

THE SOUND OF THE ALPHORN 4'04

- 0'01 Markus and Federico are going into the mountains... a twisty road...
climbing higher and higher
- 0'16 Here we are!
- 0'20 No pic-nic baskets...
... just one strange bag.
- 0'29 What's that long tube for?
- 0'31 and inside it there's another narrower one
- 0'37 It's empty. There's nothing inside.
- 0'41 Marco looking for something in his pockets...
- 0'45 What is it?
- 0'48 He blows into it! It's a mouthpiece. But what are the two tubes for?
- 0'53 Marco fits the mouthpiece into the thin tube.
- 1'03 That's good, more good sounds come out
But it still doesn't look right, so Marco adds the big tube.
- 1'20 That's much better, but Marco still isn't satisfied and adds a third
tube that is bell-shaped at the end. That is the instrument known as
the Alpine Horn.

- 1'34 Now lots of beautiful notes can be made, also deep bass ones.
- 1'51 But why is the Alpine Horn so long? Federico decides to go away, while Marco waits for him.
- 2'03 Federico has also brought his Alpine Horn.
- 2'07 There, he's got there... He's gone quite a way. While he's assembling his instrument, Marco's waiting: why?
- 2'20 Only the mouthpiece is missing.
- 2'26 Marco is a long way from Federico but the sound of his Horn can be heard quite clearly, thanks to its shape.
- 2'42 Listen, now, Marco answers him...
- 3'03 That's how Alpine Horns talk to each other: one answers the other.
- 3'20 Years ago Alpine Horns really were used to communicate from one mountain to another or along the valleys. The peasant farmers (sent signals to each other to mark the beginning or the end of work... or when they prayed together) played the horns to call the cows home to be milked or to herd the sheep ready for the night.
Or they played them to let the others know that everything was all right.
- 3'48 Nowadays, Federico... e Marco play enthusiastically for their own amusement.

