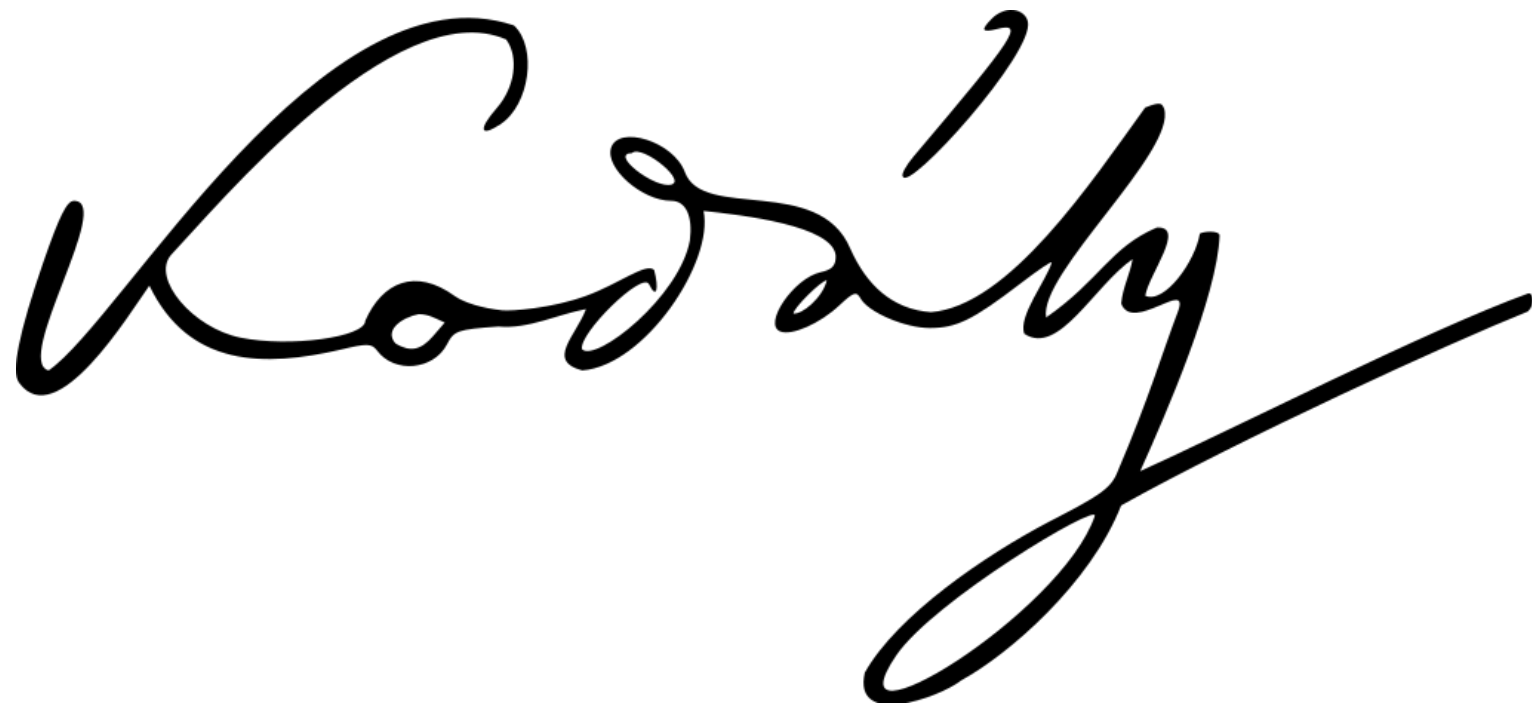


THE KODÁLY METHOD

A stylized, cursive signature of the name 'Kodály' in black ink. The signature is fluid and expressive, with a long, sweeping tail on the final 'y'.

THE KODÁLY METHOD

Introduction of Zoltán Kodály

As a folklorist

As a composer

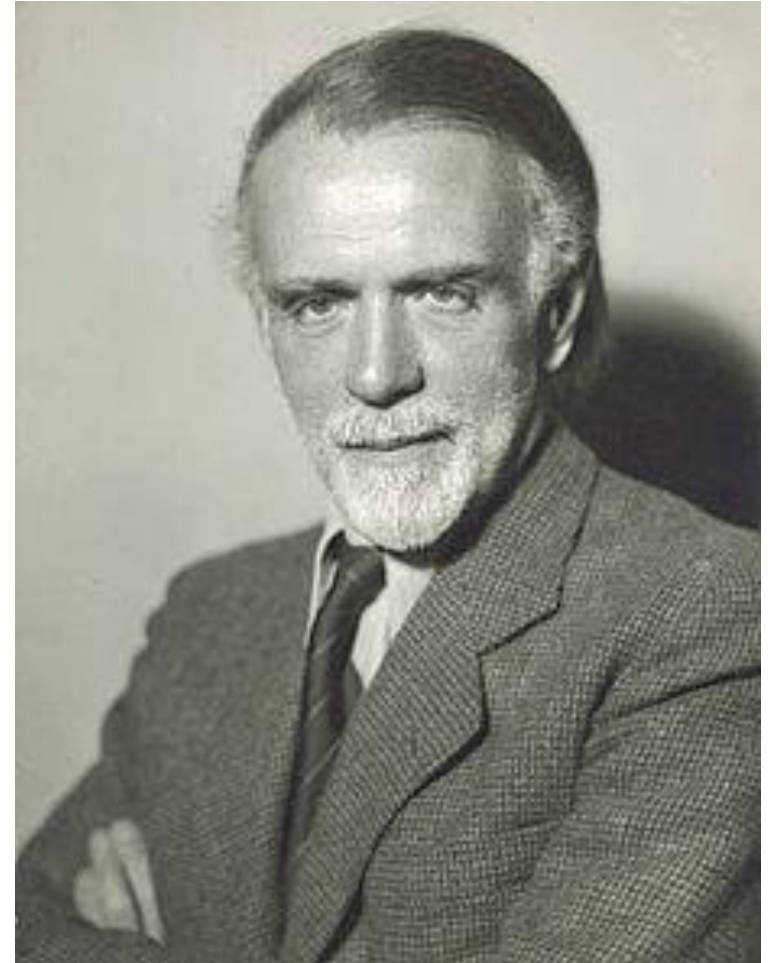
As a teacher

The Kodály teaching concept in theory and in practice

The philosophy of Kodály

Who was Zoltán Kodály?

- Kodály was one of the most significant characters of the 20th century Hungarian musical culture as
 - a folklorist
 - a composer
 - a music teacher
 - a linguist
- Creator of the **Kodály concept / Kodály method.**
- Public figure in Hungary
- He was born in 1882 and died in 1967.

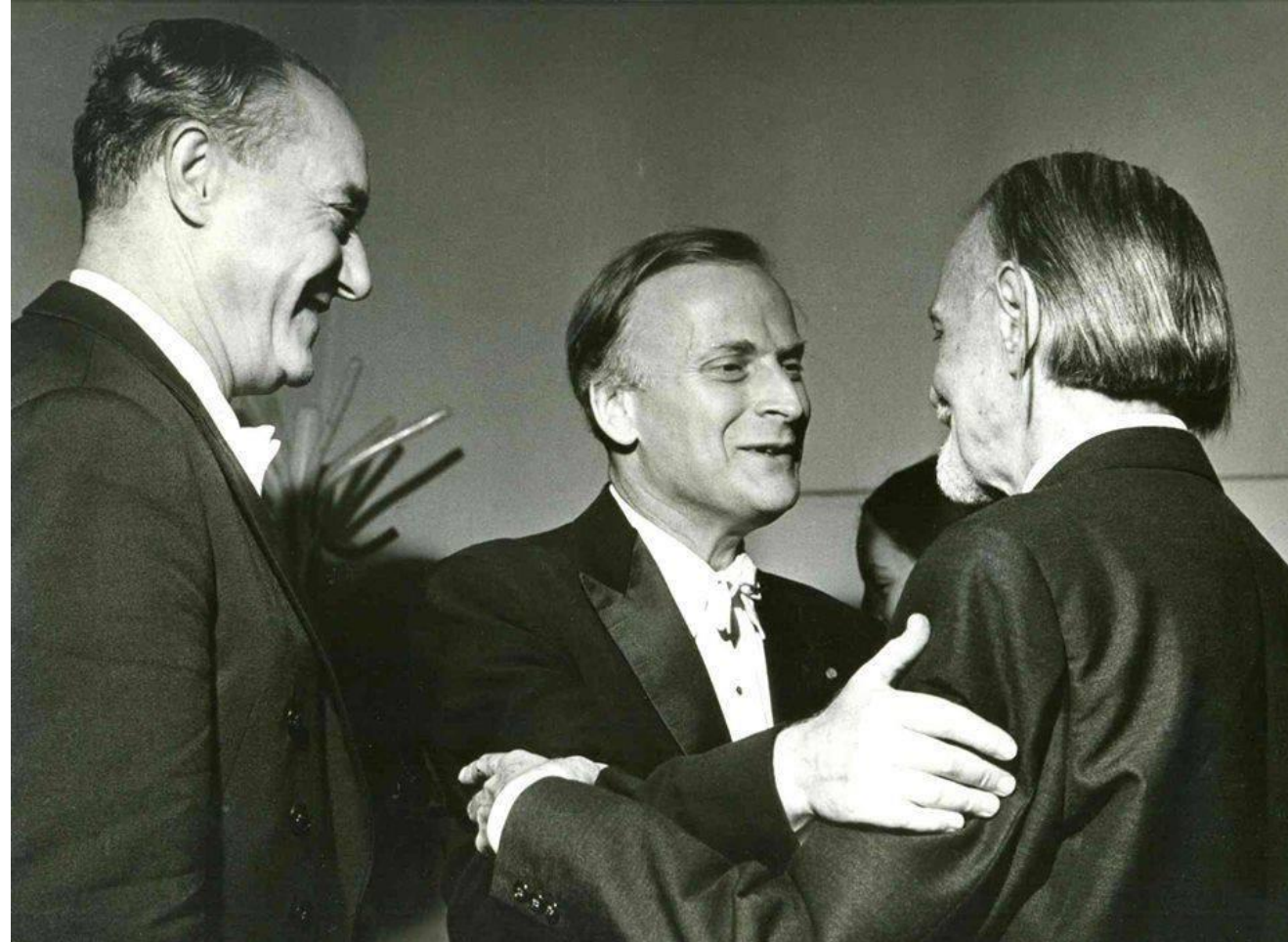


International acknowledgement



Kodály and Toscanini

International acknowledgement



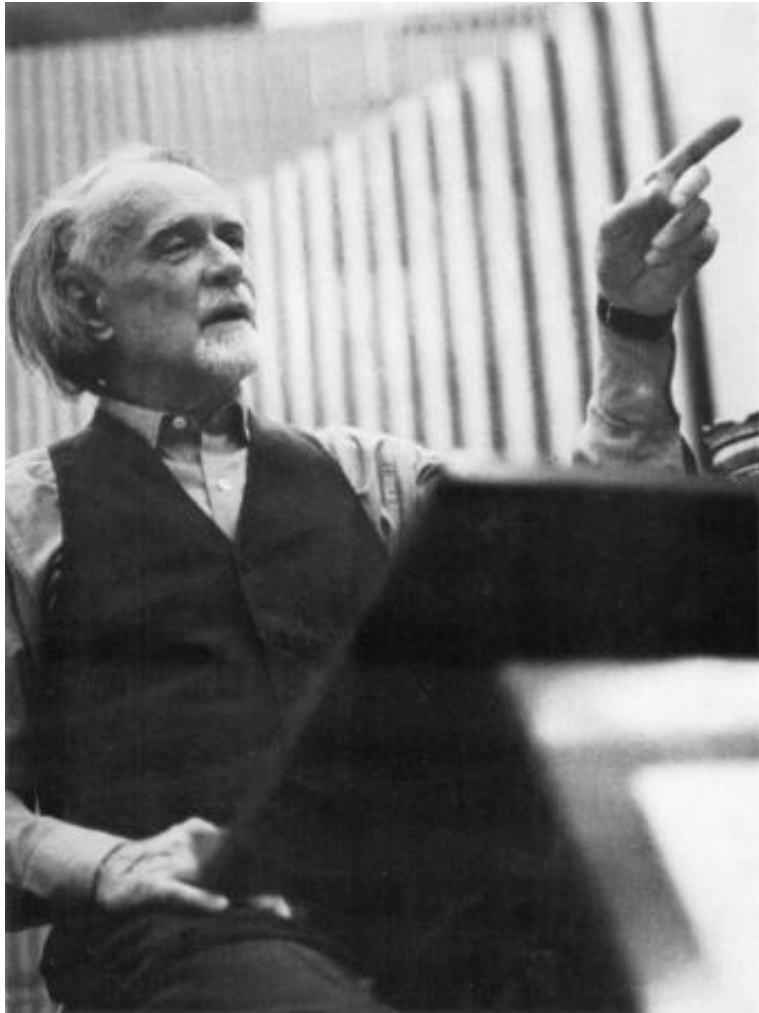
Kodály and Yehudi Menuhin

International acknowledgement



Kodály and Benjamin Britten

International acknowledgement



Awards

- Honorary doctorate award, Oxford University, 1960
- Honorary doctorate award, Humboldt University (Berlin), 1964
- Herder Prize, Vienna, 1965
- Honorary doctorate award, University of Toronto, 1966
- British Royal Philharmonic Society Gold Medal (1967)
- First Class Commander of the White Rose of Finland (1967)

What does being a folklorist mean?

- Travelling to villages.
- Listening to villagers sing, watching them dance, and asking them to tell stories about their traditional weddings, funerals, harvests and other festivals.



Kodály, the folklorist

- Expeditions right before peasant culture was swept away by civilization.
- Recorded more than 5000 melodies.
- Songs from rural areas of Hungary.



Kodály, the folklorist

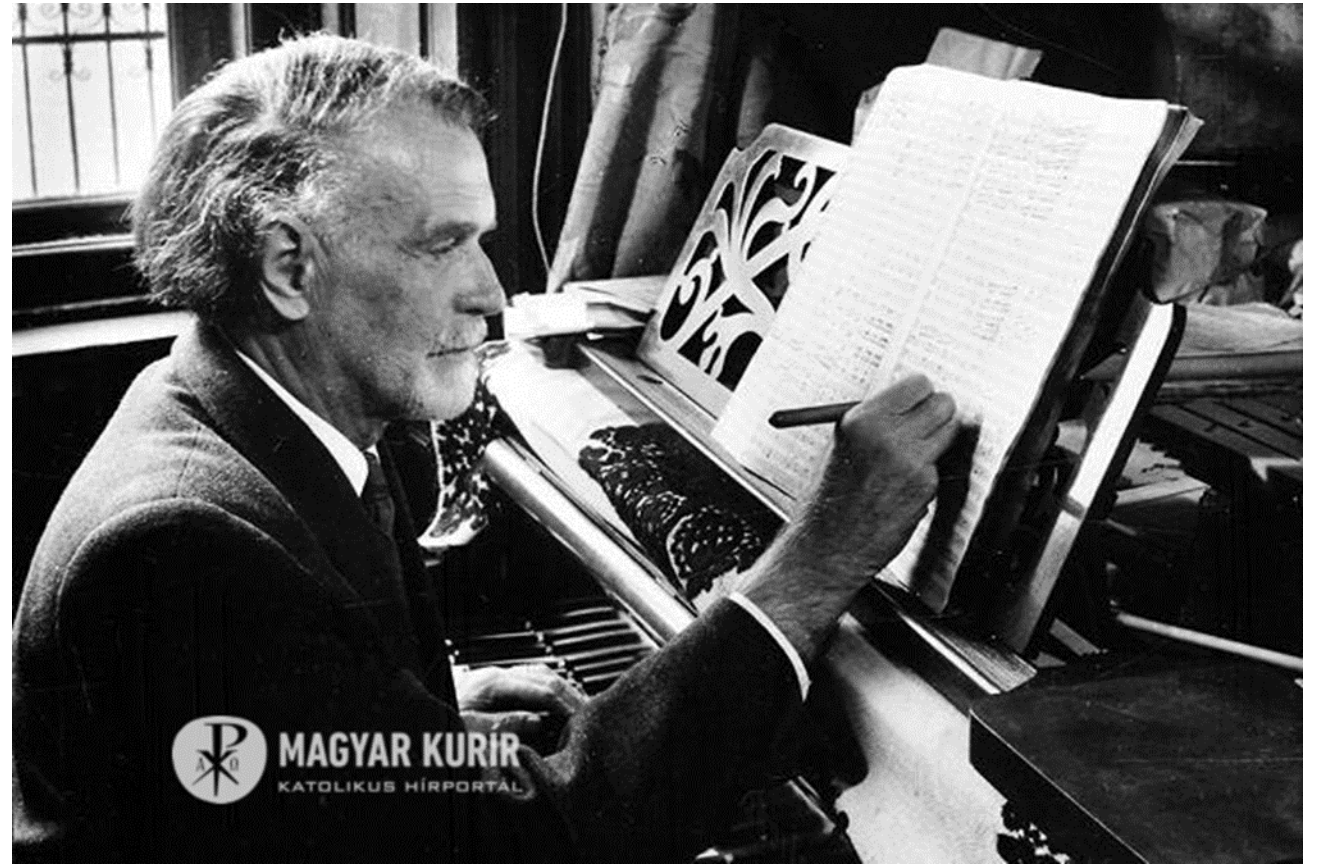
- **Safeguarding folk songs**

- He wrote down every single song and picked those worth recording.
- He made sound recordings with a phonograph, analyzed and wrote sheetmusic for each melody, and organized the recordings.
- These recordings were made digitally accessible for everyone in the Hungarian Academy of Sciences archive.



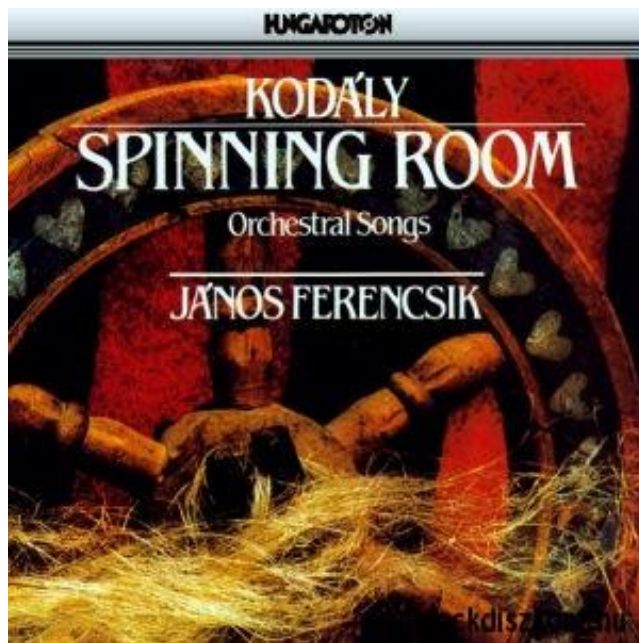
Kodály, the composer

- Several pieces for choirs: childrens' choirs, men's' and women's choirs, mixed choirs.
- Dramatic compositions



Kodály, the composer

- Instrumental pieces for chamber ensembles and orchestras. In his pieces called Hány János or Székelyfonó, he included folk instruments into the symphonic orchestra.
- The high class audience of the Opera could hear folk music for the first time thanks to Kodály.



Kodály, the teacher



- 1907 – he becomes music theory teacher at Liszt Academy
- On his initiative, folk music and solfege was included into the Liszt Academy education programme.

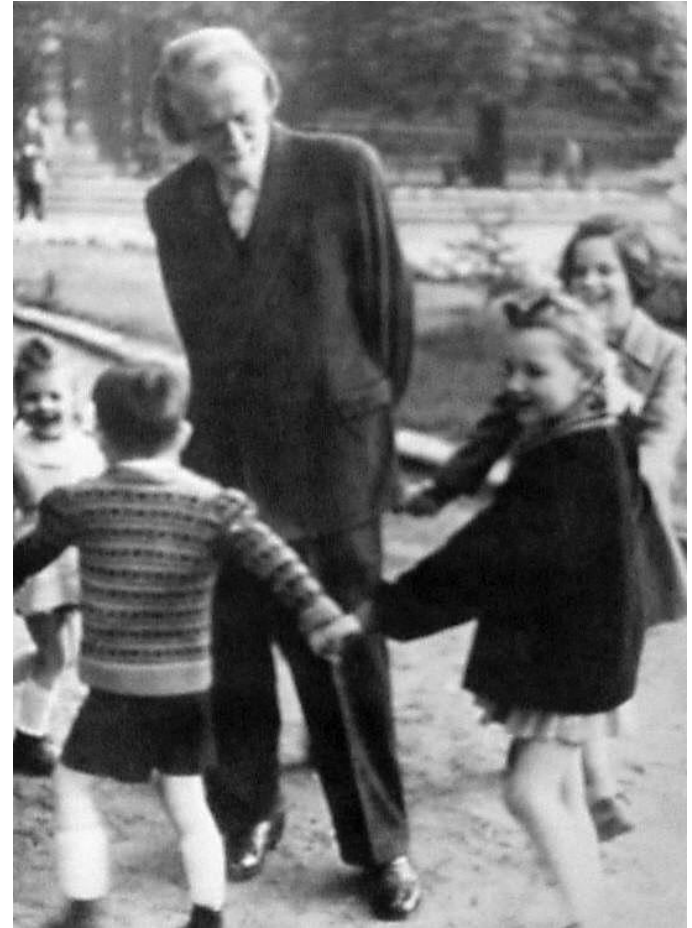
The Kodály method

Principles

- Music is essential to the healthy development of children.
- The most important method of hearing and understanding music is musical activeness.
- Musical activeness can be achieved most efficiently through singing and choral music.
- Music learners should initially be taught through folk music and Hungarian folk songs, while higher education should be built on this knowledge.
- Musical teaching materials should be primarily based on classical music.
- Music writing and reading, as well as solmization should be the core of music education.

The Kodály method

- Hungarian folk songs provide the most important source for learning music.
- Children's folk songs also help them to receive an age-appropriate cultural experience through play.



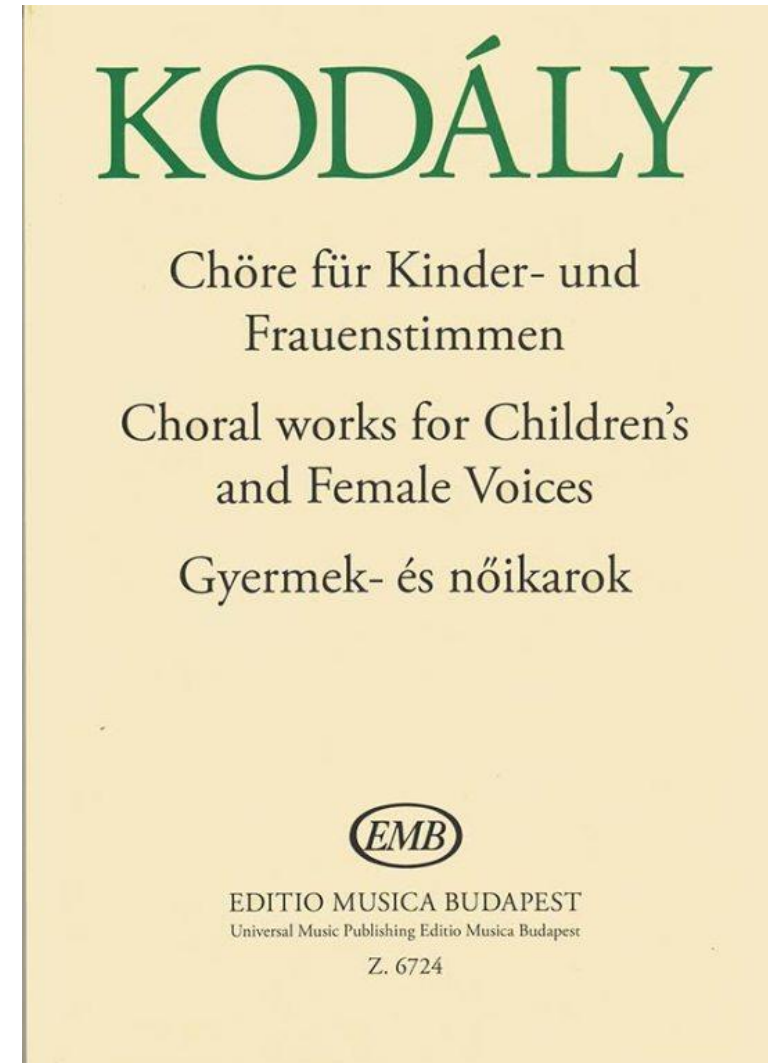
The Kodály method

- **Musical education of children can never start early enough.**
- Hungarian public schools pay small attention to music and traditional folk music.
- A child's first music teacher is the mother.
- According to Kodály, music improves children's school results and their chances of becoming more balanced adults.

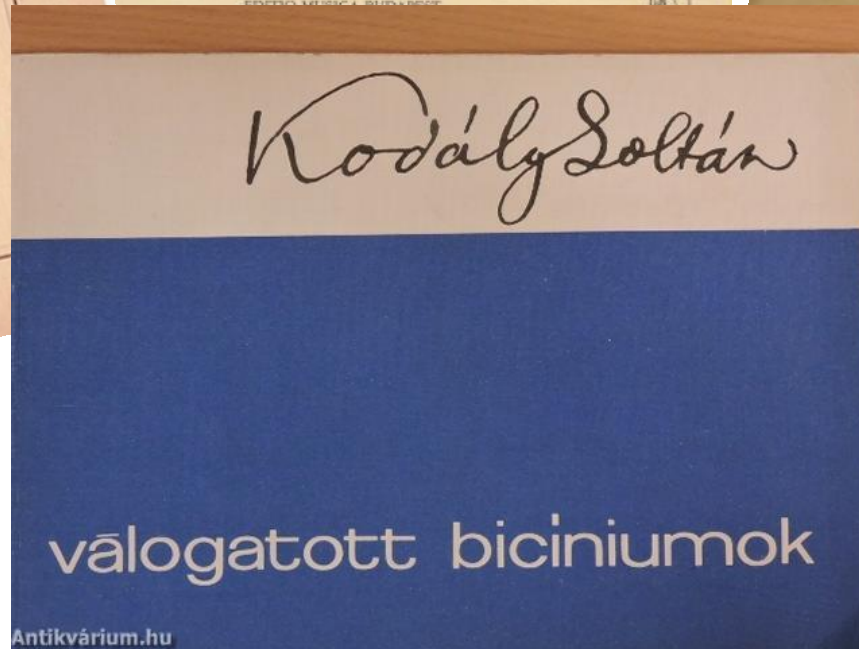
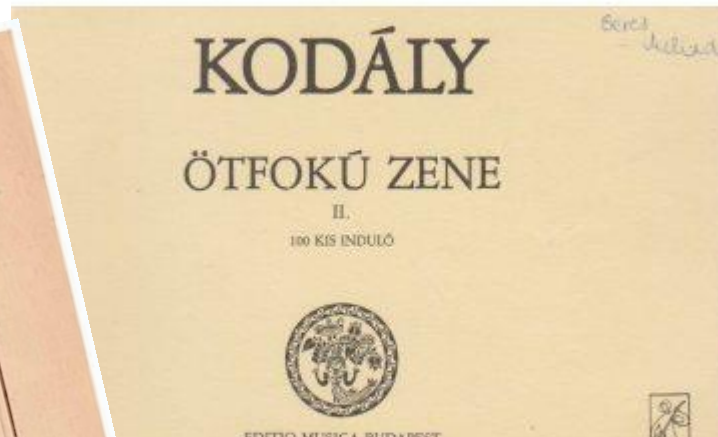


The Kodály method

- **Everybody has the most beautifully sounding instrument in their throats: their own voices.**
- Several choral pieces for children.
- Double origins: both from the renaissance choral traditions and Hungarian folklore.

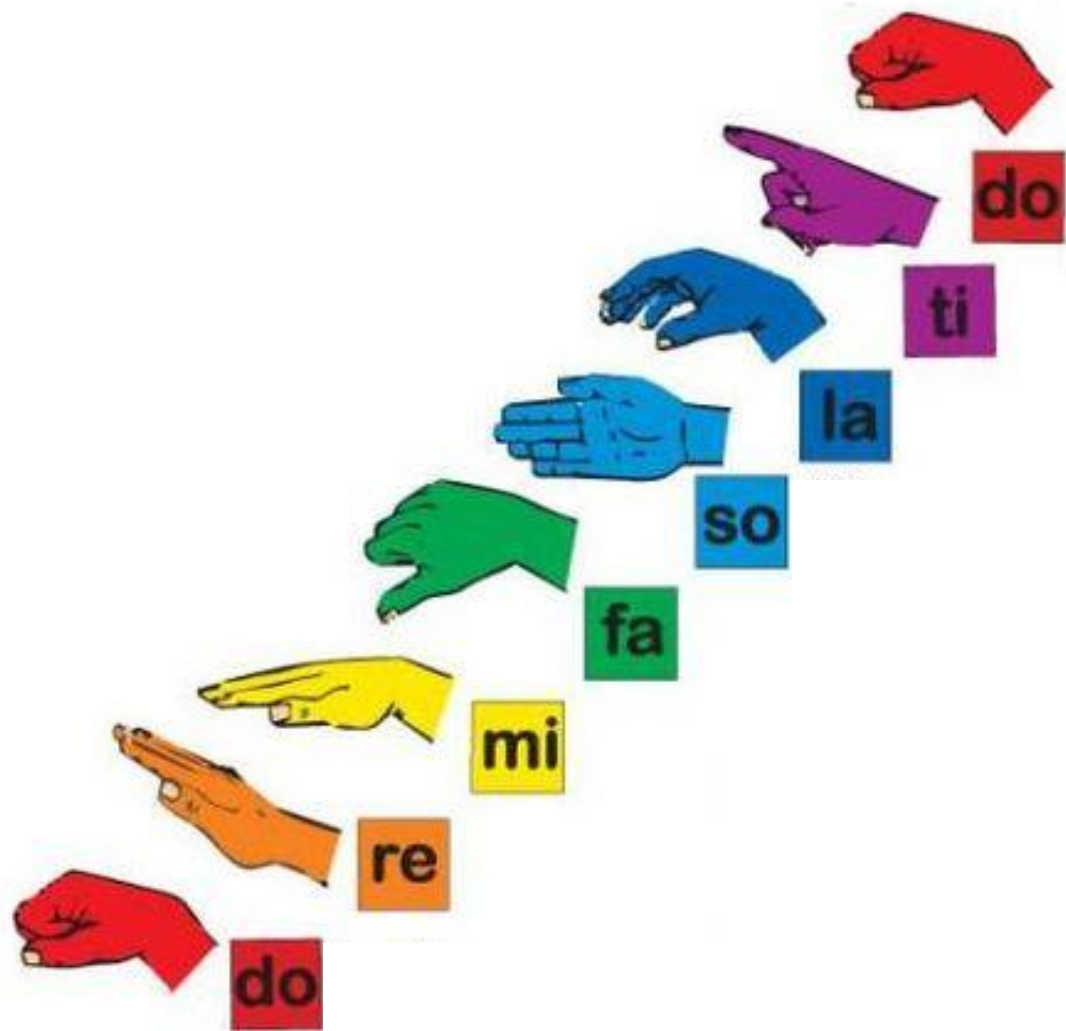


The Kodály method



The Kodály method

- The first step of understanding music is reading sheet music.
- **Relative solmization** or „moving do“ is a sheet reading technique that
 - Helps learning melodic and harmonic elements,
 - Sensitizes to intonation,
 - Improves hearing.
- Sheets are always easy to read no matter the key, using the familiar musical scale „**Do, Re, Mi, Fa, Sol, La, Ti, Do**“





Handwritten musical notation on a staff. The notation includes a treble clef, a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody begins with a note labeled "do" on the first line. The notation consists of two phrases, each ending with a double bar line. The first phrase contains 10 measures, and the second phrase contains 10 measures. The notes are primarily quarter and eighth notes, with some rests.

Four empty musical staves, two on the left and two on the right, arranged in two pairs. Each staff consists of five horizontal lines.





What is a „moving *do*“?

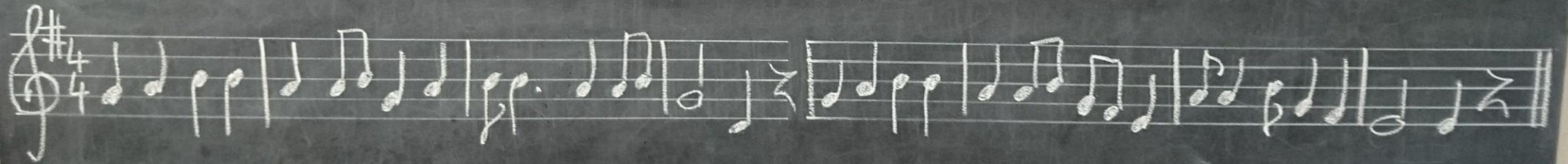
Not only „C“ but any note can be a „*do*“ depending on the key.

The position of „*do*“ changes but not the distance of the notes (re, mi, sol etc)

Keeping the clarity and the constant distance between the solmization notes improves intonation ability.

do







Handwritten musical notation on a treble clef staff. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#) and the time signature is 4/4. The notation consists of two measures of music, each ending with a double bar line. The first measure contains a sequence of eighth and quarter notes, while the second measure contains a sequence of eighth notes and quarter notes.

do

Handwritten musical notation on a treble clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The notation consists of two measures of music, each ending with a double bar line. The first measure contains a sequence of eighth and quarter notes, while the second measure contains a sequence of eighth notes and quarter notes.

do

Handwritten musical notation on a treble clef staff. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#) and the time signature is 4/4. The notation consists of two measures of music, each ending with a double bar line. The first measure contains a sequence of eighth and quarter notes, while the second measure contains a sequence of eighth notes and quarter notes.

do

Two empty treble clef staves at the bottom of the page, intended for further musical notation.

The Kodály method

- Singing class every day.
- Research in the 1960s shows that children attending such schools perform better than those who do not have strong singing education.
- Number of schools adapting the Kodály method has been decreasing since the 1980s.

The Kodály method

- The Kodály concept was selected on the UNESCO Register of Good Safeguarding Practices in 2016
- The Kodály method was declared „hungarikum“ by the Hungarikum Committee in 2017.
- This educational concept goes far beyond music teaching and has a significant social impact as well.

Kodály as a public figure

- Éneklő Ifjúság (Singing Youth) movement, ongoing since the end of the 1920s.
- Creating a national community after the First World War.





Kodály's philosophy

- Kodály's method develops in parallel
 - Children's minds
 - Their movement
 - Their cultural scope.
- According to Kodály, a good musician has four tools: cultured hearing, cultured mind, cultured heart and cultured hands. The development of these tools should be parallel and balanced.
- Only a free instrument can be the soil for a general and widespread music culture.

Music should belong to everyone!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kodaly". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping 'K' and a long, trailing tail on the 'y'.