

Music of the Week – Part 2

Focus: Intercultural Awareness



Artist / Piece	Country / Culture	Information	Link
Snarky Puppy – Thing of Gold	UK / US Jazz / Fusion	<p>A really interesting band. It is a New York-based instrumental fusion band led by bassist, composer and producer Michael League. The musicians perform on a variety of instruments including guitars, pianos, keyboards, woodwinds, brass, percussion and strings. Essentially made up of a core of musicians, they cover up to 40 musicians for a touring band as, over the year, some of them play with other musicians too. Many of the current and former band members were once students at the University of North Texas.</p> <p>Besides performing, Snarky Puppy is committed to music education. While touring, the band has held over 100 clinics, workshops, and masterclasses in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, France, the Netherlands, Germany, Belgium, and Mexico.</p> <p>The convergence of musicians from white and black America occurred while the band was in its infancy at the University of North Texas, has naturally established a system of balance that instantly draws listeners to the music- raw funk and sensitive dynamics, strong melodies, lush harmony and soulful simplicity, and most importantly, a delicate mixture of composition and improvisation.</p>	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eZBIRkF0-to
Milton Nascimento - Francisco	Brazili (MPB - Música popular brasileira)	<p>Milton Nascimento (born October 26, 1942, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil) is a Brazilian singer-songwriter and guitarist.</p> <p>He lived in the boroughs of Laranjeiras and Tijuca in Rio de Janeiro</p> <p>In the early stages of his career, Nascimento played in two samba groups. Nascimento is famous for his falsetto and tonal range, as well for highly acclaimed songs.</p>	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ieajwo-oSmU
Cornelius - Coloris	Japanese contemporary electronic	<p>The Japanese musician Cornelius (né Keigo Oyamada) made the soundtrack for this Nintendo game. He also created an original composition for this, the ending sequence. The music of Cornelius could be described as experimental and exploratory, and often incorporates dissonant elements alongside more familiar harmonically "pleasing" sounds.</p>	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_NaTE1wFdgA
Red Baraat - Sialkot	Bhangra (Dohl & Brass) North Indian inspired	<p>Led by dhol drummer Sunny Jain, the 8-piece (comprised of dhol, drum kit, percussion, sousaphone, and 4 horns) melds the infectious North Indian rhythm Bhangra with a host of sounds.</p> <p>The band played at the Paralympics closing ceremony in London. Based in New York, the band play here on the banks of a river in Texas.</p> <p>Personally, I don't think you could get much more of a positive multicultural collaborative example than this film & piece!</p>	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b4CNwNrpXvM&index=26&list=RDb4CNwNrpXvM
Van Anh Vanessa Vo The dragon King & The Fairy	Vietnamese Dan Tranh Zither (instrument)	<p>Võ Vân Anh (born in Hanoi), also known by the stage name Vanessa Vo is a Vietnamese musician best known for her work on the dan tranh zither.</p> <p>As a young girl in Vietnam, she knew she wanted to be a traditional musician, even though it was a world dominated by men. It was risky, then, when she pestered a master teacher for three years to give her lessons. He finally gave in, taking her on as an apprentice.</p> <p>Võ began studying dan tranh from the age of four. In 1995, Võ won the first prize for best solo performance of modern folk music.</p>	<p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oToUu62eNaQ</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cmxc5J61NE</p>
La Santa Cecilia – La Negra	Mexican - American	<p>La Santa Cecilia is a Mexican-American band based in Los Angeles, California who play a blend of many forms of music, including cumbia, bossa nova, and boleros. The name La Santa Cecilia is based upon the patron saint of musicians, Saint Cecilia.</p> <p>Vocalist Marisol Hernández began her musical path when she was a child, singing boleros and rancheras for spare change on Olvera Street, Los</p>	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ISjaTWoTT4I

		Angeles' historic Mexican-American cultural hub. She met the future members of the group during these weekend street performances, and they worked through the club scene and festival circuit to become international headlining artists	
Aswad – Warrior Charge	Reggae Jamaica derived – UK band	Aswad are a long-lasting British reggae group, noted for adding strong R&B and soul influences to the reggae sound. They have been performing since the mid-1970s, having released a total of 21 albums. The members of Aswad are UK descendants of immigrants from the Caribbean. They attended John Kelly/Holland Park School. Initially the band produced music in the Roots Reggae-vein.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=23qWXIqlogS
Kirk Franklin I smile	Contemporary Gospel (US)	Kirk Franklin (born January 26, 1970) is an American gospel musician, choir director, and author. He is known for leading urban contemporary gospel choirs, and has won multiple awards, including seven Grammy Awards. A native of Fort Worth, Texas, Franklin was raised by his great aunt Gertrude, having been abandoned as a baby by his mother. Gertrude collected and resold aluminium cans to raise money for Kirk to take piano lessons from the age of four. Kirk excelled in music, being able to read and write music, while also playing by ear. He joined the church choir and became music director of the Mt. Rose Baptist Church adult choir at the age of twelve	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z8SPwT3nQZ8
Anoushka Shankar & Norah Jones – Traces of You	Indian	Anoushka Shankar (born 9 June 1981) is an Indian sitar player and composer. She is the daughter of Indian Sitar maestro Ravi Shankar. Anoushka was born in London and her childhood was divided between London and Delhi. Through her father, she is also a half-sister of American singer Norah Jones (born Geetali Shankar) Shankar began training on the sitar with her father Ravi at the age of seven. As part of her training, she began accompanying him on the tanpura at his performances from the age of ten, soaking up the music and becoming acclimatised to the stage. Shankar gave her first public sitar performance on 27 February 1995 at the age of 13	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kEJSWiftX98
Prince, Tom Petty, Steve Winwood, Jeff Beck – While my guitar Gently Weeps	Rock / Blues (UK / US)	"While My Guitar Gently Weeps" is a song George Harrison wrote with the Beatles — one of the songs on the White Album. To start with, the other members of the band didn't seem to care too much for the tune when Harrison played it to them and tried to record it. He scrapped the song. He and the Beatles then promptly started over again, recording a new backing track in 28 takes. The initial live backing track featured Harrison on acoustic guitar and guide vocals, John Lennon on electric, Paul McCartney on piano and Ringo Starr on drums. Harrison later overdubbed lead vocals, and McCartney recorded backing vocals and a bass line with Lennon. Harrison then invited his friend Eric Clapton to overdub lead guitar. This live version features Prince on lead guitar for a monumental solo at the end of the piece – Worth watching!	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6SFNW5F8K9Y
Anna Maria Jopek & Tomasz Stanko Szepty i łzy	Folk inspired pop / contemporary Poland	Anna Maria Jopek (born 14 December 1970 in Warsaw) is a Polish musician and singer. She represented her country in the 1997 Eurovision Song Contest, with the song "Ale jestem" and finished 11th out of 25 participating acts; and in 2002, she collaborated on an album with jazz guitarist Pat Metheny. She grew up listening to her native folk music. She studied classical piano at the Chopin Academy of Music in Warsaw. Her music borrows from pop music, Polish folk forms, and other ethnic sources. Tomasz Stanko is a Polish trumpeter and composer. He is 73 years old. Stańko lost his teeth in the 1990s, although over time he developed a new embouchure with the help of a skilled dentist and monotonous practice. He would spend long hours playing what he deemed to be "boring" long tones which helped to strengthen his lip, in spite of playing with the disadvantage of false teeth.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZHVlevvYSIM
Jolly Brothers – Conscious Man	Reggae Jamaica	The Jolly Brothers came from Hellshire Beach, St. Catherine, Jamaica, West Indies. Jamaica spawned a style of music – Reggae – from the late 1960s, that is still found hugely in aspects of popular music today. One of the most easily recognizable elements is offbeat rhythms; staccato chords played by a guitar or piano (or both) on the offbeats of the measure. The concept of "call and response" can be found throughout reggae music. The bass guitar often plays the dominant role in reggae.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=noV-nUWY-no
Raul Midon –	Jazz / Blues / R&B	Raul Midón is a singer-songwriter and guitarist from New Mexico, based in	https://www.youtube.com

State of Mind	/ Folk	<p>New York City. He combines his distinct voice, his signature guitar technique, extensive scat singing and vocal mouth trumpet sounds. Midón was blind from infancy.</p> <p>He was born prematurely in a rural hospital in Embudo, New Mexico, to parents of Argentine and African American descent. His father was a folkloric dancer from Argentina. Midón and his twin brother Marco (now a NASA engineer) were blinded after spending time in an incubator without adequate eye protection. The sounds of music became integral to Midón's life around age 4, when his father introduced him to the drum. Midón became an avid music lover and learned how to play the guitar while performing in rigorous educational programs, first at a school for the blind.</p>	m/watch?v=zzaCIXAt3aY
<p>Papa Wemba</p> <p>6 Millions Ya Ba Soucis</p>	<p>Soukous</p> <p>Congo</p>	<p>Papa Wemba was born Jules Shungu Wembadio Pene Kikumba on June 14, 1949, in Lubefu (Sankuru District, Belgian Congo). He is a Congolese rumba (later known as soukous) musician, one of Africa's most popular musicians, and prominent in world music.</p>	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ljEtJYGRxGg