

Happy March everyone!

CI Music Hour Recap 2/24/22

Last week Seika Dong returned to the CI Music Hour to share the harp with us. Seika has played the harp for 24 years and regularly teaches and performs. We learned that the typical harp has 47 strings with its lowest note at a C and highest at a G, spanning a total of seven octaves!

Seika presented a variety of styles of music to the group including: "Mia & Sebastian's Theme" from Lala Land; "Moon River"; "Ten Past Two" by Pearl Chertok; "Première arabesque" by Claude Debussy; and "You Raise Me Up" by Josh Groban. Seika used each of these pieces to introduce the group to various playing techniques on the harp such as the glissando (playing in a continuous upward or downward slide between notes), arpeggio (playing the notes of a chord in succession), harmonics (cutting the string in half with the hand and plucking it to create the sound of a bell), using the harp's soundboard as a percussive instrument, and using the harp's pedals to play in different musical keys.

Many of the CI users in our music hour found the harp enjoyable to listen to. Participants also found it helpful to hear melodies of songs such as "Moon River" played monophonically first (without any accompaniment or harmony) and then with the additional harmonies added later. This allowed CI users to more easily identify the song's melody among other background harmonies.

For more music, check out this harp and cello duet recommended to the group by Seika:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3qrKjywj07Q&ab_channel=YoYoMaVEVO

Tomorrow's Music Hour 2/3/22

Join us tomorrow to learn from Alfred Surenyan about the Theremin! Please find an outline of tomorrow's presentation along with Alfred's bio attached! Additionally for anyone unfamiliar with the theremin, check out this wiki [page](#) as an introduction!

Julianne & Chrysa