



## **CARNIVAL OF ANIMALS - MOVEMENTS**

- **I: Introduction and Royal March of the Lion**

After an introduction the pianos introduce a march theme. They imitate the roar of the [lions](#).

- **II: Hens and Roosters**

This music sounds like [hens](#) clucking (the strings) and a [cock](#) crowing (the clarinet).

- **III: Wild Asses**

The two pianos seem to go wild with [scales](#) rushing up and down madly.

- **IV: Tortoise**

This movement for strings and piano is very slow, like a [tortoise](#). Saint-Saëns makes a musical joke here: the tune is the same tune as 'Can-Can' from but played very slowly.

- **V: The Elephant**

This [double bass](#) solo with piano accompaniment makes the [elephant](#) sound heavy and clumsy. In the middle section the elephant tries to dance a [waltz](#). This is also a musical joke.

- **VI: Kangaroos**

The two pianos hop about gracefully like [kangaroos](#).

- **VII: Aquarium**

This is very graceful music with the tune played on the flute, accompanied by strings, with occasional [glissandi](#) (slides) on the glass harmonica.

- **VIII: Persons with Long Ears**

The “Persons with Long Ears” are actually [donkeys](#). It is played on two violins which imitate the “hee-haw” sound of the donkey.

- **IX: The Cuckoo in the Depths of the Woods**

The pianos play gentle chords, like someone walking quietly through a forest. Now and again the clarinet plays two [notes](#) which sound like the call of the [cuckoo](#).

- **X: Aviary**

The flute has a very delicate, fast tune accompanied by strings and pianos. It sounds like [birds](#) flying in an [aviary](#) (bird cage).

- **XI: Pianists**

This is another joke, because “pianists” are people who play the [piano](#), they are not [animals](#). Saint-Saëns makes them seem rather silly as they practice their scales.

- **XII: Fossils**

The [xylophone](#) plays a fast tune which sounds like [skeletons](#) playing. Saint-Saëns is making a joke about himself, because he uses a tune from one of his own works: the *Danse Macabre*. There are bits of other tunes as well.

- **XIII: The Swan**

This is one of the most famous of all tunes for the cello. It is a lovely tune which sounds like a [swan](#) swimming gracefully along.

- **XIV: Finale**

All the instruments join in the Finale which has bits from nearly all the movements.