LEON AND THE PLACE BETWEEN

Singing Resource Pack - songs and lyric sheets
Music By Paul Rissmann

LSO Discovery

Inspired by the book written by Angela McAllister, illustrated by Grahame Baker-Smith and published by Templar Publishing.

<u>Perform with us!</u>
Leon and the Place Between will be the centrepiece of our concert programme and we'd like to invite your students to take part in its performance. Although the music will be played as a continuous 18-minute work, it features several short and simple songs for your students to sing with the orchestra (or even play on instruments if they prefer).

In this pack, you will find a series of song sheets with the text and musical manuscript for each song or participatory moment in the piece. Some of this material will feel like a complete stand-alone song, while other elements are simply a short phrase or refrain that pops up throughout the music.

We have created a short instructional video with singer Abigail Kelly to take your students through a vocal warm-up and teach them all of the participatory songs from the piece.

<u>Click here to watch the vocal warm-up. (02:50)</u>
<u>Click here to watch the instructional video on YouTube. (29:05)</u>

If you prefer, MIDI singalong audio tracks of the music are also available for you to listen to and practise with in school. I promise that in concert the LSO will sound SO MUCH BETTER than my computer, however, these demo tracks should give you a good idea of what's in store.

<u>Click here to view the playlist of these pieces on SoundCloud.</u>

Please click on the link above to see the full instructional video, or select any one of the six elements below to go direct to that element:

<u>The participatory elements are:</u>
1. <u>SONG - I Don't Believe in Magic</u>
2. <u>PHRASE – Do You Believe in Magic?</u>
3. <u>THE MAGICIAN - Abdul Kazam</u>
4. <u>PHRASE – This is the Place Between</u>
5. <u>SONG - The White Rabbit</u>
6. <u>SONG - Do You Believe in Magic?</u>

Play-along
'Play-along' music sheets, in various transpositions, are available for instrumentalists too. If any of the children in your class are learning a musical instrument and would like to play along with the London Symphony Orchestra, then please share this music to them to practise with their instrumental teacher. It is worth noting that most of the melodies will work well on a basic set of chime bars or classroom recorder too.

Click here to download music sheets

Creative Activities
We have created another pack which creative projects to explore in class. Inspired by the book, they will work equally well as pre-concert or post-concert classroom activities.

Click here to go to our home page

I really hope you enjoy discovering our music. Have fun and good luck!

Paul Rissmann, March 2021

'And above all, watch with glittering eyes the whole world around you because the greatest secrets are always hidden in the most unlikely places. Those who don't believe in magic will never find it.'

Roald Dahl

'We do not need magic to transform our world. We carry all of the power we need inside ourselves already.'

J.K.Rowling

'It will be magic. You have to believe. Look, it's going to begin.'

Leon

Leon and the Place Between
First Published in the UK in 2008 by Templar Publishing
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Concert Resources
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1.SONG
I Don't Believe in Magic

NB: This song is closely related to the final song at the very end of the piece. Once you've mastered this one, the final will be really easy to sing.
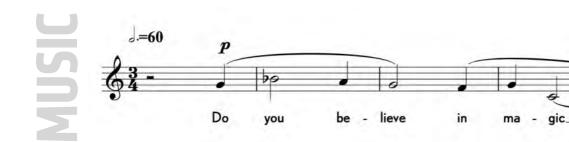
LYRICS

I don't believe in magic,
No way – it's never real,
I don't believe in magic.

It can't be true,
It's just not true,
It's only clever tricks.

So I don't believe in magic.

MUSIC

2. PHRASE
Do You Believe in Magic?

MUSIC

♩.=60

p

Do   you   be - lieve   in   ma - gic_____

This isn't so much of a song as a simple refrain that pops up during the Juggler's routine and also in the magical carousel.

Try to sing this phrase as softly and mysteriously as possible.

Immediately before you sing, you will hear its music played in the orchestra by the bass clarinet. Listen out for its sound.

Listen also for the triangle. It will give you a clear sign as to when to start singing.

3. THE MAGICIAN
Abdul Kazam

The mighty magician Abdul Kazam has his very own theme (tune) in my music. You will hear it and sing it, many, many times.

Once you get its sound in your ears, listen out for it in the score; you will find his magic is everywhere!

Trust no-thing, trust no-thing, but be-lieve

Before you sing Abdul Kazam's name, you hear it played triumphantly by the brass section in the orchestra. Aim to sing the music below with as much power as you can - but make sure you don't shout!

Ab - dul Ka - zam   Ab - dul Ka - zam

It is important you hold the syllable 'zam' for four full beats.
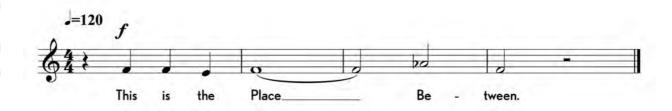
This phrase appears three times throughout the story. On the second and third occasions, you sing it a little higher. Don't worry about this change - the orchestra will seamlessly lead your ears (and voices) into the new key.

Ab - dul Ka - zam   Ab - dul Ka - zam
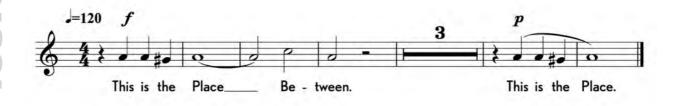
4. PHRASE
The Place Between

In the Place Between, Leon meets a magician's son who takes him for an exhilarating ride on a magic carpet. This music is fast and exciting and we need your help during this adventure.

The words and melody below are very simple. The trick is to listen out for the sound of the phrase in the violins because you will sing it immediately afterwards.

This is the Place_____ Be - tween.

You sing this phrase once towards the beginning of the carpet ride: And you sing this phrase again at the end of the carpet ride:

This is the Place____ Be - tween.   This is the Place.

 Notice that it is a little higher in pitch and also has an extra 'fragment' of the theme right at the end. Make sure you sing these final words very softly.

MUSIC MUSIC

5. SONG
The White Rabbit

During his adventure, Leon discovers a magician's rabbit who is stuck in the Place Between. This is a sad song about her.

TOP TIP
Even though this music is very soft, you will need to take in as much air as possible to sing your very best. Ensuring you take a big, deep breath will help make the music nice and smooth. Aim to sing with the most beautiful sound you can.

LYRICS

She was never called back,
She is always here,
In the Place Between,
Lost in the Place Between.

MUSIC

6. SONG
Do You Believe in Magic?

NB: This is the very last song in Leon and the Place Between.
It is very similar to the first song - only the lyrics are different.

LYRICS

Do you believe in magic?
And in a Place Between, Do
you believe in magic?

Could it be real?
What if it's real
And not just clever tricks?

MUSIC

♩.=60   mf

Do you be-lieve in ma-gic?___ And in a Place Be-tween, Do

you be-lieve in ma-gic?___ Could it be real? What if it's

f

real and not just cle-ver tricks?

p

So do you be-lieve in ma gic?___