

Hello everyone!

CI Music Hour Recap 10/19/23

Last week Stuart Wheeler joined our group to discuss birdsong. Stuart is a composer, singer, and instrumentalist, but has become an avid birdwatcher and identifier in his spare time.

To begin the session, we learned about some musicians who have been inspired to use birdsong in their music making. In particular, composer Alexander Liebermann has transcribed certain [bird calls to sheet music](#). The French composer, Olivier Messiaen, is well known for incorporating aspects of birdsong into his works. In particular, he transcribed birdsongs and used them to write a piano piece, entitled [Catalogue of Bird Songs](#). We also [listened to a recording](#) of performer and singer, Charles Kellogg, who was famous for imitating birdsongs with his voice.

Stuart then introduced us to a bird identification resource from The Cornell Lab, called [All About Birds](#). We used this website to read about four different kinds of birds found throughout the United States: American Robin, House Sparrows, American Crow, and Common Raven. We also listened to several recordings of specific calls from each of these birds on the website. We then compared and contrasted different patterns of intonation and phrasing in each of the calls. If you'd like to continue learning about different kinds of birds, All About Birds is a great resource to get started.

You can watch the recording for last week's music hour [here](#).