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Four

Children's
Songs

I. The One and Only

With your instrument or your voice, make a sound, but make sure you make it when no one else is making theirs. Your own sound must cover up nothing but silence. Make it a loud, beautiful, hello-to the world sound. Make it only once. Before and after you make your sound, listen to everyone else's. When everybody has made one sound, this song is finished.

What can you learn about a person from the sound they make?

I. Sir!! Not a Form!!

Take a short, simple tune, one that your teacher has made up perhaps, and everybody learn to play or sing it. When this is done, play and sing it together in unison, until you feel like changing it, just a little.

Do so! And keep changing it, little by little, until it no longer sounds like one tune, but lots of beautiful tunes, all at once, that everybody has made up by themselves.

Listen carefully!! Can you hear that all these

tunes come from just one?

II.2

Now, slowly start shaping your new tune back into the original. Listen to the others do the same. Soon, all there is is the first tune. We're back and the song is finished.

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III. Fugatissimo

Sit in a circle. One person sings or plays something, and the person to his/her left picks it up, overlapping and making it their own.

Then the person to his left does the same, and the music goes around the circle. When the music is about halfway around, the person to the left of the original singer or player starts something new, and passes it along in the same way. This continues until everyone in the circle has begun once. When the last person's tune has been sung or played by the person to his/her right, the song is over. Remember that since all the tunes are short, there must be only 3 or 4 people singing or playing at once.

IV. Name Dropping

Very softly, try to find the melody of your own name. Sing it, quietly and slowly, as if to yourself. Listen Carefully. Gradually, get louder, but as you do, listen to everyone else's name tunes. After a while, find one that you particularly like and sing it. When everybody's name is being sung by someone else, the song is over.