## Year 6: Music

## A New Year Carol

(The music of Benjamin Britten)

## Benjamin Britten 22 November 1913 – 4 December 1976

The conductor stands in front of the Orchestra. He/she holds a stick called a baton, and they direct the overall shape of the sound.







Benjamin Britten was one of the greatest **opera** composers of the last century. He wrote many songs and parts in opera for his life-long partner, Peter Pears. He was an expert in three different musical fields: conducting, composing and playing the piano. Britten used these musical terms in his compositions.

Conductors help musicians start and stop together.

Conductors set the tempo, or speed, that everyone will play.

Conductors show the beat patterns.

Conductors show different musicians when to start playing with a cue, or a motion directed at them.

Conductors help musicians play the right dynamics, or volume.

A **composer** is an artist who writes music to be played or performed by musicians. A classical *composer* might work by writing out musical notation and trying things out on the piano.



Listen to other songs by Benjamin Britten and cover versions of them:

• I Must Be Married on Sunday;

Fishing Song.

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Vocabulary				
Benjamin Britten	A British composer.			
cover version	In popular music, a cover version, cover song, or remake, is a new performance or recording by a musician other than the original.			
Urban Gospel	A modern form of gospel music. Gospel music is church singing.			
			<mark>Staccato</mark> means to play short, sharp notes.	
Crescendo means getting louder.		crescendo		
		cresc.		
CRC Article 29: All children have the right to have their talents developed to the full.				