

# Shirley Thompson

Symbol Book

# **Shirley Thompson - Symbol**

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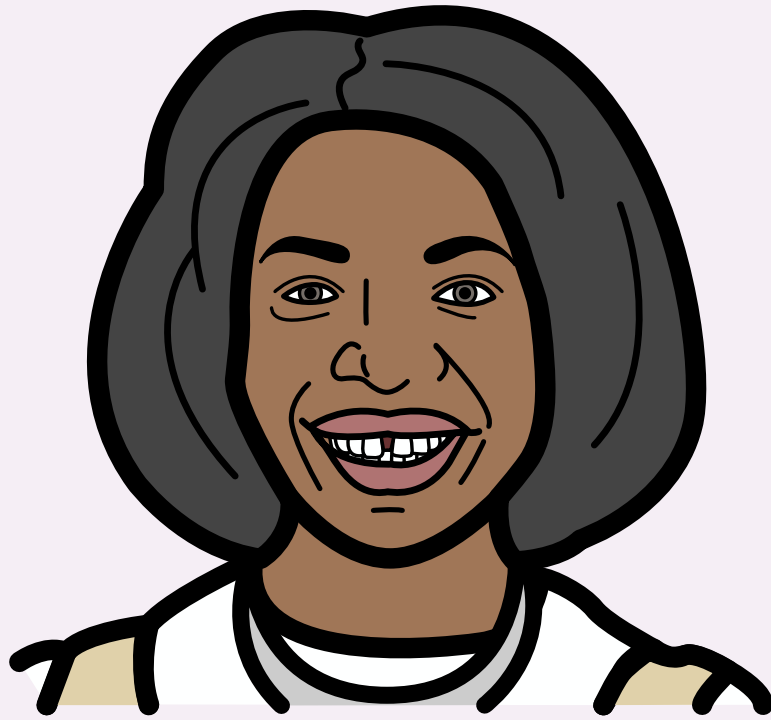
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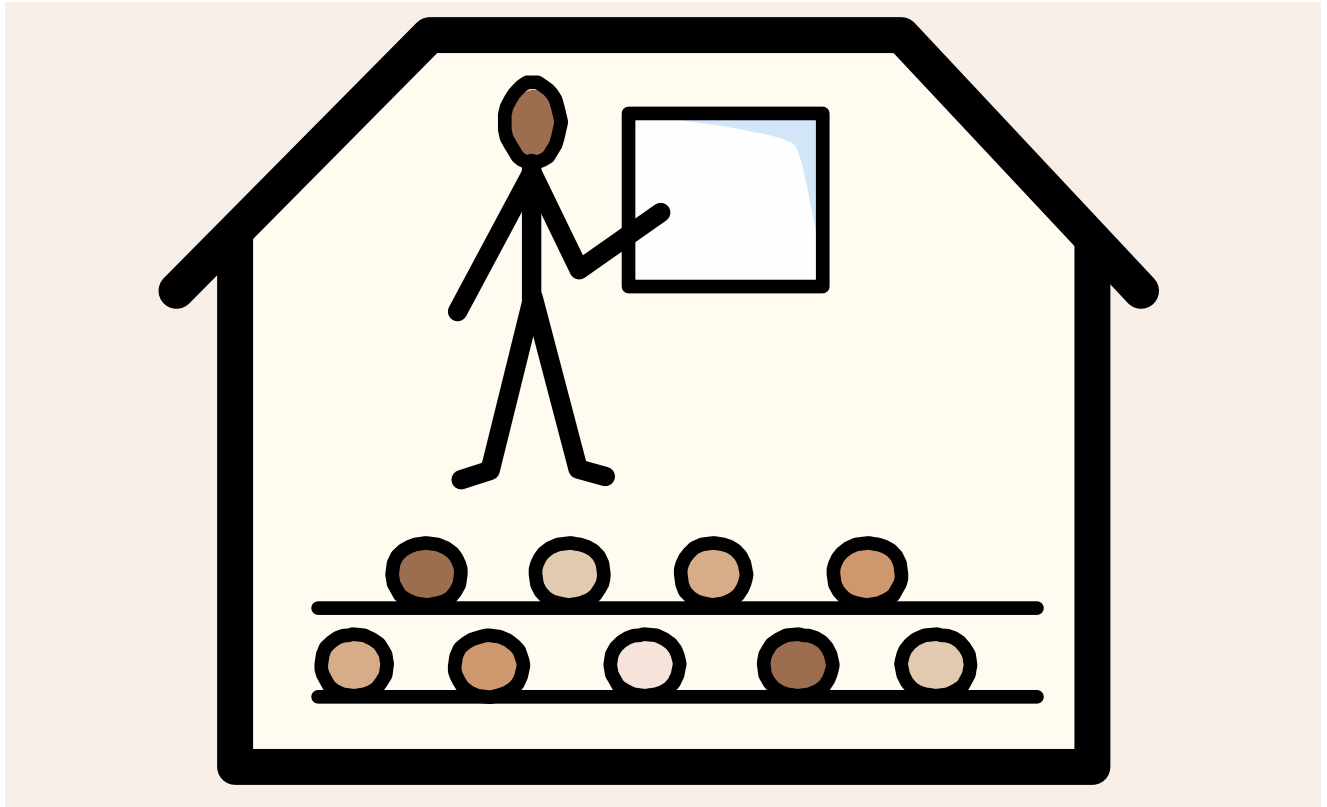


 Shirley Thompson was born in London in 1958.

 Her  parents were  Jamaican  immigrants.

As a  child  Shirley  played violin in  youth  orchestras.

As a  child  she  sang with  local  choirs.



Shirley

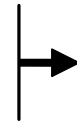


graduated

in



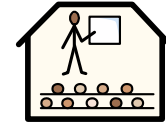
music



from



Liverpool



University.



She



also



studied

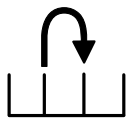


composition

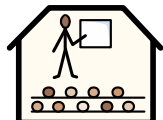
at



Goldsmith College.



After



university



she



composed music

for



concert halls.



She



composed music

for



television,



film

and



theatre.

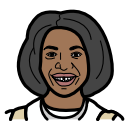
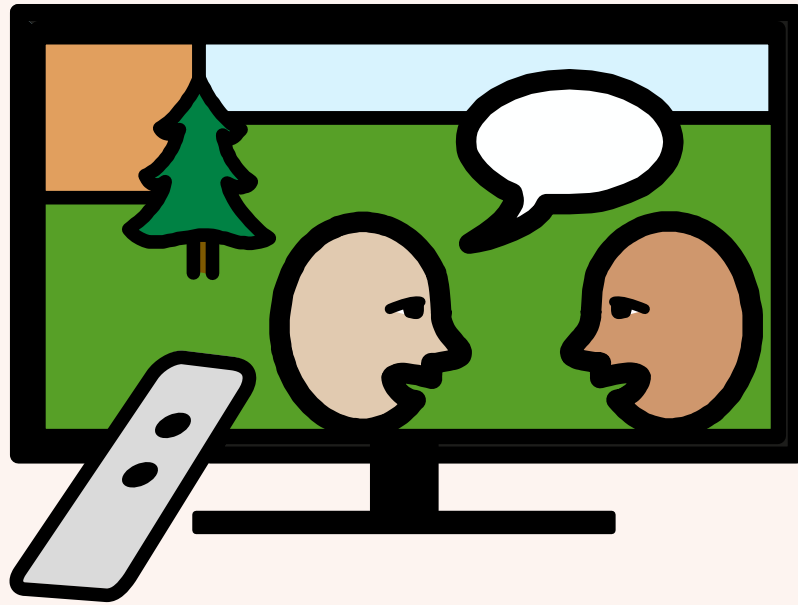


In 1994 Shirley started her own company.

This was called the Shirley Thompson Ensemble.

Her music mixed classical and popular music.

Shirley added music styles from around the world.



Shirley



trained

as a



television program



maker.



She



worked

at the



BBC

and



Carlton television.

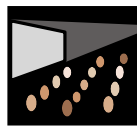


Shirley

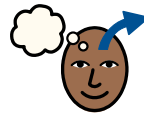


directed

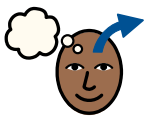
the



film



'Memories in Mind'.



This

was



broadcast

by the

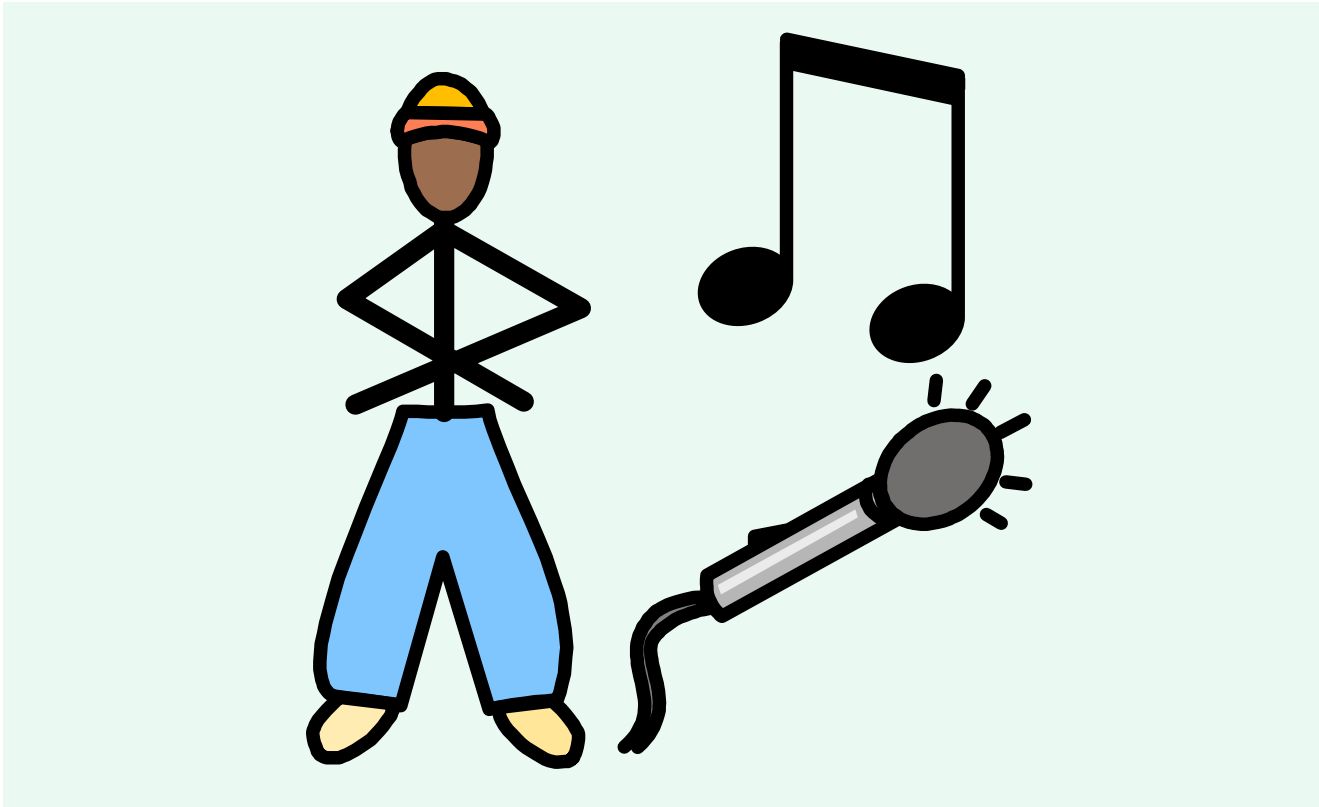


BBC

in

1998

1998.

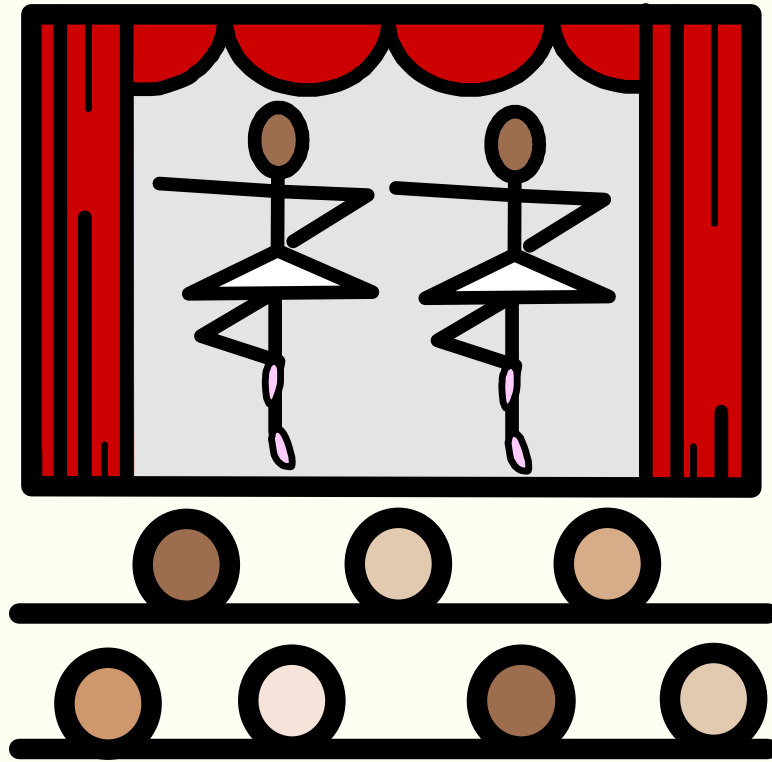


In 2004 Shirley composed her 1<sup>st</sup> full symphony:

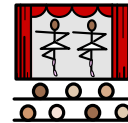
'New Nation Rising, A 21st Century Symphony'.

This celebrates 1000 years of London's history.

The orchestra plays with choirs and even a rapper.



2005



In

2005

Shirley

helped

compose

the

ballet

'PUSH'.



'PUSH'

has



toured

in



Europe

and



around the world.

2007



she

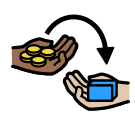


composed music

about the



slave



trade:



'British



Slave



Trade:



Abolition,



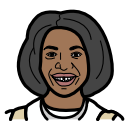
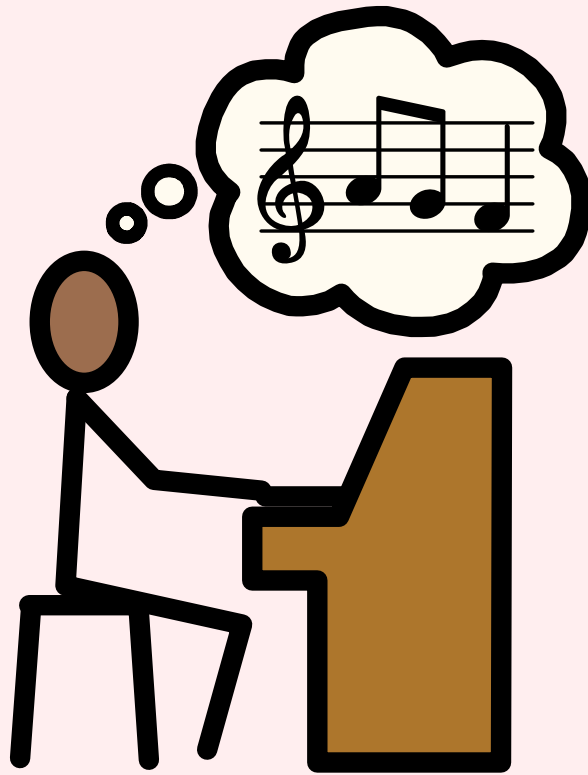
Parliament

and



People'.





Shirley

has

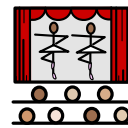


composed



symphonies

and



ballets.



She

has



composed

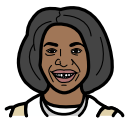


operas

and



concertos.



She

has



composed music

for



TV,



film

and



theatre.



She

has even

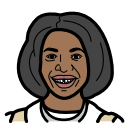


composed music

for



Nelson Mandela.

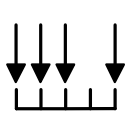


Shirley

has



received



many



prizes

and

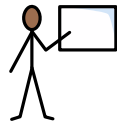


awards.



She

is



Professor

of

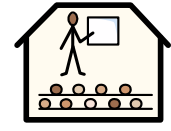


Music

at



Westminster

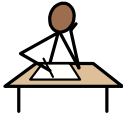


University.



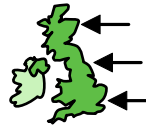
She

has



worked

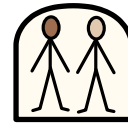
for



national



arts



institutions.

2019

In

2019



Shirley

was



awarded

an

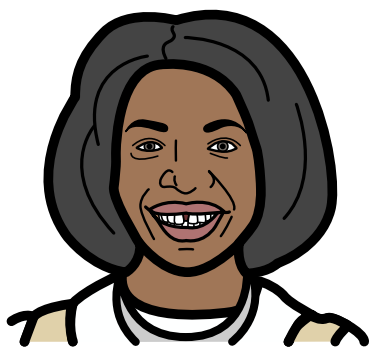


OBE

for her



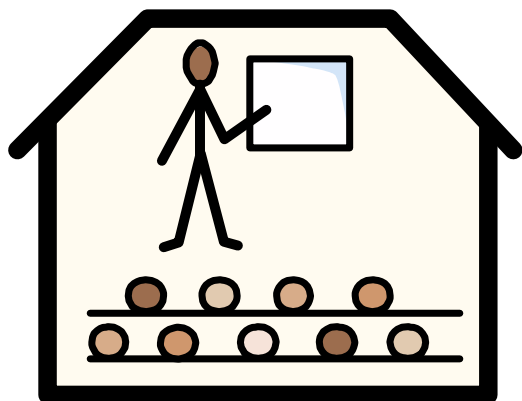
work.



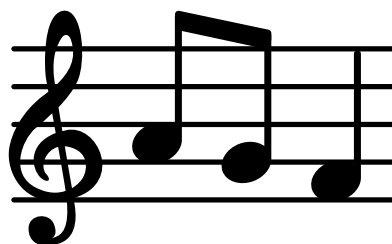
Shirley  
Thompson



Jamaica



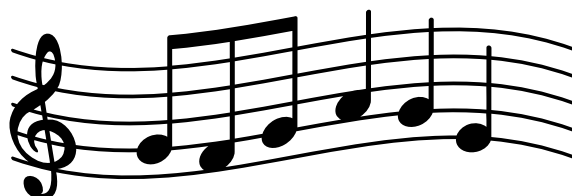
university



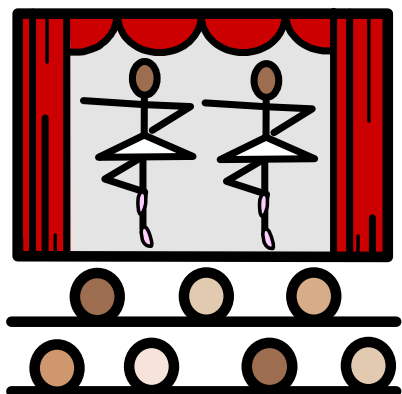
music



compose



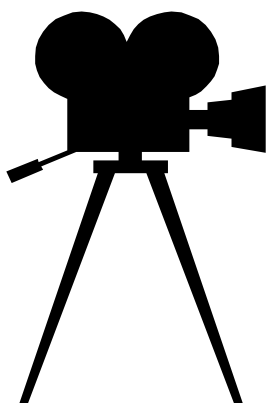
symphony



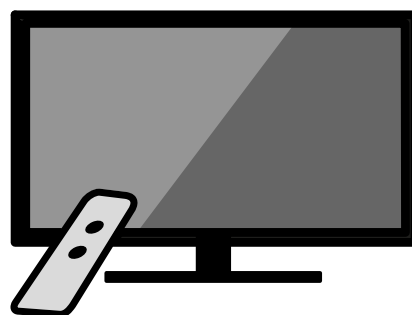
ballet



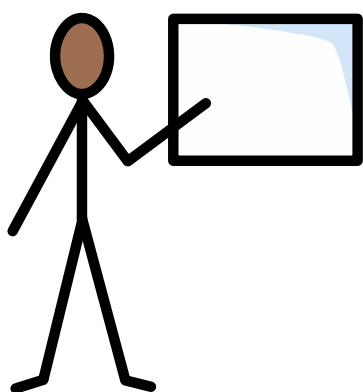
opera



film



tv



professor



OBE