

A Historical and Hysterical Guide to the Orchestra

Did you know that flutes used to be made of mammoth bone and vulture wings? Or that the timpani used to be played on horses? And is it a coincidence that cellos were manufactured fatter than violins just around the same time that chocolate was brought over from Mexico to Europe?

Packed with original music to showcase each instrument, fastidiously-researched historical facts, and the trademark mischief and wit of IGUDESMAN & J00, this show takes audiences through time to see the history of instruments from their earliest origins to their first uses in the orchestra. And just like a good symphony, this piece is also forty minutes long.

A Historical and Hysterical Guide to the Orchestra was commissioned and given its world premiere by the Tonhalle-Orchester Zürich for their 150th Anniversary Celebration Concert.



