Music Technology

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PM+



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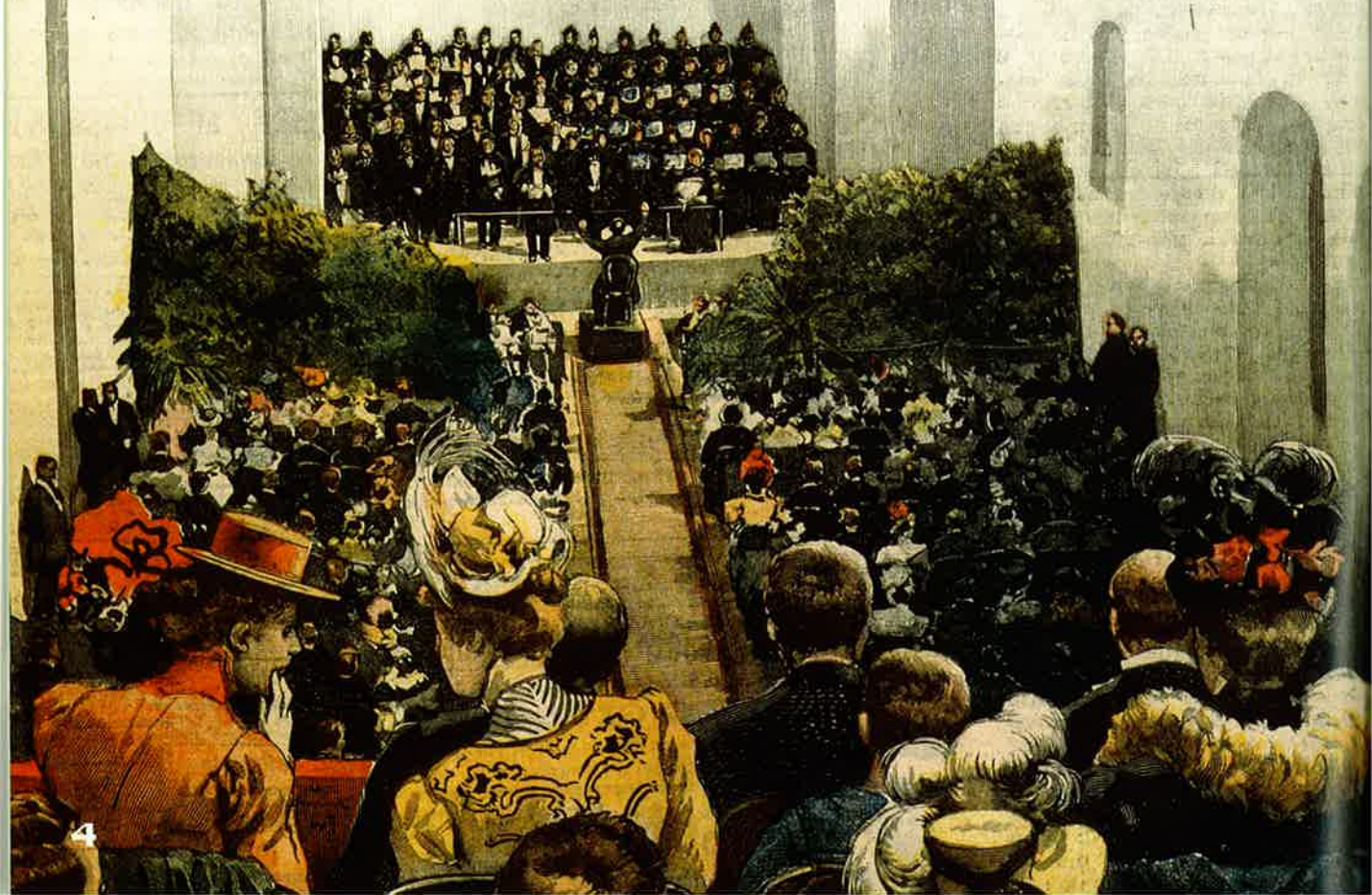
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Chapter 1

Listening to Music

People have been listening to music for thousands of years. In the past, the only way that they could hear music was at a live performance.

In the last century, there have been many changes to the way we listen to music. People have learned how to capture and move sound to other places using technology.

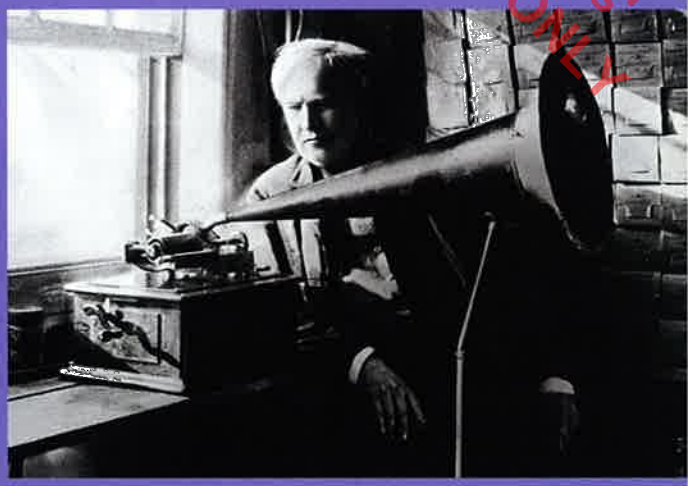


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Technology Timeline

1877 Phonograph

Thomas Edison invented the phonograph machine. It was the first machine to record sound and play it back again. It used a needle that printed the sound vibrations onto a tinfoil cylinder.



1887 Gramophone

The gramophone could play back sound on special discs. The gramophone had to be wound up to make it work. The sound came out of the large horn. The fragile gramophone discs were made of **shellac** and were easily broken.

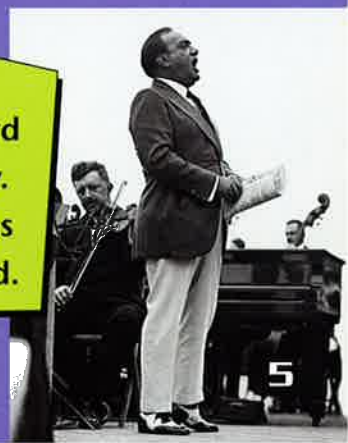


1898 Tapes

Music could be recorded onto wire and steel tapes.

DID YOU KNOW?

People used the new technology to record the best singers and musicians of the day. Enrico Caruso, a famous opera singer, was one of the first to have his voice recorded.



1920s Radio

Radio brought music into the homes of many more people. People would gather around the radio for entertainment.



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1930s Plastic tapes

Thin plastic recording tape was invented. It replaced wire and steel tape.



1948 Vinyl records

Vinyl LP (long-playing) records were invented. Each side played 25 minutes of music. Vinyl records are played on a **turntable**. A needle 'reads' the record.



1963 Cassette tapes

Compact plastic cassette tapes were invented. They are small enough to fit into a shirt pocket.



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1970s Hi-fi

Advances in technology led to the development of **hi-fi** sound equipment, which produced high-quality sound from tapes and records. By the 1970s, hi-fi equipment was a popular item in many people's homes.



1982 Compact discs

Compact discs (CDs) and CD players became available in shops. Inside a CD player, a beam of light 'reads' the CD, instead of a needle. CDs are made from hard-wearing materials that don't get scratched or worn out like vinyl records.



DID YOU KNOW?

Minidiscs are even smaller than CDs. The tiny minidisc player can play and record music.



Today

We can listen to the latest music from all over the world on radio, television, at the cinema and on the **Internet**.



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Chapter 2

Radio Technology

Once Upon a Radio

Let's go back in time! What was it like inside a radio station in 1922?



