

# Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

## Lesson Plan for *Symphony No. 5, mvt. II*

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### NY State Standards:

Standard 1: Creating, Performing, and Participating in the Arts

Standard 3: Responding to and Analyzing Works of Art

Standard 4: Understanding the Cultural Dimensions and Contributions of the Arts

**E.Q.:** How do we recognize and identify the musical motive in Tchaikovsky's *Symphony No. 5, mvt. 2*?

### Performance Indicators:

- Identify the main theme of music, and recognize it as it occurs
- Understanding historical perspectives of when a piece of music was composed
- Relate a piece of music to different aspects of popular architectural structures

### Objective (E.Q.):

1. Students will recognize and identify the main theme of the music
2. Students will understand the historical context in which the piece was written
3. Students will understand and relate the form of a piece of music to qualities of architecture
4. Students will develop the skills necessary as an appropriate listener at a concert

### Historical Context:

*Symphony No. 5* was composed between May and August of 1888. It was first performed on November 6 in St. Petersburg. It has four movements and has a recurring motto throughout. The popular theme of fate and triumph over strife is found through-out much of this work. It was very popular during World War II, as many cities were under attack. In Leningrad one night, as the piece was performed, bombs were heard around the city, yet the concert continued until the piece was finished.

### Listening Repertoire:

*Symphony No 5, mvt. 2 Andante cantabile*, Peter Tchaikovsky  
*Moon Love*, Glenn Miller

### Procedure:

- Listen to Glenn Miller's *Moon Love*

Listen to Glenn Miller's *Moon Love*, discussing

- Show pictures of Russian architecture to students

Discuss recurring themes and defining characteristics of this architecture: spires, symmetrical design, domes

- Explain the idea of motives, in architecture then music
- Introduce the idea of a motive as a 'defining characteristic'.
- Teach students to sing the motive

Using the lyrics to the main motive of Symphony No. 5, mvt. 2, teach students to sing the motive.

- Listen to Tchaikovsky and identify the motive... how does it change by the end?

Listen to the second movement of Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5 and identify the motive.

Analyze how the motive is not always played in its entirety, or else the rhythm or melodic structure of the motive can be transformed to create drama and interest. Discuss how the motive changes by the end of the movement... can you still recognize it?

- Discuss Tchaikovsky's intentions – overcoming strife – ending in triumph
- Complete worksheet

**Follow-up:**

Find more music that has motives and find motives in the world around you (art, commercials, jingles, nature)

# Tchaikovsky – Symphony No. 5

Excerpt 1 – II. Andante cantabile, con alcuna licenza  
dotted quarter = 54  
ms. 9-28 (7 before A – 8 after A)

Horn 1 in F

**Andante cantabile, con alcuna licenza.**

*SOLO.*  
*dolce con molto espress.*

*animando*

*animando* *Sostenuto*  
*mf = p*

*Con moto* *dolce*  
*p*

*Sostenuto*  
*mp*

## Symphony No. 5, mvt. 2

Tchaikovsky

Main Motive

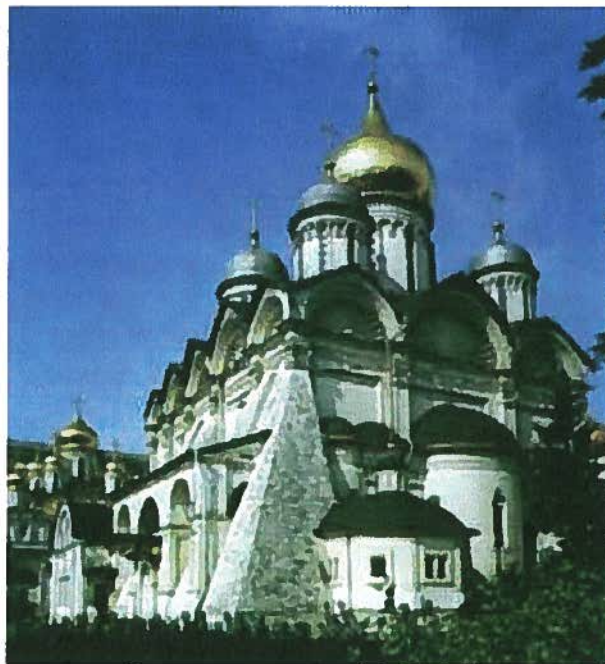
Pe - ter Tchai - kov - sky this is your

3  
mo - tive. Mo-tives re - peat in the song - a - gain. -

## Russian Architecture built during the lifetime of Peter Tchaikovsky



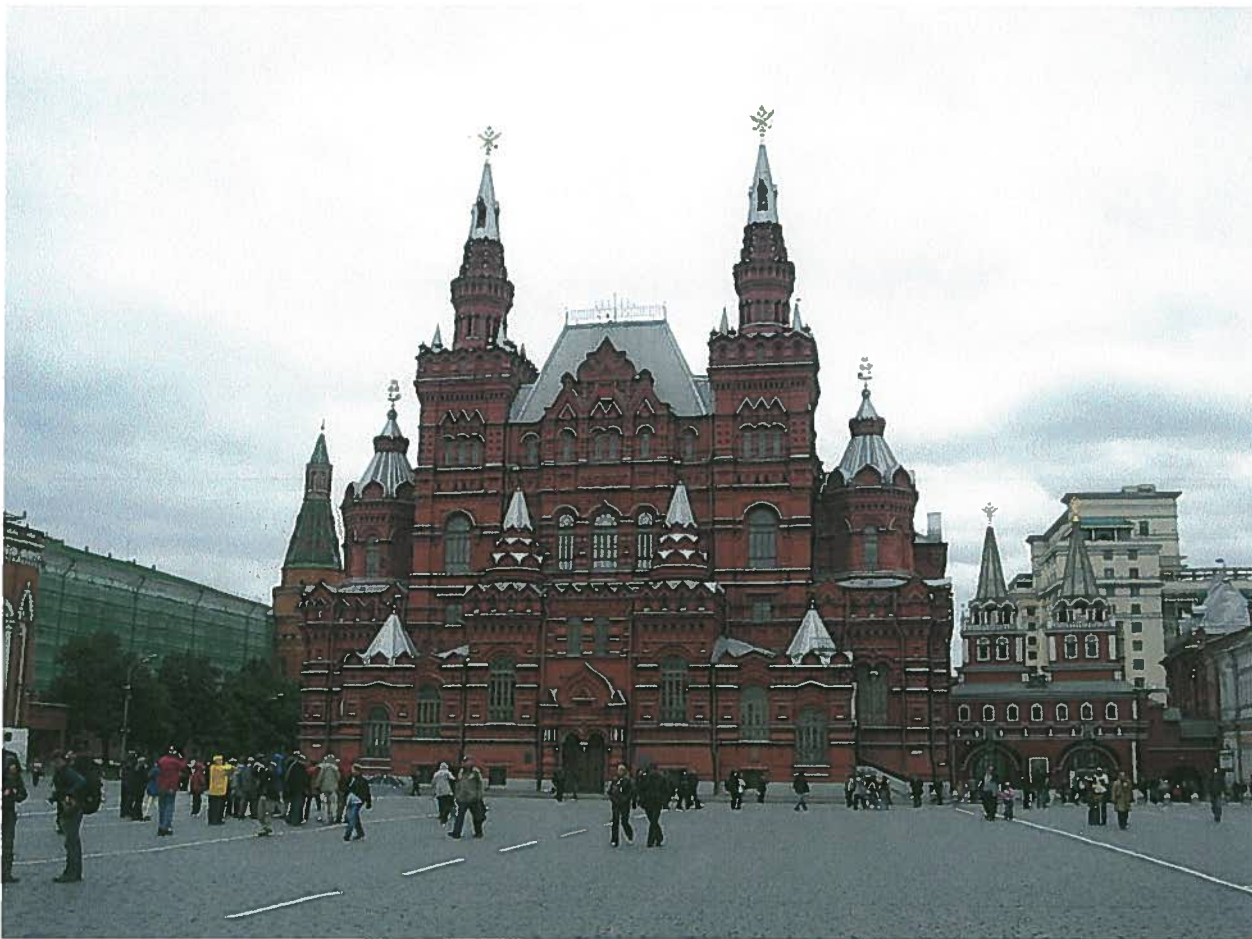
The Russian Orthodox Church in Moscow was completed in 1860. This is the site where Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture was premiered.



This is a Cathedral in the Moscow Kremlin which is a historic fortified complex at the heart of Moscow.



The Grand Kremlin Palace is part of the Moscow Kremlin and was completed in 1851.



The State Historical Museum of Russia is located between Red Square and Manege Square in Moscow, Russia. The museum was founded in 1872 and officially opened in 1894.

## Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky



Portrait by Kuznetsov

Born:	Volkinsk, Vyatka Guberniya, Russia on May 7, 1840
Died:	St. Petersburg, Russia on November 6, 1893
College:	Imperial School of Jurisprudence
Marriage:	Antonina Milukova
Occupation	Civil Servant, Professor and Composer
Selected Compositions:	Symphonies 1,2,3,4,5,6 Piano Concerto No.1 Violin Concerto in D <i>The Snow Maiden</i> <i>Eugene Onegin</i> <i>The Nutcracker Suite</i> <i>1812 Overture</i>
Noted for:	Conducted the opening concert at Carnegie Hall in 1891
Music to be heard at the concert	Symphony No. 5 – Andante cantabile <i>Variations on a Rococo Theme</i> for Cello and Orchestra, Op. 33