



Suite Bergamasque for solo  
piano (1890)



- Music vs. Noise
- Well Known vs. Unfamiliar
- “Organized Sound”

A graphic of a musical staff with five red lines. On the left, there are three orange notes: a quarter note on the first line, an eighth note on the second line, and a quarter note on the third line. On the right, there are two orange notes: a quarter note on the second line and a half note on the third line. The text "What is Music?" is written in a large, yellow, serif font across the middle of the staff.

# What is Music?

## Working Definition:

Music consists of intentional combinations of sounds arranged so as to produce a work of art that provides aesthetic enjoyment, that expresses something, that follows some kind of internal logic, and exhibits intelligible structure.



- Intentional combinations of sounds
- Work of art
- Aesthetic enjoyment
- Expresses something
- Internal logic
- Intelligible structure

A graphic of a musical staff with five red lines. On the left, there are three orange eighth notes ascending. On the right, there are two orange eighth notes descending. The title "Characteristics of Musical Sound" is written in a large, yellow, sans-serif font across the center of the staff.

# Characteristics of Musical Sound

- **Pitch** - high versus low.
- **Loudness** - Loud versus soft.
- **Duration** - Long versus short.
- **Timbre** - tone quality/color.



# Sources of Sound

*Always*

a vibrating object



- Guitar string
- Double bass
- Adam's apple
- Speaker cone



20 - 20,000  
Vibrations per second

A graphic of a musical staff with five red lines. On the left, there are three orange eighth notes ascending. On the right, there are two orange eighth notes descending. The title "Experimental Observations" is written in a large, yellow, sans-serif font across the center of the staff.

# Experimental Observations

- The greater the rate of oscillation, the higher the pitch
- The greater the displacement, the louder the sound