Golden Record Curation

1. Beethoven, Fifth Symphony, First Movement, the Philharmonic Orchestra, Otto Klemperer, conductor. 7:20

A timeless classic that embodies the age of classical music. This piece by Beethoven is one of the most famous classical pieces that incorporates the intricacies of the modern age symphony. I selected this piece because it culturally represented an aspect of society that appreciated the age of opera and symphonies. This is the piece pulls in all elements of the symphony, but the varying levels of sound conveys various emotions throughout the piece.

1. Senegal, percussion, recorded by Charles Duvelle. 2:08

This piece not only represents the continent of Africa but captures the playfulness of music in the African culture. This percussion piece instantly makes one want to tap their feet. This song encapsulates the simplicity of the culture which was reliant on using simple tools or instruments to create sounds that would appeal to the ear.

1. Navajo Indians, Night Chant, recorded by Willard Rhodes. 0:57

This piece illustrates how the First People’s use song to orally tell a story. The voices in this piece captures how the voice in song can be powerful tool in music. This piece illustrates how the throat or chant can be used to harmonize various sounds and create a sound that draws the listener in to visualize the story that the singers are trying to convey in this piece.

1. "Johnny B. Goode," written and performed by Chuck Berry. 2:38

No piece captures the guitar better than this piece by Chuck Berry. This piece illustrates how the piano and guitar can be used to convey a different unconventional sound from the classical realm. This piece not only encapsulates the Motown generation but also highlighted the important of playing the guitar and piano in a different and unconventional tone.

1. Mexico, "El Cascabel," performed by Lorenzo Barcelata and the Mariachi México. 3:14

This piece showcases the violin, the vihuela, guitar, a guitarron and a trumpet. However, this upbeat tune showcases how one can combine the string and wind instruments to create a vibrant sound. This piece highlights how the Mexican culture combined traditional and cultural instruments to create a unique and culturally distinct sound that appeals to many music lovers across the world.

1. Georgian S.S.R., chorus, "Tchakrulo," collected by Radio Moscow. 2:18

This piece illustrates the sound of the male voice in unison. This piece showcases how multiple voices together can harmonize into one powerful but beautiful piece. We have few choir pieces that highlight the power of multiple voices in unison. This piece showcases how beautiful the male voice can be when harmonized.

1. Australia, Aborigine songs, "Morning Star" and "Devil Bird," recorded by Sandra LeBrun Holmes. 1:26

This unique sound captures the Oceanic culture. This unique sound with the didgeridoo, highlights the unique instruments that humans have created during our time on Earth. It also tells the story of the Oceanic Aboriginal people who also used song to pass on traditional stories to future generations. This piece has a haunting sound that draws the listener into the story of that the singer wants to convey in that moment.

1. China, ch'in, "Flowing Streams," performed by Kuan P'ing-hu. 7:37

This piece captures the calming essence of the water. This Asian piece highlights how the precision of the instrument emulates the movement of the water. This piece also has a calming effect on the psyche as it allows you to imagine what this stream might look like in reality.

1. Stravinsky, Rite of Spring, Sacrificial Dance, Columbia Symphony Orchestra, Igor Stravinsky, conductor. 4:35

The frantic pace at the start of this piece highlights how anger and desperation can be emoted through music. This piece is different from the others because the frantic sounds by the orchestra heightens the emotions in the piece. This piece provides a contrast to the ear that intrigues the listener.

1. Holborne, Paueans, Galliards, Almains and Other Short Aeirs, "The Fairie Round," performed by David Munrow and the Early Music Consort of London. 1:17

This light piece captures the essence of the flute. This piece highlights how the flute was a prominent instrument in Western culture. This piece showcases the simplicity of this wind instrument and how its sound can appeal to the human ear.