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| **Listening to Music – Number:**  ***You should choose as much or as little of this as you see fit for the group you are teaching.*** | |
| **Name of Composer** | Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (Image attached) |
| **Composers Dates** | 15 August 1875 – 1 September 1912 |
| **Composers place of birth** | Holborn, London - Brought up in Croydon |
| **Name of Piece** | Othello Suite, Opus 79 – 2 movements - Dance & Funeral March (of 5 in the Suite) |
| **Date composed** | 1911 |
| **Historical Style** | Modern Romantic style |
| **A Painting from this period** | *From a Window in the Hampstead Road* by Spencer Frederick Gore, painted in the same year 1911 (Image attached) |
| **Events in History from this time** | Jan 14th 1911 Roald Amundsen's first to reach the South Pole.  Aug 21st 1911 the "Mona Lisa" stolen from the Louvre by Vincenzo Perugia.  Jul 24 1911 American explorer Hiram Bingham discovered Machu Picchu, the Lost City of the Incas.  Apr 12 1911- 1st non-stop London-Paris flight (Pierre Prier in 3h56m). |
| **Info about the piece & Composer** | Mother - Alice Hare Martin an English woman, father - Dr. Daniel Peter Hughes Taylor, a [Krio](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sierra_Leone_Creole_people) from [Sierra Leone](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sierra_Leone) who had studied medicine in the capital. He became a prominent administrator in West Africa, Daniel Taylor returned to Africa without knowing that Alice was pregnant. Alice Martin named her son Samuel Coleridge Taylor.  There were numerous musicians on his mother's side and her father played the violin. He started teaching it to Coleridge when he was young. His ability was obvious when young, and his grandfather paid for the boy to have violin lessons. The extended family arranged for Taylor to study at the Royal College of Music, beginning at age 15. He changed from violin to composition & after completing his degree, Taylor became a professional musician, soon being appointed a professor at the [Crystal Palace School of Music](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crystal_Palace_School); and conducting the orchestra at the Croydon Conservatoire.  **What is a Suite?** A suite, in Western classical music and jazz, is an ordered set of instrumental or orchestral/concert band pieces. It originated in the late 14th century as a pairing of dance tunes and grew in scope to comprise up to five dances, sometimes with a prelude, by the early 17th century. Modern Suites are generally a collection of pieces from a ballet, a play, or just pieces written to go together on a theme like the Planets Suite by Gustav Holst.  **Othello**- by William Shakespeare- A Tragedy written around 1603. The story revolves around its two central characters: [Othello](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Othello_(character)), a [Moorish](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moors) general in the [Venetian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Venetian_Republic) army, and his treacherous junior officer, Iago. Given its varied and enduring themes of racism, love, jealousy, betrayal, revenge, and repentance, *Othello* is still often performed in professional and community theatre alike, and has been the source for numerous operatic, film, and literary adaptations. Clearly Coleridge-Taylor was also inspired by this play. |
| **Focus of listening** | What are the 4 sections of the orchestra? Strings, Woodwind, Brass & Percussion.  Can you name an instrument you see from each of the 4 sections? Which one would you like to play?!  Does the first movement make you feel like moving? Can you find one word to describe it?  What do you think the Funeral March feels like - sad or majestic? What do the string players do in the last few bars after the French Horn Solo? Not using the bow, but plucking the strings - called ‘Pizzicato’. |
| **Link to Performances** | YouTube link- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=84HZ_fEwD9s> recorded Feb 2020 at the Southbank Centre’s Queen Elizabeth Hall  Played by [Chineke! Orchestra](https://www.chineke.org)- **the name** means “creator of great things” and is a joyous exclamation in Nigeria’s Igbo language. The father of the orchestra's founder is Nigerian.  The music starts at 30”  Spotify links (don’t forget to create & sign in to your Spotify account, it’s free!) – Movement 1, Dance  <https://open.spotify.com/track/44y70lv1Dr4ZJszhnz03Fw?si=03oJr55fRvuFtuhKp5H8Hw>  Movement 2, Funeral March- <https://open.spotify.com/track/6H5WyX784htSRszXoS6EN9?si=Jro7qt29TQOJPZvtS-fYGw> |
| **Length of Clip** | 7’10” (2nd movement- Funeral March starts at 7’27”- if choosing one movement I’d probably choose this one, as it’s more dramatic) |
| **Other interesting or relevant info- why are we doing it this week/month year?** | He was named after the famous poet Samuel Coleridge Taylor (no hyphen! 1772-1834), two of his best-known poems are ‘Kubla Khan’ & ‘The Rime of the Ancient Mariner’  Coleridge-Taylor got his hyphen through a printer’s error & kept it from them on.  Black History is important and it’s great music by a composer who wasn’t always given the recognition he deserved. |



