



## Mini-Lesson: Meet Composer Susan Botti

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### OVERVIEW

“Who created the work?” is the first essential question in the Facets Model. Students musicians learning a new work can discover important clues about the music by learning about the composer. In this lesson, students will view a presentation, then discuss what they learned and what piqued their curiosity about the composer, her musical life, accomplishments, and inspirations for creating new music. Students, either as individuals or in small groups, will then develop a *Composer Kaleidoscope* for Susan Botti.

### LEARNING GOAL

Students will be introduced to composer Susan Botti by viewing a visual presentation. They will select and organize key information and ideas about Botti into a *Composer Kaleidoscope* to support their understanding and performance of the piece.

### MATERIALS & RESOURCES

- “Meet Composer Susan Botti” presentation:  
[http://prezi.com/nr0msa\\_nzfct/?utm\\_campaign=share&utm\\_medium=copy&rc=ex0share](http://prezi.com/nr0msa_nzfct/?utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=copy&rc=ex0share)
- Copies of the *Composer Kaleidoscope* graphic organizer for students to complete
- Optional Reading: Teacher biography, “Meet Composer Susan Botti” additional information

### PROCESS

Decide if you will use the *Composer Kaleidoscope* as a group project or as an individual assignment, and if the work will be done in class or as homework.

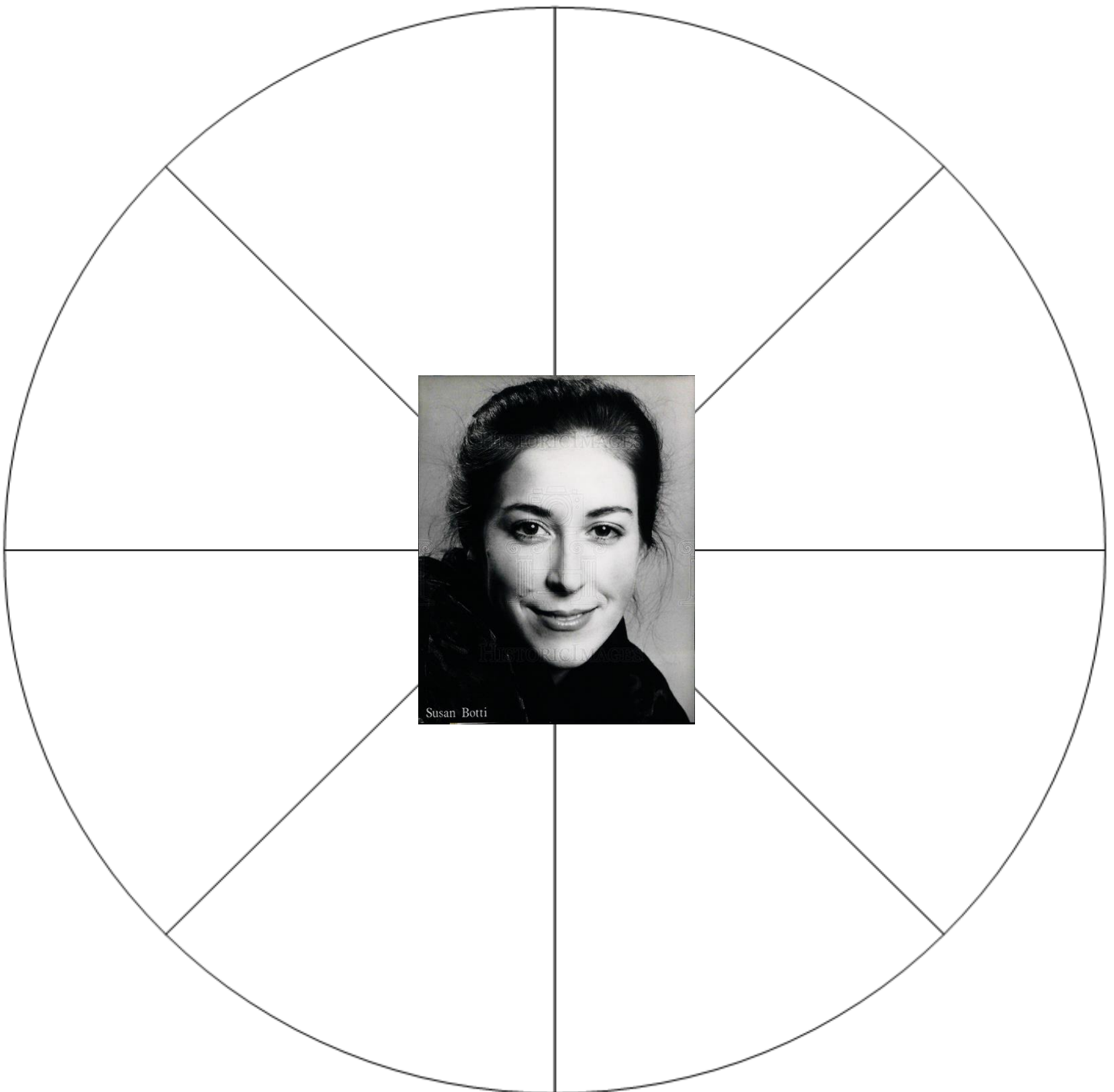
1. Before or early in your work on *Eye of the Hawk*, view the “Meet Composer Susan Botti” presentation.
  - Tell students to take note of the information and facts they find interesting. They will use this information as well as their insights about the composer to complete a written assignment: a Susan Botti kaleidoscopic summary.
  - Students can also read two interviews with Botti. Web links are included in the print biography.
2. Distribute the graphic organizer after deciding if students will work alone, with a partner, or in small groups.
3. After completing the Kaleidoscope assignment, ask students to read some of their entries out loud in class. Post complete Kaleidoscopes on the walls of the band room and at the concert when you perform *Eye of the Hawk*.

### ASSESSMENT SUGGESTION

An optional strategy is to complete this activity near the end of working on *Eye of the Hawk* to assess students’ overall background knowledge about the composer and how they perceive her work on this piece.

## A Composer Kaleidoscope

Create a Composer Kaleidoscope from what you've learned about Susan Botti, composer of *Eye of the Hawk*. Write either one piece of factual information, or one insight you now have in each section of the circle.



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

