use our imaginations and express our feelings.

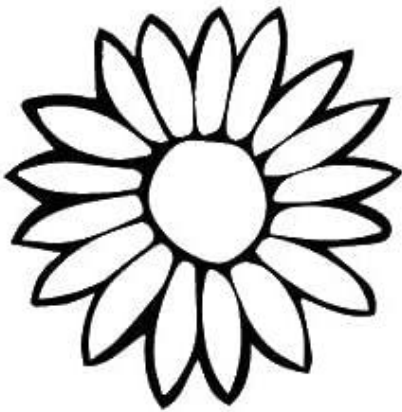


Artists and musicians are often inspired by each other.

At the Royal College of Music Museum, there are lots of beautiful musical instruments. Some are decorated with paintings, patterns, animals and flowers.

Let's draw!

Can you practise drawing some of these?



Sunflower motif



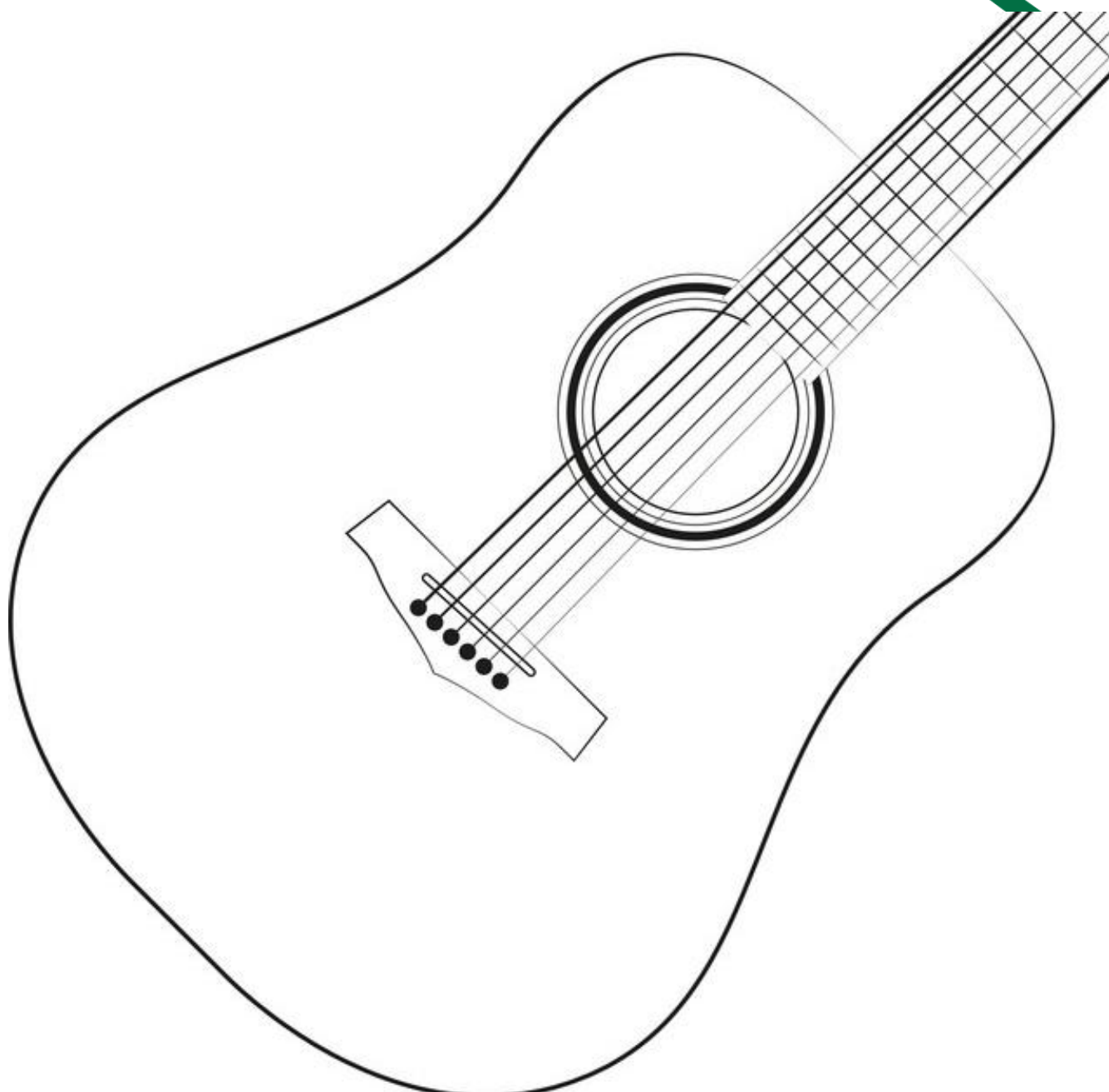
Fleur de lis



Scroll leaf

Let's decorate!

How would you decorate the body of this guitar?



An instrument in the RCM Museum has three miniature paintings on it. Each painting tells a special story, called a Greek myth.

Fun Fact: Ancient Greeks worshipped gods and heroes. They told stories about the gods and these stories were called myths.

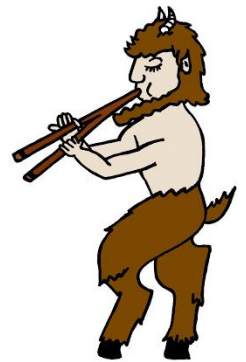
Story

A Musical Competition Between Apollo and Pan



King Midas was taking a morning stroll through the forest. Suddenly he stopped.

'Who is playing that beautiful music?' he thought. Walking towards the sound, he sees Pan playing his pipes.



Pan is quite funny to look at. He has the legs of a goat and the body of a man. King Midas crouched behind a bush to listen. Pan finished his melody and began to boast: 'I am the best musician in the whole universe. I can play my pipes even better than Apollo can play his golden lyre.'

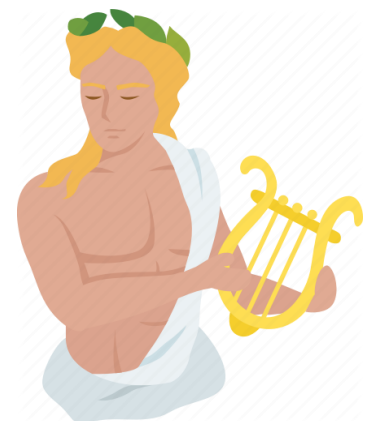


Apollo, the god of music, was resting in the palace on top of Mount Olympus. He overheard Pan, and his forehead creased into a frown. In a flash, he appeared in front of Pan.

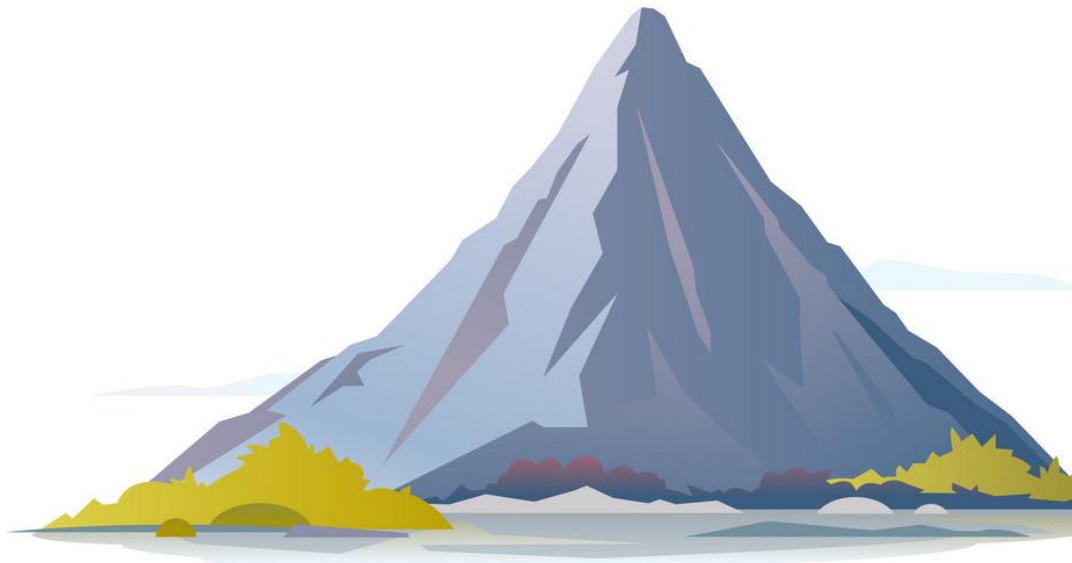
'What nonsense!' Apollo bellowed. 'No one is a better musician than I am! I'll show you Pan. Let's have a musical competition.'

'Fine, but who is going to judge our contest?' said Pan.

'That mountain over there,' replied Apollo.



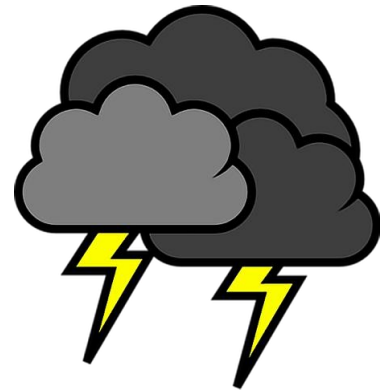
'What? That mountain? That mountain is just a lump of rock. He can't judge our competition!' Pan spluttered.



'Oh yes I can!' rumbled the mountain. Pan was so shocked, he fell over with fright.

'Your turn first.' Apollo said to Pan.

Pan hesitated, then lifted his pipes to his lips and began to blow. His music was wild like nature. You could hear the howling of the wolves, the crashing of waves on the shore, thunder and lightning. It was beautiful, but a bit scary.



Pan finished, and Apollo lifted his lyre onto his shoulder and began to play. His music was soft like a feather, as gentle as the breeze. You could hear the songs of the birds and the humming of the bees. The music stopped.

'Well...?' They both looked at the mountain. 'Apollo is the winner!' boomed the mountain.

'No!' From inside a bush, a voice cried: 'That's not fair. I thought Pan's music was the best!' It was King Midas.



Apollo looked very cross. King Midas started to feel a bit funny. Something was happening on the top of his head. He reached up to feel his face with his hands, and gasped. His ears had moved! They were growing longer and sticking up. He touched them with his fingers.



Oh no! Two grey, twitching donkey's ears!

'That'll serve you right,' said Apollo. 'I won the competition fair and square'.

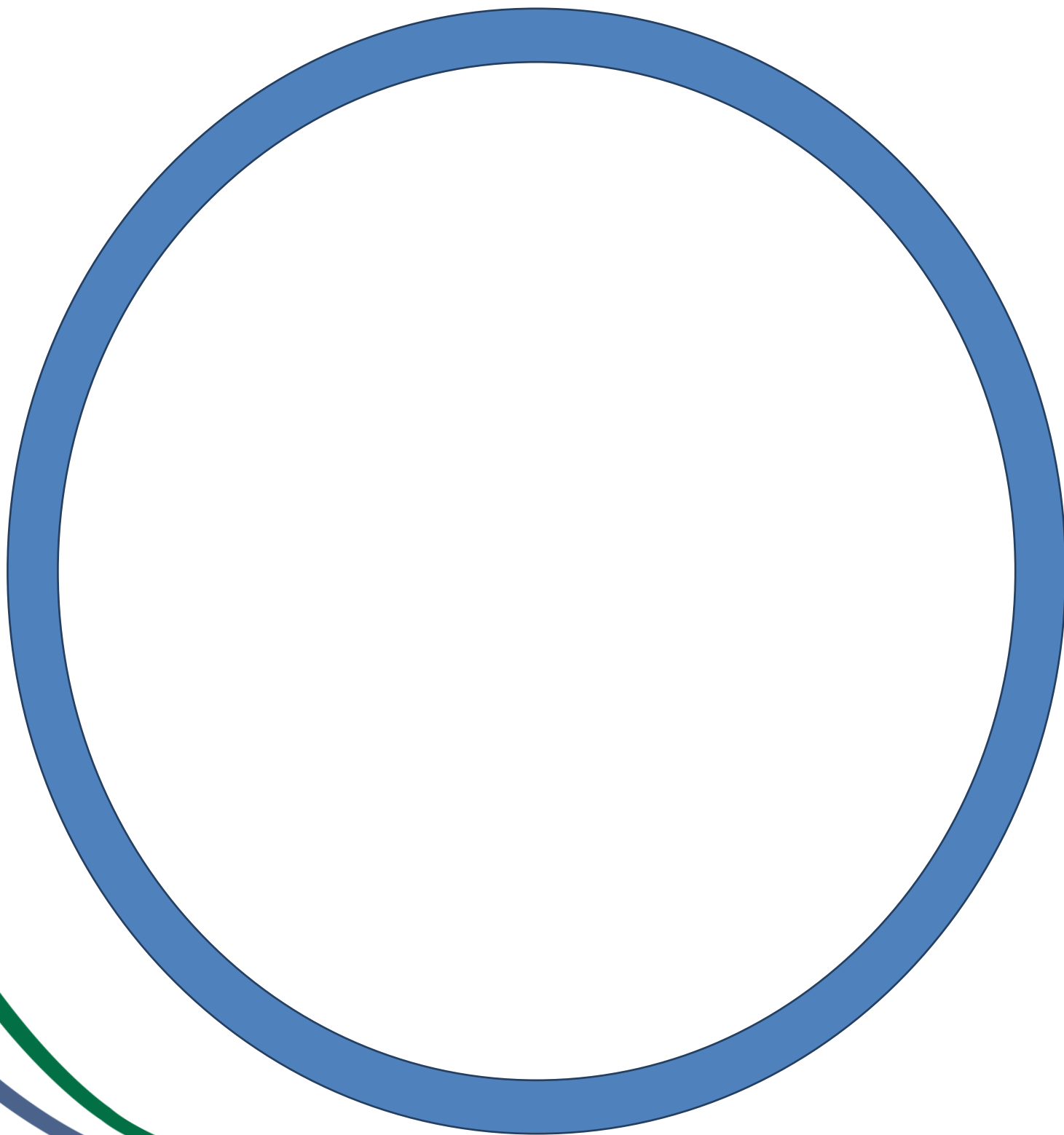
'Sorry!' said King Midas, who ran off to find a hat to cover up his embarrassing donkey ears.

THE END

Make your own myth!

Can you create your own miniature picture that tells a story?

What story will you tell?



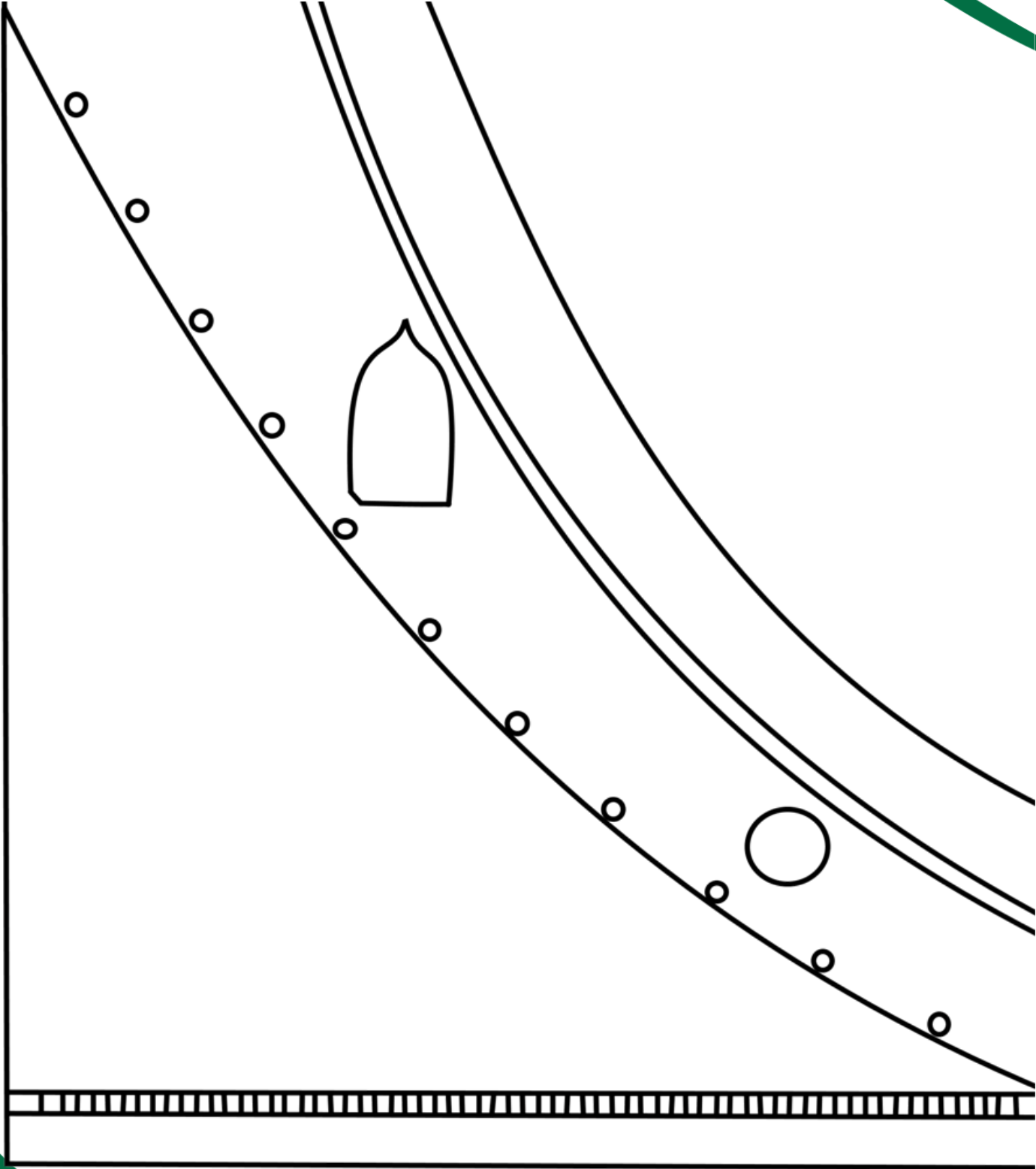
Countryside scene

One of the instruments in the Museum is over 500 years old! On the front, you can see what used to be a countryside scene. It's very old and faded, but there was a mountain on the left and green fields. Can you spot the tiny house?



Let's draw!

Can you draw your own countryside scene?



Spot the difference!

(Solution at the end of booklet)

Here's a painting of a lady with a cittern from the RCM Museum.

Fun Fact: A cittern is a stringed instrument from the guitar family. The exact same cittern you see in the painting is in the RCM Museum! It is shaped like a bell.

Can you spot the differences between these pictures?



Let's colour!



Musical Maps!

Art and music come together in graphic scores.

Fun Fact: What is a graphic score? Composers use pictures, symbols, shapes and colours instead of musical notes to write down their music.

It's more like a musical map!



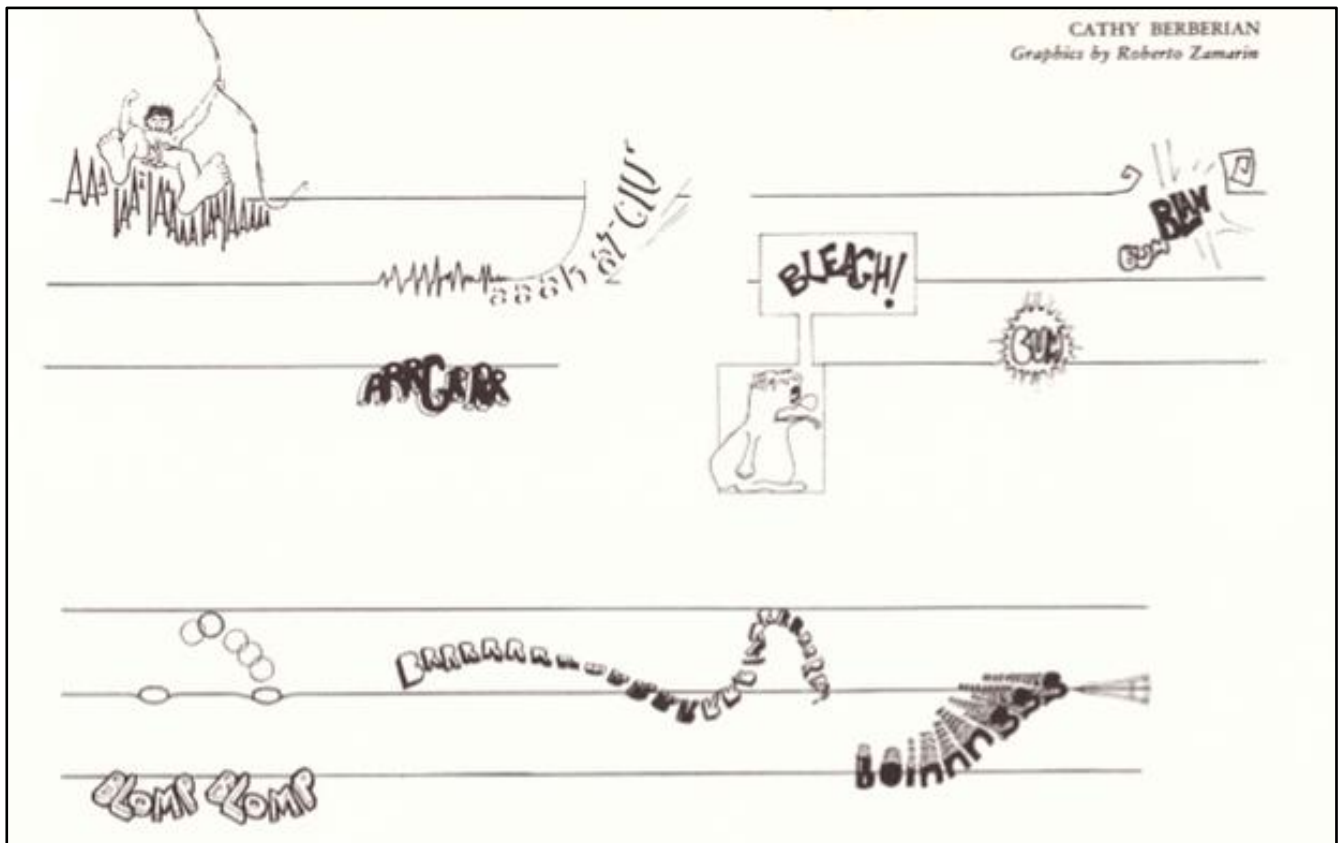
In this piece by Cilla McQueen, written in 2006, each line represents a different instrument (2 violins, an oboe and a bass guitar). The colours and shapes tell the musicians how the music might sound.

Listen and look!



A famous graphic score by a composer called Cathy Berberian looks like a cartoon!

Have a listen on YouTube (ask your parents to help). The singer doesn't sing any notes, just noises and words. She even roars like Tarzan!



LET'S CREATE!

Now it's your turn to make a visual score. Find a piece of paper and choose from these two options.

1. Choose a piece of music to listen to. Draw whatever comes into your imagination.
2. Create your own visual score and see if you, a friend or family member can make music from it!

Well done!

Congratulations! You've completed your RCM activity book. For more activities from the RCM Museum, visit www.rcm.ac.uk/museum

Solutions:

Spot the difference



1. Rainbow in the sky
2. Birds flying
3. Bird on the ledge
4. Flower in her hand
5. Dog in the corner
6. Tiara on her head
7. Blue bow on the instrument