Leisure Activity 4 - MUSIC

Source 1. Steyning Town Band at Brass Band Contest, Redhill, 19 July 1893



© Steyning Museum [1983.56.12.2.1]

Source 2. Worthing Borough Band, 1899



Source 4. Worthing Pier Band, 1895



Source 3a.

The Rise of the Town Band and Worthing Pier Band

Written by Paul Frattaroli

Brass bands began in the early nineteenth century, and grew rapidly in popularity around the time of The Great Exhibition in 1851. Band musicians who were able to buy a train ticket at a special price and visit the exhibition in London would have seen and heard the saxophone, a new and exciting musical brass instrument designed and displayed by Belgian music teacher and instrument maker Adolphe Sax. Sax's instruments interested the players and in the following decades, many town brass bands in the country included the saxophone in their band.

Companies like music publishers and instrument makers were established to look after the needs of the growing number of town brass bands in Britain. Band contests also became more popular by the end of Victoria's reign, and even the famous composer Sir Arthur Sullivan supported these events.

The Salvation Army, who attracted the poor and underprivileged, also encouraged band members to attend their meetings. People were attracted by the music they played and this helped the Salvation Army reach out to more people.

Band musicians often came from a working-class background. A town band was formed in Worthing in 1851, giving their first performance in 1853 on Bedford Lawn.

Popular music was heard even more when Worthing pier was enlarged in 1888 and a new Pavilion was added which could hold over 600 people. The Worthing Pier Band of six musicians consisting of string, woodwind and brass players, was formed in 1889. The improvements made to the pier allowed concerts and plays to be performed indoors and to be given in any weather.

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Source 3b. An audio version of Source 3a.



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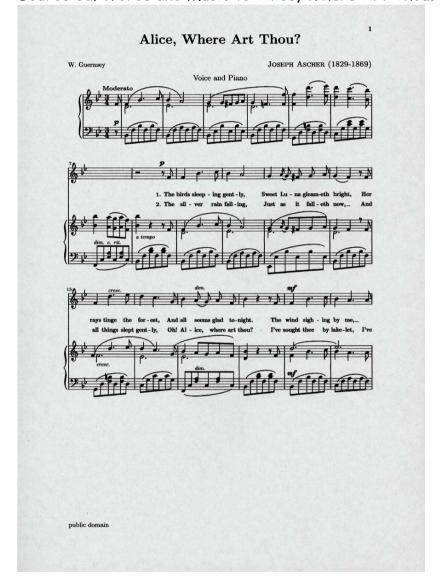


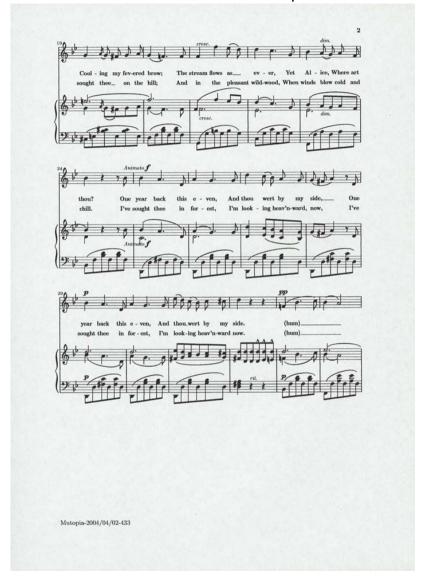
Source 5b. Video of a Polyphon being played at the Mechanical Music & Doll Collection, Chichester

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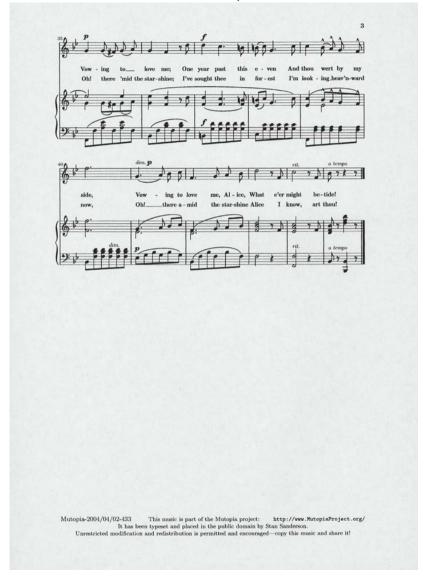
Source 6b. Words and Music to 'Alice, Where Art Thou?'

Source 6a. Words and Music to 'Alice, Where Art Thou?'





Source 6c Words and Music to 'Alice, Where Art Thou?'





Source 6d is an audio version of this song.

Source 7 Words to the song 'Alice, Where Art Thou?'

Alice. Where Art Thou?

Music by Joseph Ascher

Words by Wellington Guernsey

The birds sleeping gently, Sweet Luna gleameth bright, Her rays tinge the forest, And all seems glad tonight, The wind's sighing by me, Cooling my fever'd brow; The stream flows as ever. Yet Alice, where art thou? One year back this even, And thou were by my side, One year back this even, And thou wert by my side. Vowing to love me, One year past this even, And thou wert by my side, Vowing to love me, Alice, what e'er might betide.

The silver rain falling, Just as it falleth now. And all things slept gently, Oh! Alice where art thou? I've sought thee by lakelet, I've sought thee on the hill; And in the pleasant wild-wood, When winds blew cold and chill. I've sought thee in forest, I'm looking heav'nward now, I've sought thee in forest, I'm looking heav'nward now. Oh! there, 'mid the starshine; I've sought thee in forest, I'm looking heav'nward now, Oh! there amid the starshine. Alice, I know, art thou.