

Year 7 Oliver: MUSIC

Consider Yourself:

Oliver [1968] Consider Yourself • Full Song and Choreography (youtube.com)

Composer: Lionel Bart

Writer: Charles Dickens



- "Consider Yourself" is one of the more memorable songs from the award winning musical Oliver!
- Written in its entirety by the London-born composer Lionel Bart (1930-99).
- The show is an adaptation of the famous Charles Dickens novel Oliver Twist
- It opened in the West End in 1960, and on the big screen (directed by Carol Reed) in 1968.
- "Consider Yourself" is a light-hearted song which is sung by the Artful Dodger when he invites an unsuspecting Oliver Twist to join a gang of boy pickpockets which is controlled by the sinister Fagin. In the song, Oliver responds, other voices join in, and the scene is imaginatively choreographed through the streets of Victorian London.

Musical Vocabulary

Tempo: The speed of the music—Fast (Allegro) Slow (Largo) Moderate (moderato)

Dynamics: The volume of the music—Loud (Forte) Quiet (Piano) Gradually getting louder (Crescendo) Gradually getting quieter (Diminuendo).

Instrumentation: What instruments are being used in the piece.

Chord: More than one note played at once

Bassline: The lower part, played by the left hand

Melody: The main tune within the piece.

Major: A happy sounding key that the music is written in.

Tonality: The key the music is written in i.e. Major/ Minor

Unison: Together singing or playing the same melody line.

Perform: To play or sing to another person/ audience.

Audience: A group of people that watches a performance.

Time signature: Tells the performer how many beats per bar.

Crotchet: 1 beat note

Quaver: 1/2 beat note

What is Musical theatre?

This a form of theatrical performance that combines songs, spoken dialogue, acting and dance.

The story and emotional content of a musical – humour, pathos, love, anger – are communicated through words, music, movement.

Although musical theatre overlaps with other theatrical forms like opera and dance, it may be distinguished by the equal importance given to the music as compared with the dialogue, movement and other elements.

Since the early 20th century, musical theatre stage works have generally been called, simply, **musicals**.



