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king of the gods. Surprisingly, when

music composer Gustav Holst wrote The Planets, he wasn't inspired by heard of horoscopes or your "zodiac

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More about: Gustav Holst

sign"—these come from astrology. The Planets contains seven movements—for Mars, Venus, Mercury, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune—each in a different style to reflect the planet's astrological personality.

The musical piece has remained popular since its first performance in London in 1918. Holst was a teacher at the time, after spending years overcoming neuritis (a painful condition in the hands) to become a working musician.

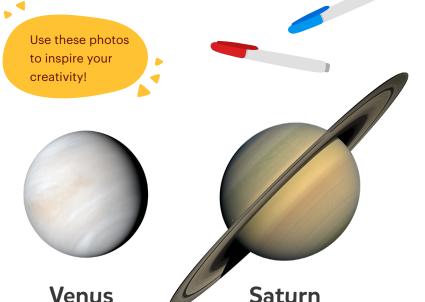
Despite The Planets' worldwide musical success, Holst chose to remain a teacher, out of the public spotlight, until his death. His contributions to music have provided 100 years' worth of planetary appreciation.

Make Some Space Art!

Space has served as the inspiration behind many works of art. Today, create your own! Grab white coffee filters, markers, paper plates, and a water spray bottle.

- With the coffee filter on top of a paper plate, color it with markers to look like your favorite planet.
- Spray the filter with just enough water to let the colors bleed. (The water and marker mess will stay on the paper plate)
- Place it somewhere to dry (hang outside or over the sink).

Feel free to repeat with the whole solar system, cutting filters according to planet shapes before coloring.







Earth

Mars



Jupiter



Neptune



Uranus



Mercury