

- Carl Nielsen was born in Sortelung near Nørre Lyndelse on the island of Funen in Denmark.
- At the age of just fourteen he was engaged as a trombonist in the regimental band in Odense.
- He studied at the Royal Academy of Music in 1884–86 with the violin as his main subject.
- In the 1890s, Carl Nielsen became one of Denmark's prominent composers with works like the First Symphony, the J.P. Jacobsen songs op. 4 and 6, the Violin Sonata op. 9, and the choral work, Hymnus Amoris.
- Around the turn of the century, he wrote for two operas, Saul and David and Maskarade, the last of which quickly gained the status of a Danish national opera.
- Carl Nielsen held several important posts in Danish musical life such as conductor at the Royal Theatre, and teacher and board member at the Royal.
- Much of Carl Nielsen's music is in the Classical style, and not the popular style at the time, Romanticism.

