



The Concert, ca. 1633

Pitch Perfect

Laughter and song fill the merry paintings of **Judith Leyster (1609–1660)**. The only female artist of her time to have a workshop in her native Haarlem in the Netherlands, Leyster created intimate interior scenes known as genre paintings.

Take a closer look

Though the smiling group looks casual and relaxed, spot the woman carefully keeping time with her raised right hand. The three musicians must work together to remain in harmony, possibly a reference to the value of self-restraint.

Something to talk about

Scholars suggest this painting is a self-portrait of Leyster singing with her husband and friend playing instruments. What musical memory would you choose to immortalize in a work of art?

Who knew?

Leyster's name means "lead star," a common Dutch term for the North Star. The artist often included a star along with her initials when she signed her works. Don't go stargazing here though, as *The Concert* does not include her stellar stamp.

Judith Leyster, *The Concert*, ca. 1633; Oil on canvas, 24 x 34¼ inches; National Museum of Women in the Arts, Gift of Wallace and Wilhelmina Holladay

