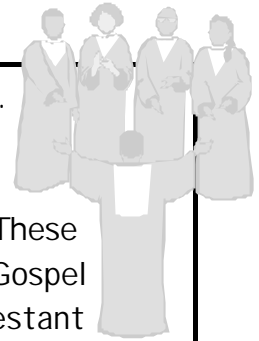


Gospel Music

A brief Introduction

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Gospel music is music that is meant to bring the gospel alive. (The word of God from the Bible.) It originates from American religious songs that tell of people's religious experiences. (Originally of Protestant church groups, both white and black.) These songs first appeared in the 1850s to interest people in religion. Gospel music has become part of the music sung in American Protestant Churches, and through missionary work has spread to churches all over the world.

By the middle of 20th century Gospel become part of popular music. It even had its own publishing and recording companies. Gospel music began to use many different styles. Not only was it influenced by church hymns, it was now also a mixture of blues, pop and rock styles.

Questions

1. In your own words where does Gospel music originate?
2. What does the term 'gospel' mean?
3. Which religious group did gospel music originally come from?
4. When did the songs first appear?
5. How did gospel music spread?
6. What happened in the 20th century?
7. How popular do you think gospel music is today? (At least 4 sentences)
8. Name a popular video that uses gospel music.
9. Try to name/find out some gospel song titles
10. In your own words write a summary in 50 words describing gospel music.

What you will achieve by the end of the unit

- Find out about Gospel music, history, songs, performers, styles
- Perform Gospel music in class/group ensembles, evaluating outcome
- Compose own set of chords to fit Siyahamba and add another melody part using 3rds
- Perform and arrange a popular gospel song - composing own lyrics
- Give a class performance of a gospel song influenced by blues music, working up to a confident and fluent performance.
- Understand the use of harmonization and texture in much gospel music and show ability to compose using this at different ability levels.
- Listen and evaluate different gospel songs showing awareness and ability to use musical vocabulary.