

## Debussy: Clair de Lune

**LISTEN** to Lang Lang play Claude Debussy's Clair de Lune at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fZrm9h3JRGs>

Clair de Lune translates to moonlight. You will probably notice that it has a similar feeling to the Chopin Nocturne we listen to.

Things to listen for:

- The subtle pushes and pulls of tempo
- The frequent subtle changes in dynamics
- How many notes in a row does he play at exactly the same dynamic or tempo? (How often does he change the fast/slow and loud/quiet?)
- What time of day do you think would be best for listening to this?
- What personal mood do you think would be best for you to be in to enjoy this song?
  - Do you think this song could help you change your mood?



wikipedia.org

Clair de Lune is usually played at a quicker tempo. Listen to this slightly faster version by Canadian pianist Angela Hewitt <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ip64cG7gK4>

- How do the different performances change the feeling of the music (from each other)?
- Which one do you prefer? Why

Listen to this brief description of how to listen to Clair de Lune by Daniel Barenboim <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XiWfPJLp2ko>

**PLAY** Attached is a score of an easy version of the theme for piano

A free full score is available at [https://imslp.org/wiki/Suite\\_bergamasque\\_\(Debussy,\\_Claude\)](https://imslp.org/wiki/Suite_bergamasque_(Debussy,_Claude)) (scroll down the page to Scores)

## LEARN

Here's some more information about Debussy: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Claude\\_Debussy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Claude_Debussy)

## FURTHER LISTENING

Here's a recording of Debussy himself playing some of his music (Clair de Lune starts at 59:34) [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W3NX\\_TrxfVk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W3NX_TrxfVk)

Here's a video of one of Debussy's orchestra works: La Mer (the sea) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SgSNgzA37To>

**MORE Debussy** The Toronto Public Library has over 3000 e-resources on Debussy. Here's a link <https://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/search.jsp?N=37910&Ntt=debussy>