

(Pronounced Sanh-sahn)

Saint-Saëns was born in Paris in 1835. His great-aunt instructed him in music when he was two and one-half years old.

At five years of age, he could easily read and play opera.

In his sixteenth year, he won the first prize for organ-playing.

Noted for his wit. He also wrote on scientific subjects.

Travelled extensively, visiting all countries. The study of astronomy was a hobby all through his life.

Spent a great deal of time helping young French composers.

After visiting Africa and Spain, he composed brilliant music descriptive of these countries.

Elected a member of The French Academy and received the Grand Croix, the highest honor obtainable.

Nothing pleases children more than to hear his suite "Carnival of Animals," a humorous work in which we hear the cuckoo, lions roaring, donkeys braying, cocks crowing and hens cackling.

Section of this suite called "The Gentlemen with Long Ears," was written in contempt of his critics. It was not performed in public until after his death in 1921.



Theme from Algerian Suite third movement, "Reverie du Soir" ✧

Andante

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