

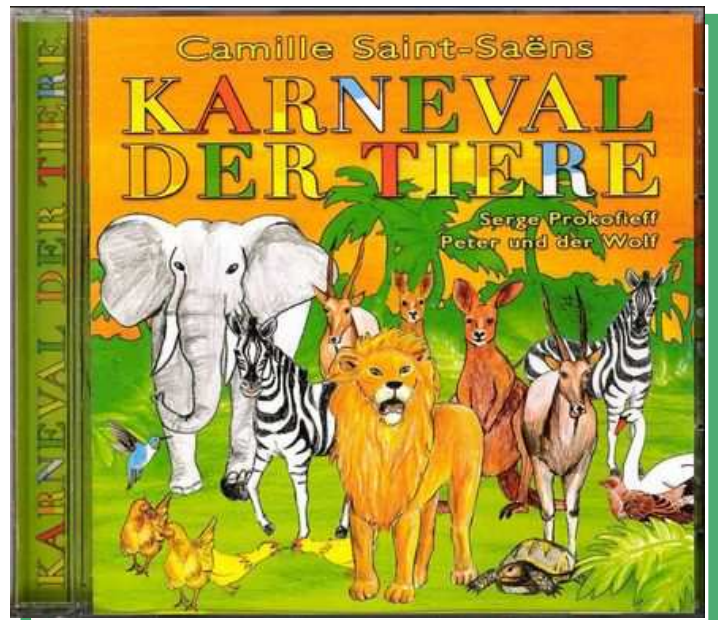
# 620. The Swan

Backgrounds Of S. Radic

**Le carnaval des animaux** is a musical suite for chamber orchestra by the French composer Camille Saint-Saëns. The work without opus number has fourteen small movements and lasts 22-25 minutes. During his lifetime, the composer did not release it for publication; today it is one of his most famous works.

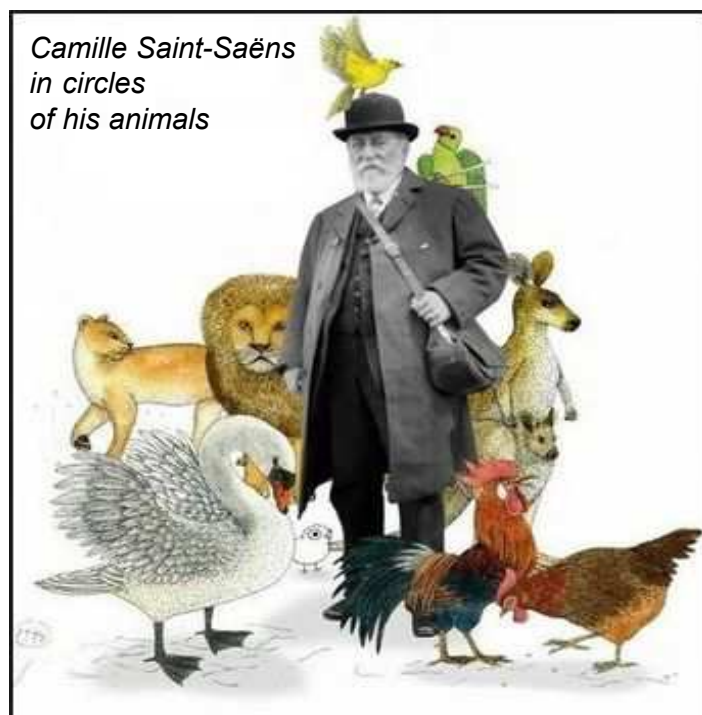
Camille Saint-Saëns composed the "Carnival of Animals", subtitled "Grande fantaisie zoologique", in January 1886 in a small Austrian village. Here, in just a few days, he processed early sketches of the Carnival, dating from a time when he was still a piano teacher (1861/1865). The opportunity to write the work now was a concert given annually by the then well-known cellist Charles Lebouc on Shrove Tuesday. On March 9, 1886, the Carnival of the Animals, with Camille Saint-Saëns and Louis Diémer as pianists, was premiered.

However, he did not want to publish the work for chamber orchestra after all, as he feared for his reputation. For apart from imitating all kinds of animal calls through the instruments in the pieces, he had also quoted several of his professional colleagues (Jacques Offenbach in "The Turtles" and Berlioz and Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy in "The Elephant(s)"). Rossini is not spared either, as one of his arias appears parodied under the fossils. The composers were already dead at the time and could not have blamed him, but Saint-Saëns did not want to upset their admirers either. The work was published by his



publisher Jacques Durand only after his death (December 16, 1921), and the first posthumous performance of the work took place during carnival time on February 25, 1922 under the direction of Gabriel Pierné in Paris.

**The Swan (Le Cygne)**, Andantino grazioso, 6/4 time (or 3/4), pp. instruments: cello, piano I, piano II  
Animal portrait: white water bird. A mood. It is the only piece from the "Carnival of the Animals" to which Camille Saint-Saëns confessed during his lifetime. A magnificent swan glides along on a lake. Appropriate to the size and beauty of the animal, the romance is played by the cello in its tenoral voice. This piece also became known as music for the dance solo "The Dying Swan" by the Russian ballet choreographer Michel Fokine for prima ballerina Anna Pavlova. The Carnival of the Animals is part of the programme music genre.



## Slow-Waltz (T=90)

The musical score is arranged in five staves. The top staff is labeled 'Stage' and contains a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The second staff is labeled 'Bass' and contains a bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The third staff is labeled 'Guitar' and contains a treble clef with the same key signature and time signature. The fourth staff is labeled 'Str-Pad' and contains a treble clef with the same key signature and time signature, featuring a long sustained chord. The fifth staff is labeled 'GM-Drums' and contains a bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, featuring a drum pattern with labels for Tamb., Shaker, Triangel, BD, and SD.

### Programming instruction

WERSI-PEGASUS. The "R-MID" file is the GM version, which sounds good in any GM device (call GM Setup in the peg. before). Transmission process: The file is first loaded into the 16 Track-Seq. With the GM-"R"-file the channels have to be changed to the Pegasus-style channels: ACC1=1, BASS=2, ACC2=3, ACC3=4, ACC4=5, ACC+ =6, DRM+ =7 and DRUM = 8 Caution, the ascending tracks (1-8) must be kept and all GMProg. change controllers must be deleted. If an ACC channel is missing, it remains empty (can be supplemented by custom programming in the style editor). Then a corresponding main slot with identical clock numbers is initialized in the style editor. Now the complete MID style is buffered in the 16-track sequence via "Copy to buffer" and then automatically transferred to the style editor channels in the style editor via "Ins.All". Now you only have to enter the Pegasus sound banks with the corresponding instruments and adjust the volume if necessary (volume recommendation: DRUMS/ BASS=110, GIT./Str.-Pad=60). If you have any problems, try the Mail-DIALOG in subscription distance learning.