



WELCOME TO
carnaval!

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3PM

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Happy Carnival!

Welcome to Carnaval! We are so excited to share in this wonderful Brazilian tradition of dance, music, and fun. Our special guests come from Brazil, and have been performing for audiences all over South Florida since 1999. Your performers are dancers, Capoeira artists, and wonderful percussionists. So wear your most festive outfit, brush up on your Portuguese, and join us for an afternoon of Carnival-level fun!

As always, we appreciate your support for Orchestra Miami. It is our priority to teach people about all music, including music from around the world which is not always performed in the concert hall. Our Nicklaus Children's Hospital Family Fun Series is the perfect place to introduce your kids to music of all cultures and your support for this concert is a step forward for us at Orchestra Miami!

If you'd like any more information about our concerts, our mission, or about where to find us on social media, please visit our website - orchestramiami.org, or by [clicking here](#). We appreciate the support and your dedication to our orchestra and our wonderful cause!

Enjoy Carnival!

Elaine Rinaldi, Founder and Artistic Director

What is Carnival?

Brazilian Carnival is a celebration of parades and festivals that happen to signal the Catholic tradition of Lent, on the Friday before Ash Wednesday. These festivals are held in places all over Brazil, but the most popular one happens in a city in Brazil called Rio De Janeiro. Carnival requires floats, dancers, musicians, really elaborate costumes (see below), and an excited audience.

Dancers and workers of Carnival are recruited from places called “Samba Schools,” in which representatives of each neighborhood helps to build arenas and floats for the parades, and promotes the education of Brazilian history and culture!

Another aspect to Carnival is that wherever you go in Brazil, the costumes, music selection, and Samba schools are vastly different in each region! One thing remains: no matter where you are in Brazil, the street parties (called ‘blocs’) are still as fun as the parades of Carnival!

Here is an example of a costume worn by one of the Carnival Dancers, Ingra Santos!





THE MUSIC OF SAMBA

Samba is a type of music that comes from Brazil. Its origins date back to the 1600s in the state of Bahia, where African slaves would take folk music from the region and different types of drums (or **percussion**).

This early history then takes form in the 1900s, where the first recorded Samba song comes from Rio de Janeiro in 1917. This sparks all different variations of Samba, where different regions of Brazil would create their own versions using different percussion instruments, different styles of music, and different melodies.

A person who helped Samba regain popularity in the middle of the 20th century was Carmen Miranda, a well-known actress who sang Samba music and danced Samba in her movies. She was well known not only for her portrayal of Samba, but also for wearing a basket of fruit on her head!

Samba is a very versatile type of music! You can hear it in reggae, salsa, ballroom, and other Brazilian genres of music! Because the music is driven by the percussion, the sound becomes very versatile. You'll love it at first listen!

THE MUSIC OF SAMBA

What makes Samba music...Samba?

- ★ **It requires a lot of percussion instruments!** Not only do you need percussion instruments like the wood block and tambourines, you also need instruments specific to Brazil (see: next page for all the different instruments). These percussion groups for Samba are called **baterias**.
- ★ **It requires call and response!** One person sings something, and either the second person (or chorus) calls back the same thing, or something in response. Samba is known for its call and response sounds.
- ★ **The beat is very unique!** Unlike other dances from Central America, South America, and the Caribbean Islands, this music uses a system of **2 beats per cycle**, unlike others that use **3 or 4 beats per cycle**. Examples of a type of music that uses 2 beats are a March and sometimes Reggae. Listen for that 2-beat cycle during our concert!
- ★ **Samba's use of chords is repetitive and simple!** When you play more than one note at the same time, you call this a **chord**. When the music of Samba plays, the chords are simple and keep repeating. Since chords are mainly used in music that accompanies the melody (called **harmony**), this makes this music focus more on rhythm and melody.

THE MUSIC OF SAMBA

What do the percussion instruments look like?



Cuicas - a smaller drum that the player can wear over their shoulder!

Tamborim de Brasil-
An instrument that looks like a snare drum, but it's smaller and uses a different type of mallet.



Agogô -
An instrument that has two different sizes of cones, one is higher and the other is lower.

THE MUSIC OF SAMBA

Chocalho-

A series of shakers put together on a steel frame or a wooden stick.



Surdo -

A low sounding drum (bass drum).



Ganza -

A shaker that's filled with pebbles, metal balls, or beads.



CAPOEIRA: MUSIC AND DANCE

Capoeira: More Than Just a Song and Dance

Capoeira is a martial art that combines self-defense, dance and music. Its origin story is that slaves in Brazil would practice this martial art to fool people into thinking they were dancing, but they were really learning how to fight and self-defense. They would learn to fight in secret in order to escape from slavery. While they were training, they would play music with lots of rhythm in order to fool the rest of the public while they were training.

Though Capoeira was banned for more than 30 years in the early 1900s, the Brazilian government made Capoeira an official part of Brazilian culture once it became popular outside of Brazil in the 1970s. Much of why capoeiristas wear white is so that the sport can be seen as “clean” and not as an acrobatic martial art for criminals.

A big part of Capoeira is the **roda** - the circle in which capoeiristas watch two people engage in combat with each other, swaying and kicking along with the music. The music is call and response, much like Samba, but though they have one instrument in common (the agôgô), they are very different in practice.

CAPOEIRA: MUSIC AND DANCE

Capoeira: Some of the moves of Brazilian slaves

WARNING: If you are interested in this style of movement, please seek a professional Capoeira instructor, and do NOT do this at home without one; it can cause serious injury.

- ★ **Ginga** - swing. A capoeirista would start with one hand near their chin and put their other hand by the side. Their back leg would be parallel to their hips and the other leg would be lunged forward and back depending on where they move. This movement is by far the most diverse and the basis of all other moves done by capoeiristas.
- ★ **Armada** - a kick. A capoeirista would spin their body while raising a leg as a kick that ends on the side.
- ★ **Benção** - a kick that pushes the capoeirista's opponent. Hands are in front of the face and body, while the capoeirista's strong leg pushes forward directly in front of the body
- ★ **Rasteira de frente** - a "sneaky" move in which a capoeirista would lunge to the ground and sweep another opponent's leg. It works as both a surprise attack but also as a way to go around the roda.
- ★ **Macaco** - monkey. It is a back handspring and a capoeira staple, where it helps the capoeirista maintain balance in training.



LISTENING GUIDE

Here's what you're going to hear for Carnival!

- ★ Aquareala Do Brasil - Ary Barroso
- ★ Eu Sou O Samba - Alexandre Pires
- ★ Batucada Carioca - Bateria o lemé
- ★ Songs by Axe Bahia
- ★ Fuleiragem - Psirico
- ★ Dança Da Mãozinha - Tchakabum
- ★ Bafo Da Onça - Pérolas Do Pagode
- ★ Agua No Boca - Fundo De Quintal
- ★ Samba Diferente - Molejo

BEFORE THE CONCERT

- ★ Everywhere in the world there are different types of music and dances. Where are you from, and what type of music and dance that celebrate your culture?
- ★ Do you know of another dance from a different country that you've heard? What is it?
- ★ Look at all the instruments for Samba music. Which one do you think would be the loudest? What about the quietest? Highest notes? Lowest?
- ★ **Percussion** means that any instrument that requires you to hit, shake, or scrape it. What are some other examples of percussion instruments you know? Hint: Adele, Lady Gaga, and Alicia Keys all play this one percussion instrument!
- ★ Slaves had to learn how to fight in secret in order to learn how to escape the bad world they were living in using Capoeira. What are some other examples of people learning to be strong and overcome their bad world?
- ★ From the Listening Guide on the previous page, what's a song you would like to continue learning more about?



AFTER THE CONCERT

- ★ You heard songs here that are from the music genre **Samba**. Do you like the unique sounds of Samba? Why or why not?
- ★ What was your favorite part of Carnival? Was it the music? The costumes? Why?
- ★ After learning more about the powerful moves of Capoeira, what are some other examples of self-defense from different countries?
- ★ Are there any other celebrations like Carnival in the world? If so, where? What are the differences? (Hint: Italian composer Antonio Vivaldi stopped by in November to tell us about his country's version!)
- ★ After hearing all the different instruments in the concert, which one was your favorite?
- ★ As we learned, Brazil's Carnival is very different depending on where in Brazil you go! Find out what those differences are and discuss where in Brazil you'd like to see a live Carnival in!
- ★ Thank you for coming, and have a great rest of your day!