

BUGS BUNNY



CLASSICAL MUSIC

“Looney Tunes”



Series of animated short films from
Warner Bros. studio
1930-1969

“Looney Tunes” and Merrie Melodies”
are comic references to
Disney’s popular “Silly Symphonies”

LOONEY TUNES

REG U.S.

PAT. OFF.

A WARNER BROS. CARTOON

Color by TECHNICOLOR

“Looney Tunes”



Created to feature music from
Warner Bros. music holdings
to increase sales of
sheet music and phonograph records

“Looney Tunes”



Warner Bros. hired Leon Schlesinger to
produce cartoons at
Warner Bros. Cartoons, Inc.

“Looney Tunes”



ANIMATORS

“Tex” Avery
Friz Freleng
Bob Clampett
Chuck Jones



(L-R) Virgil Ross, Sid Sutherland, "Tex" Avery,
Chuck Jones, Bob Clampett

The animators referred to their building
on the Warner lot on Van Ness as the
“TERMITE TERRACE”



“Looney Tunes”

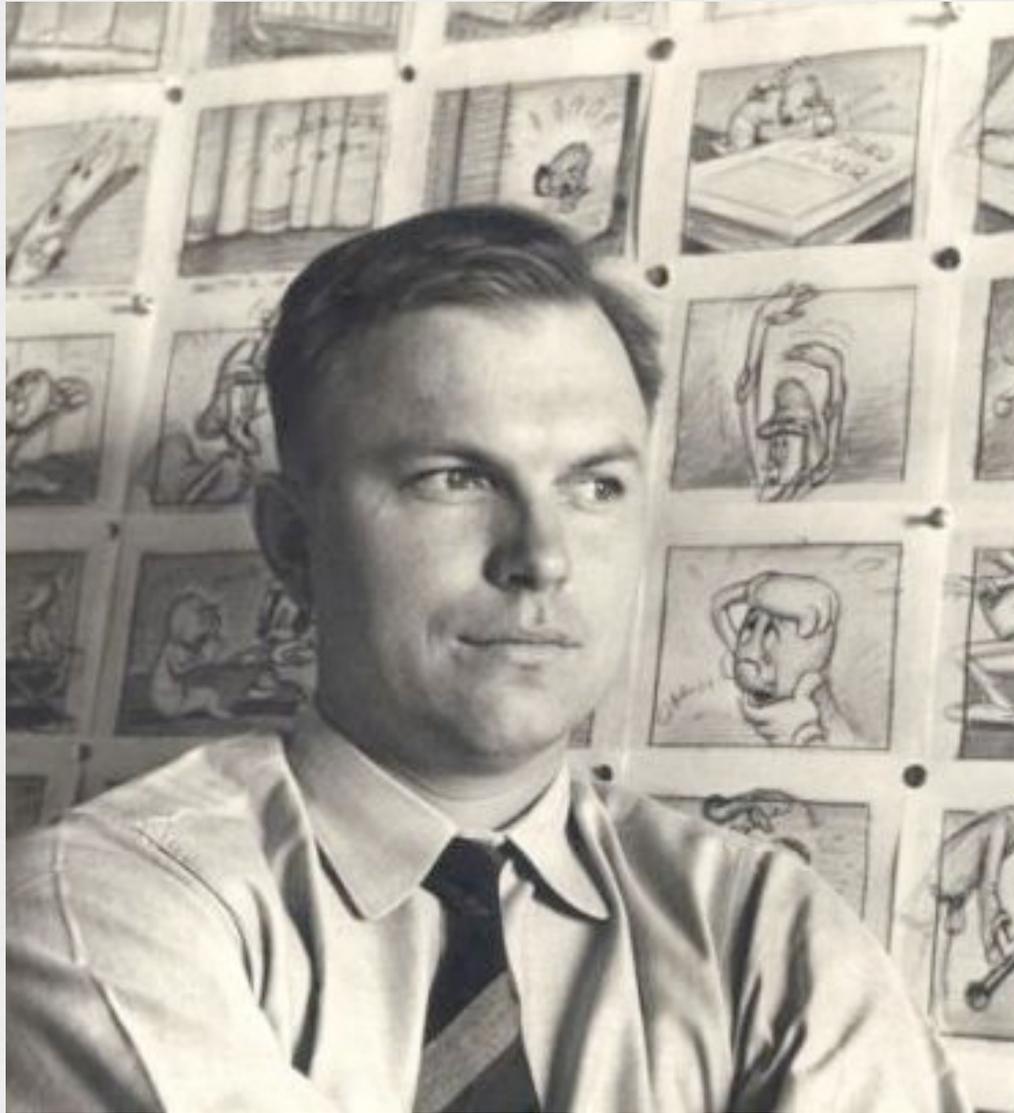


Looney Tunes theme song

“The Merry-Go-Round Broke Down”

Cliff Friend and Dave Franklin (1937)

**“The Merry-Go-Round Broke Down”
Cliff Friend and Dave Franklin (1937)**



CHUCK JONES

Artist, Director



MICHAEL MALTESE

Writer



MEL BLANC

Bugs Bunny

Daffy Duck

Sylvester

Porky Pig

Tweety Bird

Pepe le Pew

ARTHUR Q.
BRYAN

Elmer Fudd



JUNE FORAY

Witch Hazel

Granny



CARL STALLING

(1891-1972)

Composer





MILT
FRANKLYN

(1897-1962)

*Composer,
Orchestrator*

Carl Stalling



Walt Disney hired Carl Stalling in 1920s to write scores for
“Silly Symphonies” animated shorts

Hired by producer Schlesinger in 1937,
Stalling worked at Warner Bros. until 1958

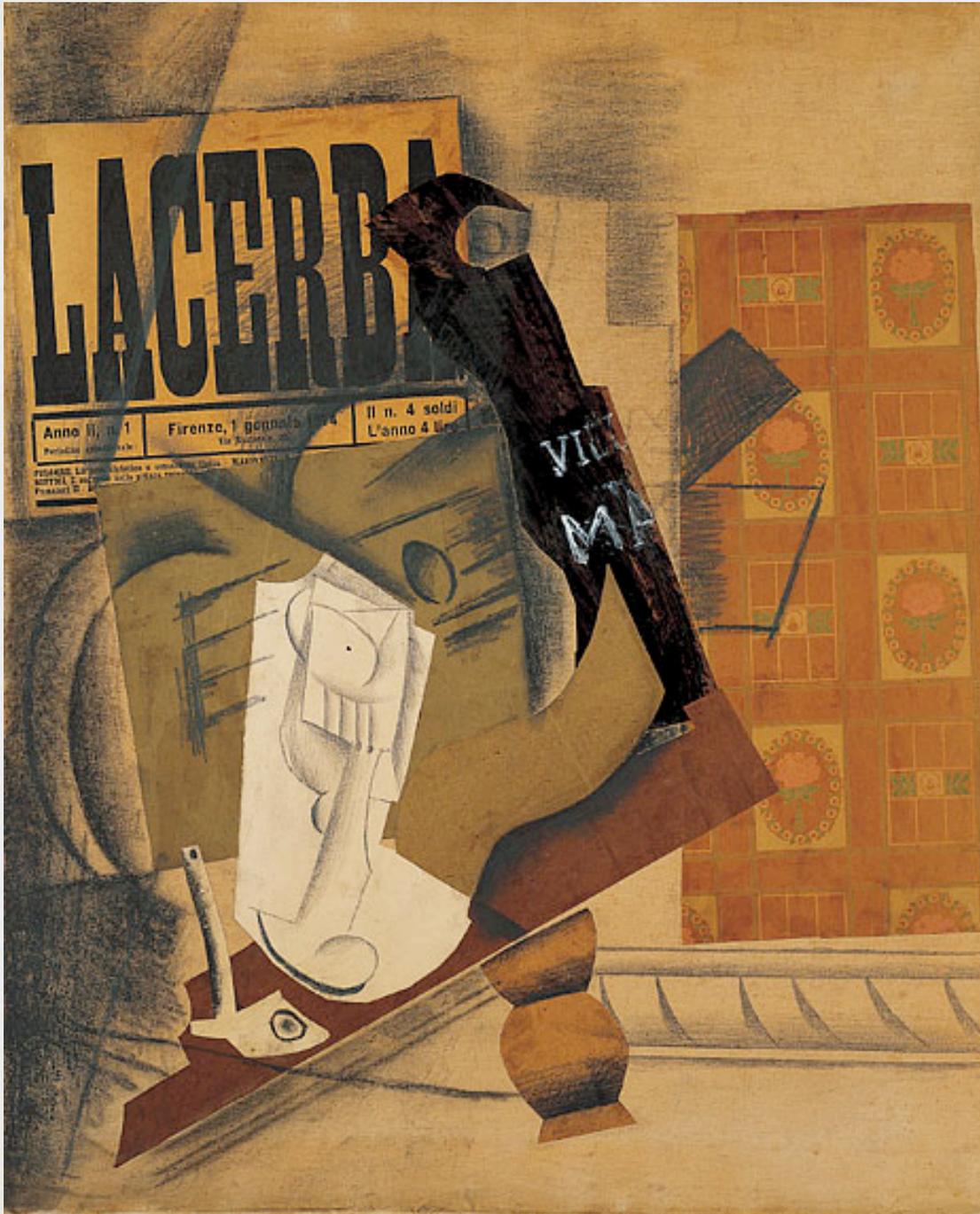
He wrote one score a week for 22 years

Carl Stalling



Scores were **COLLAGES** of pre-existing tunes
(all from the Warner Bros. music holdings)

In the visual arts, **COLLAGE** (“**glued together**”) is a technique that assembles pieces of previously created materials--newspaper, photographs, found objects--into a new art work



Pablo Picasso,
*Pipe, Glass,
Bottle of Vieux
Marc*

Carl Stalling



Stalling mixed classical music, pop
tunes, vaudeville songs
awith newly composed material
that **MIMICKED** the action on the
screen...

Carl Stalling



MICKEY-MOUSING

Carl Stalling



Use of tunes almost always **PUNS** on
pop song titles

Carl Stalling



Use of tunes almost always **PUNS** on
pop **song titles**

A “lady in a red dress” would be
accompanied by the song
“The Lady in Red”

Carl Stalling



Scores were **technically demanding**
to play

Stalling was one of the inventors of the
“click track”
used to **sync** music to moving images



Carl Stalling recording sessions with click track

Looney Tunes



Looney Tunes cartoons were made to be shown in **movie theaters** as part of a **menu of different films**



1930s Movie Theater Audience

Looney Tunes



The lineup would include:

- ★ The Main Feature (the “A” Movie)
- ★ A Newsreel
- ★ Live-Action Comedy Short
- ★ Second Feature (the “B” movie)
- ★ and... an **Animated Cartoon**



RIALTO

2 NEW MGM HORROR HITS
KARLOFF KING OF MONSTERS
THE HAUNTED STRANGLER
BRUTAL MURDER OF YOUNG GIRLS
FIEND WITHOUT A FACE

NOW FIRST TIME
MGM FEATURES
OPEN TONIGHT
TO 4 A.M.

GARDEN
DRINKS
FRANKFURTERS

COOLED BY REFRIGERATION

BOTH FEATURES
1ST
NEW YORK
SHOWING

COOLED BY REFRIGERATION

GRILLED
FRANKFURTERS 15¢

SMOKING
PERMITTED
OPEN TO
4 A.M.

FIEND
WITHOUT A
FACE

Looney Tunes



Commercial network television began
in 1948

4-hour “Saturday Morning Cartoon”
practice started in the 1960s



Family watching TV in 1958

The image shows a title card for the cartoon 'LONG-HAIRED HARE'. The title is written in large, white, sans-serif capital letters on a dark red, heart-shaped background. The text is enclosed within a decorative border of musical notation, including treble clefs, notes, and rests, all in a light blue color. The entire composition is set against a light blue background and framed by a brown border with decorative corner elements.

“LONG-HAIRED
HARE”

Long-Haired Hare



1948

Story - - - Michael Maltese

Voice - - - Mel Blanc

Singing (uncredited) - - - Nicolai Shutorov

Music - - - Carl Stalling

Direction - - - Chuck Jones

“Longhair”



Slang term (disparaging)

1. An intellectual
2. A person of artistic gifts and/or interests, especially **a lover of classical music**
3. A person whose taste in the arts is over-refined
4. A person having long hair

First used c. 1920

Long-Haired Hare



Bugs Bunny = Arlecchino [Harlequin]

Clever, helpful servant in the
Commedia dell'Arte tradition



*Harlequin Comedien Burlesque
Venu de pieces de diverses couleurs avec un
masque tani. et une epée de bois. il parle
Bergamasque. et s'appelle en Italie Zani.
et en France Trusaldin ou Trapolin*

LE THEATRE
ITALIEN,
OU
LE RECUEIL
DE TOUTES
LES SCENES
FRANCOISES

THEATRE ITALI
De l'Hôtel de Bourgogne.

Augmenté de la Comédie des Sottis



A GENEVE,
Chez JACQUES DENTAND.
M. DC. XCV.

Arlecchino, or
Harlequin, with a
slapstick



A Slapstick

Pop Music vs. Classical



- Leo Robin & Arthur Schwartz, “A Rainy Night in Rio” (1946)
- Barney Fagan, “My Gal is a High-Born Lady” (1896)
- Herman Hupfeld, “When Yuba plays the Rhumba on the Tuba” (1931)

Pop Music vs. Classical



- Gioacchino Rossini, “Largo al factotum,” *Barber of Seville* (1816)
- Gaetano Donizetti, “Chi mi frena,” *Lucia di Lammermoor* (1835)

Pop Music vs. Classical



Leo Robin & Arthur Schwartz, "A Rainy Night in Rio" (1946)

Barney Fagan, "My Gal is a High-Born Lady" (1896)

Herman Hupfeld, "When Yuba plays the Rhumba on the
Tuba" (1931)

Vs.

Gioacchino Rossini, "Largo al factotum," *Barber of Seville*
(1816)

Gaetano Donizetti, "Chi mi frena," *Lucia di Lammermoor* (1835)



“When Yuba plays the Rhumba on the Tuba”

Gioacchino Rossini



The Barber of Seville



Opera buffa (comic opera) composed
by **Gioacchino Rossini** in 1816

Based on play by
Pierre Beaumarchais
(1775)

The Barber of Seville



“Largo al factotum”

Aria (song) in which the character of **Figaro** (the barber) introduces himself to the audience



*Harlequin Comedien Burlesque
Venu de pieces de diverses couleurs avec un
masque tani. et une epee de bois. il parle
Bergamasque. et s'appelle en Italie Zani.
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LE THEATRE
ITALIEN,
OU
LE RECUEIL

LES SCENES
FRANCOISES
Qui ont été jouées sur le
THEATRE ITALIEN
De l'Hôtel de Bourgogne.

Augmenté de la Comédie des Sottisiers



A GENEVE,
Chez JACQUES DENTAND.
M. DC. XCV.

Figaro is a type of Arlecchino character, like Bugs Bunny

The Barber of Seville



“Largo al factotum”

FACTOTUM = Jack of all Trades /
Handyman

“**Patter Song**” = Song with very fast
tongue-twisting lyrics

The Barber of Seville



“Patter” = Buffare (It.)

Opera Buffa

Rossini Crescendo



Uses **Antecedent-Consequent** phrases
Would **repeat** and **shorten** phrases
Slow **crescendo** (increase in volume)
Addition of groups of instruments
Instruments in **higher registers**
toward end

Antecedent - Consequent



K. 525

Allegro

Violine I

Violine II

Viola

Violoncello und Kontrabaß



Antecedent

Consequent

Antecedent-Consequent phrases in "Largo al factotum"

F. *tà! di qua-li - tà!*
life, used to high life!

Tut-ti mi
I am in

☆ Antecedent

F. *chie-do-no,*
such request,

tut-ti mi vo-glio-no,
nor night nor day I've rest,

don-ne, ra-gaz-ze,
Old men and maidens,

☆ Consequent

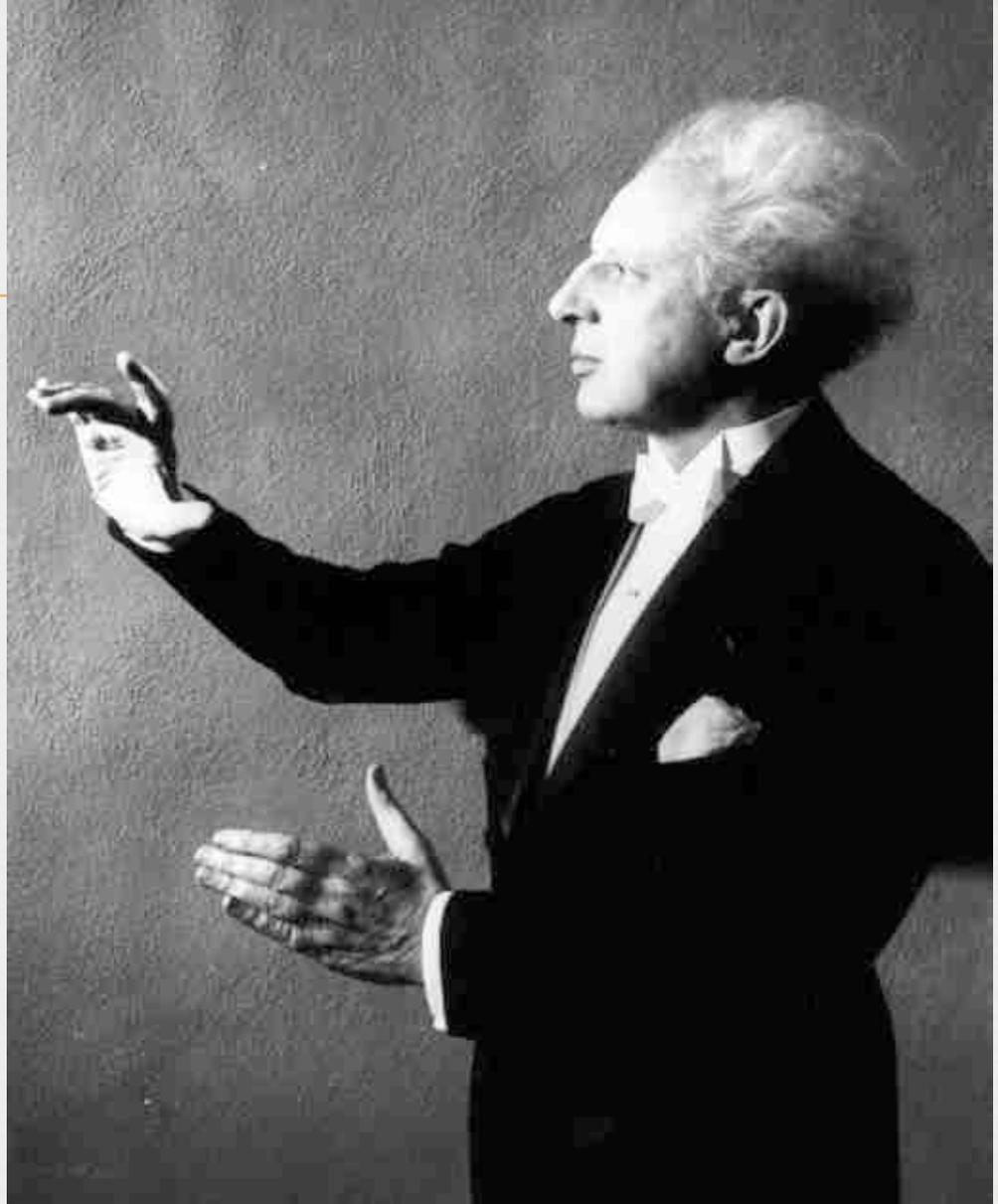


Rossini, "Largo al factotum," *The Barber of Seville*



Hollywood Bowl (1929)

Leopold Stokowski
(1882 - 1977)
conductor



Bugs Bunny
(1940 -)
conductor





Franz Liszt
(1811-1886)
piano virtuoso

Bugs Bunny
"Leopold" hair

Rabbit of Seville



1949 (released 1950)

Story - - - Michael Maltese

Voice - - - Mel Blanc

Music - - - Carl Stalling

Direction - - - Chuck Jones



Rabbit of Seville



GIOACCHINO ROSSINI

Overture to *The Barber of Seville* (1816)

Rabbit of Seville



GIOACCHINO ROSSINI

OVERTURE is an **introductory piece**
to a longer work,
usually an **opera** or **ballet**

Rabbit of Seville



GIOACCHINO ROSSINI

Overture to *The Barber of Seville* (1816)

but...

Used for an earlier serious opera

Elisabetta, Regina d'Inghilterra (1815)

Rabbit of Seville



GIOACCHINO ROSSINI

The Barber of Seville (1816),
Elisabetta, Regina d'Inghilterra (1815),

and...

Aureliano in Palmyra (1813)



A musical score for violin and piano. The top staff is for the violin, marked 'Vlns.', and the bottom staff is for the piano, marked 'pp'. The music is in G major and 2/4 time. The violin part features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, while the piano part provides harmonic support with chords and single notes. The score spans four measures.

Rossini crescendo
phrase in overture

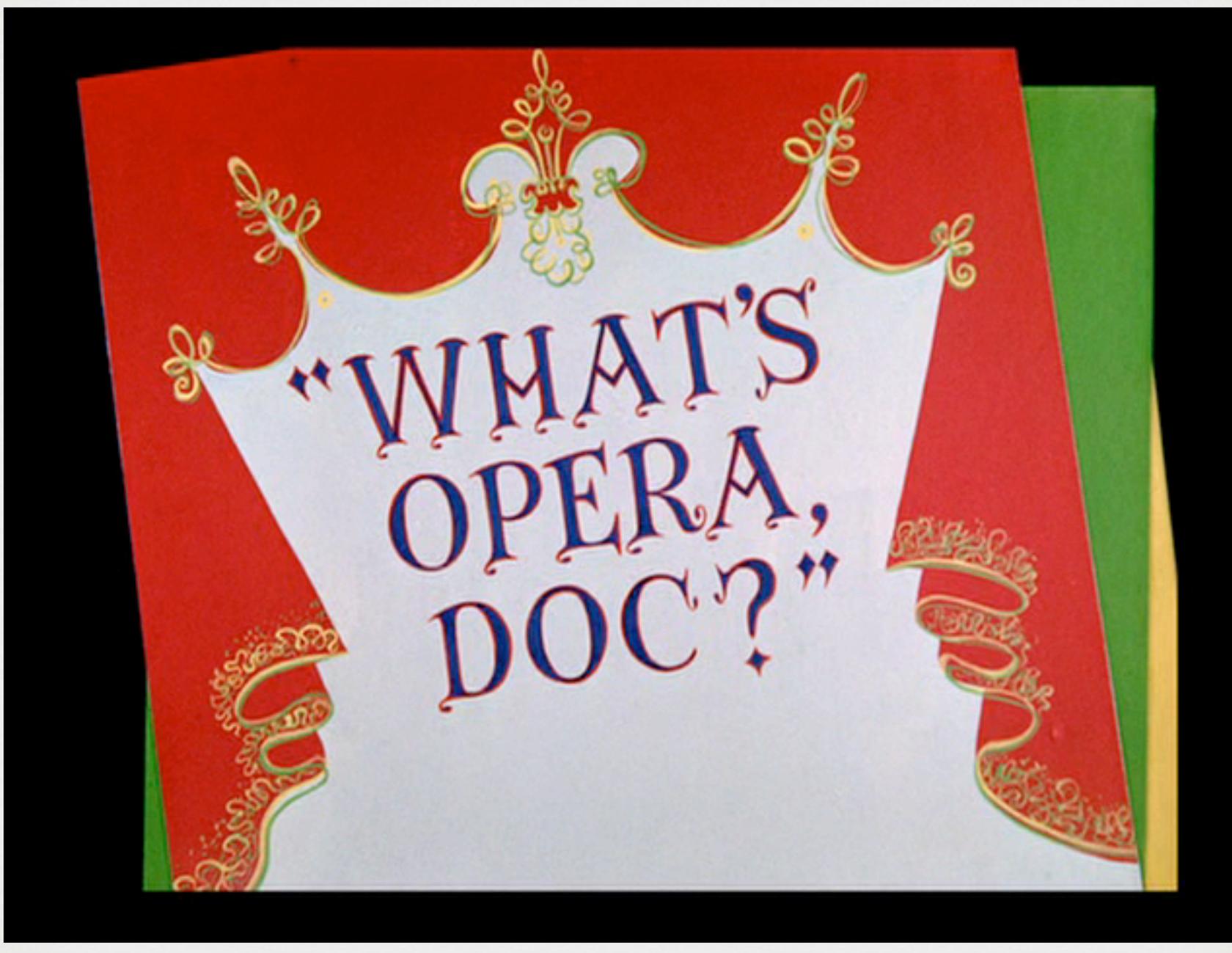
Overture to *The Barber of Seville*



- ❧ 1. Slow Introduction
- ❧ 2. Fast Section in minor key [“itchy” theme]
- ❧ 3. Lyrical Section in major key [“flirty” theme]
- ❧ 4. Crescendo

- ❧ 5. Minor key section
- ❧ 6. Major key section
- ❧ 7. Crescendo

Rossini, *The Barber of Seville* Overture



“WHAT'S
OPERA,
DOC?”

What's Opera, Doc?



1957

Story - - - Michael Maltese

Voice - - - Mel Blanc

Voice of Elmer Fudd (uncredited) - - - Arthur
Q. Bryan

Music - - Milt Franklyn

Direction - - - Chuck Jones

What's Opera, Doc?



Makes fun of Richard Wagner's
Ring der Nibelungen opera cycle...

...and **opera** in general.

Richard Wagner



The Valkyrie Brunhilde



What's Opera, Doc?



Ironically, much of the music
in the cartoon is
not from the Ring cycle,
but other Wagner operas.

What's Opera, Doc?



Overture, Pilgrim Chorus, Bacchanal from
Tannhäuser (1845)

“Flight of the Valkyries” from *Die Walküre* (1870)

Horn call from *Siegfried* (1876)

Overture to *Die fliegende Holländer* (1843)

Overture to *Rienzi* (1842)

What's Opera, Doc?



In his operas, Wagner uses

LEITMOTIVS

MUSICAL THEMES

that represent

CHARACTERS, THINGS, EMOTIONS

Siegfried (1876)



∞ The title character in Wagner's opera is represented musically in a *leitmotiv* of the sound of his hunting horn.



Richard Wagner, "Siegfried's Horncall" from *Siegfried*

Tannhäuser (1845)



∞ The hero Tannhäuser is redeemed in the love of a woman, Elisabeth (who unfortunately dies at the end of the opera)

Richard Wagner, "Pilgrim's Chorus" from *Tannhäuser*

Ride of the Valkyries



- From Richard Wagner's *Die Walküre* [The Valkyries] (1870)
- The second of Wagner's 4 "Ring" operas

Der Ring des Nibelungen



- ❧ *Das Rheingold* [The Rhine Gold]
- ❧ *Die Walküre* [The Valkyries]
- ❧ *Siegfried*
- ❧ *Götterdämmerung* [Twilight of the Gods]

Ride of the Valkyries



✧ In Norse mythology, the **valkyries** (“chooser of the slain”) are a group of female deities who decide which soldiers die in battle and which live. Selecting those who die in battle, the valkyries bring their chosen to the afterlife in Valhalla in Asgard.

Ride of the Valkyries



∞ Valkyries

Brunhilde, Gerhilde, Ortlinde,
Waltraute, Schwertleite, Helmwige,
Seigrune, Grimgerde, Rossweise

Ride of the Valkyries



∞ Valkyries

Brunhilde protects the lovers Siegmund and Sieglinde (and their unborn child) from the anger of Wotan.

∞ She is punished by being put into an enchanted sleep, encircled by magic fire.

Ride of the Valkyries



“Hoyotoho! Hoyotoho!
Heiaha! Heiaha!
Hojotoho! Hojotoho!
Heiaha!”

Ride of the Valkyries



From the beginning of Act III of Richard Wagner's *Die Walküre* [The Valkyries] (1870)

Richard Wagner, "Ride of the Valkyries" from *Die Walküre*

What's Opera, Doc?



THE LOOK of
What's Opera, Doc?

What's Opera, Doc?



While *What's Opera, Doc?*

makes fun of opera,

it's clear that its creators

know and love opera

What's Opera, Doc?



WIELAND WAGNER (1917-1966)

Wagner operas after WW II, 1951 onwards

Abstract and minimal sets

Dramatic lighting effects

“Epic” and “Universal” interpretations



Die Walküre, design by Josef Hoffmann (1876)



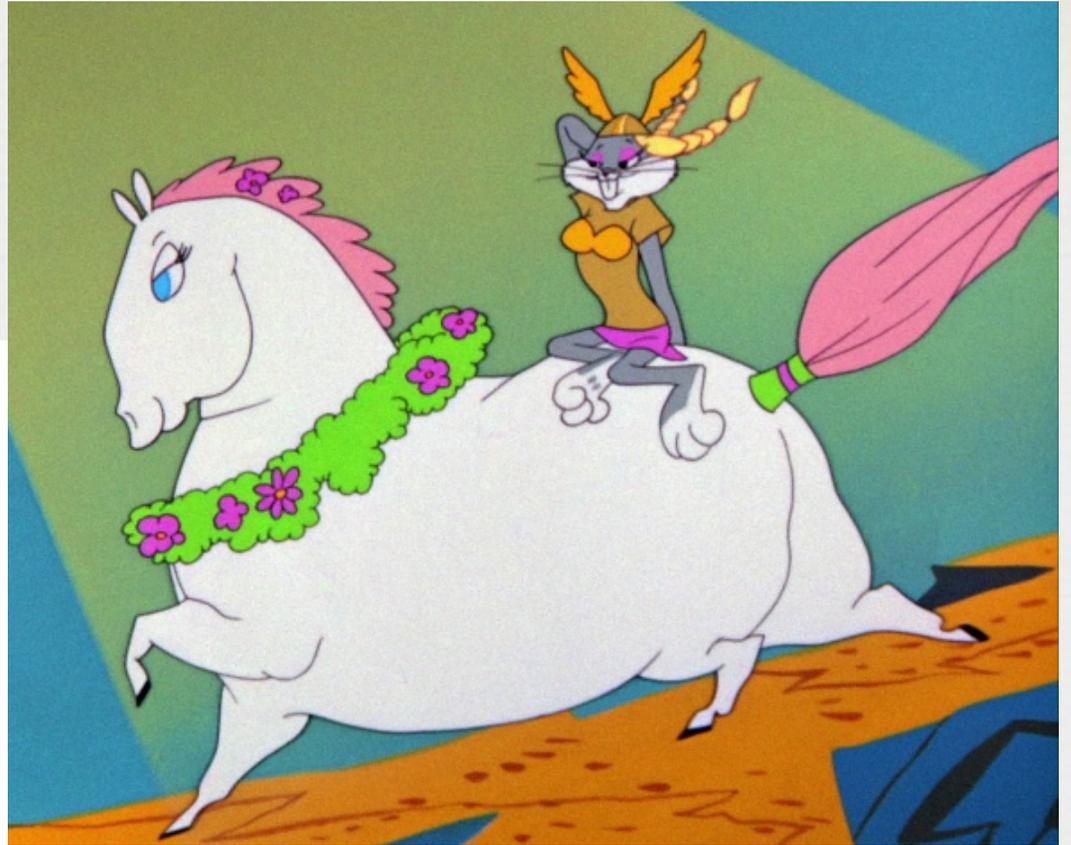
℞

Die Meistersinger (1956)



℞

Lohengrin (1956)



Music to Know



- ❧ Richard Wagner, "Ride of the Valkyries," *Die Walküre* (Track 15, *111 Opera Masterpieces*)
- ❧ Richard Wagner, "Pilgrim's Chorus," *Tannhäuser* (Track 51, *111 Opera Masterpieces*)
- ❧ Gioacchino Rossini, "Largo al Factotum," *The Barber of Seville* (Track 14, *111 Opera Masterpieces*)
- ❧ Gioacchino Rossini, Overture to *The Barber of Seville* (Track 20, *111 Opera Masterpieces*)

Terms to Know



- Looney Tunes
- Carl Stalling
- Collage
- Arlecchino/Harlequin
- Slapstick
- Opera Buffa
- Factotum
- Patter Song
- Leopold Stokowski
- Overture
- Click Track
- Long Hair
- Rossini Crescendo
- Antecedent-Consequent phrase
- Valkyrie
- Leitmotiv