

EXPLORE THE WORLD
of
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS
with
ARNE LARSON



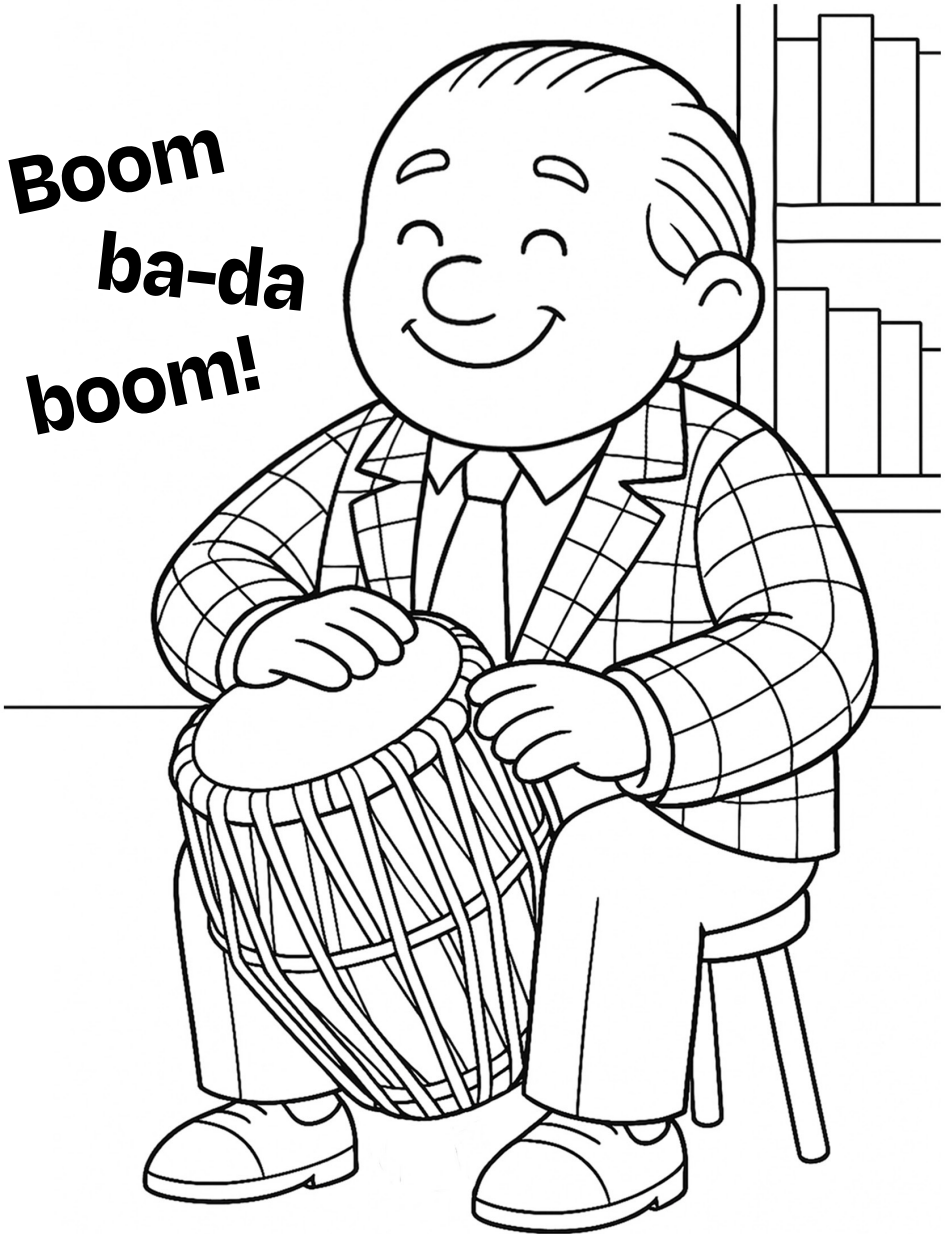


Arne Larson was a band director in Brookings, South Dakota, who loved making and collecting musical instruments. He wanted everyone to hear the amazing sounds they could make! Before starting the National Music Museum with his son, André, Arne collected over 2,500 instruments on his own.

Now Arne is back—this time as Flat Arne—to guide you through the museum and help you explore the world of musical instruments. Every instrument in this book comes from Arne's original collection. Can you spot these instruments in the exhibits?

"This drum has two voices," Arne said. "One deep like a dad's voice, one high like a mom's." People in parts of India use the mridangam in a special kind of music called Carnatic.

**Boom
ba-da
boom!**



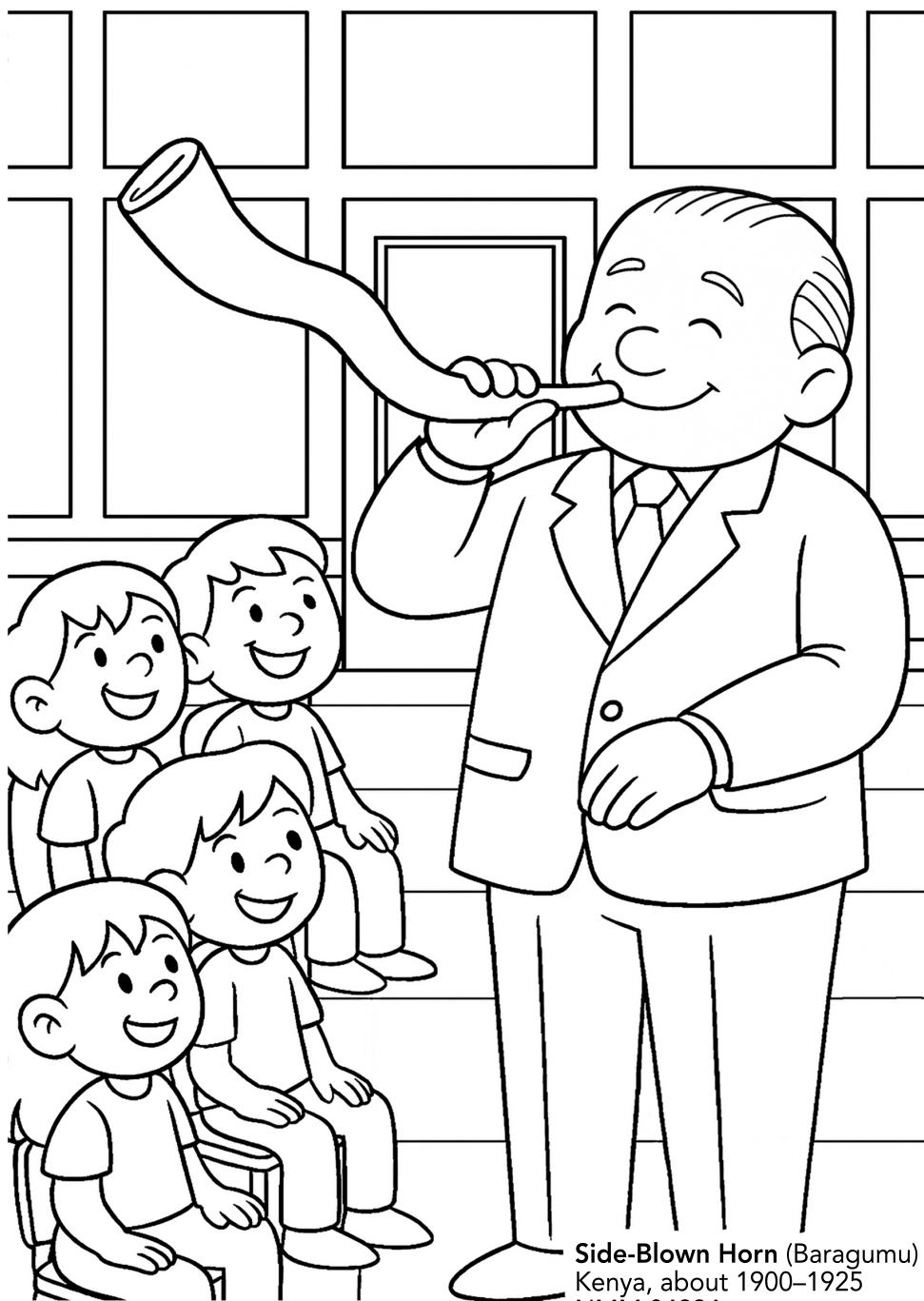
Barrel Drum (Mridangam)
India, about 1900–1925
NMM 01190

Arne picked up this shell and blew a HUGE note!
"This shell used to live in the ocean, but now it makes music. People have played these for thousands of years!" Arne said.



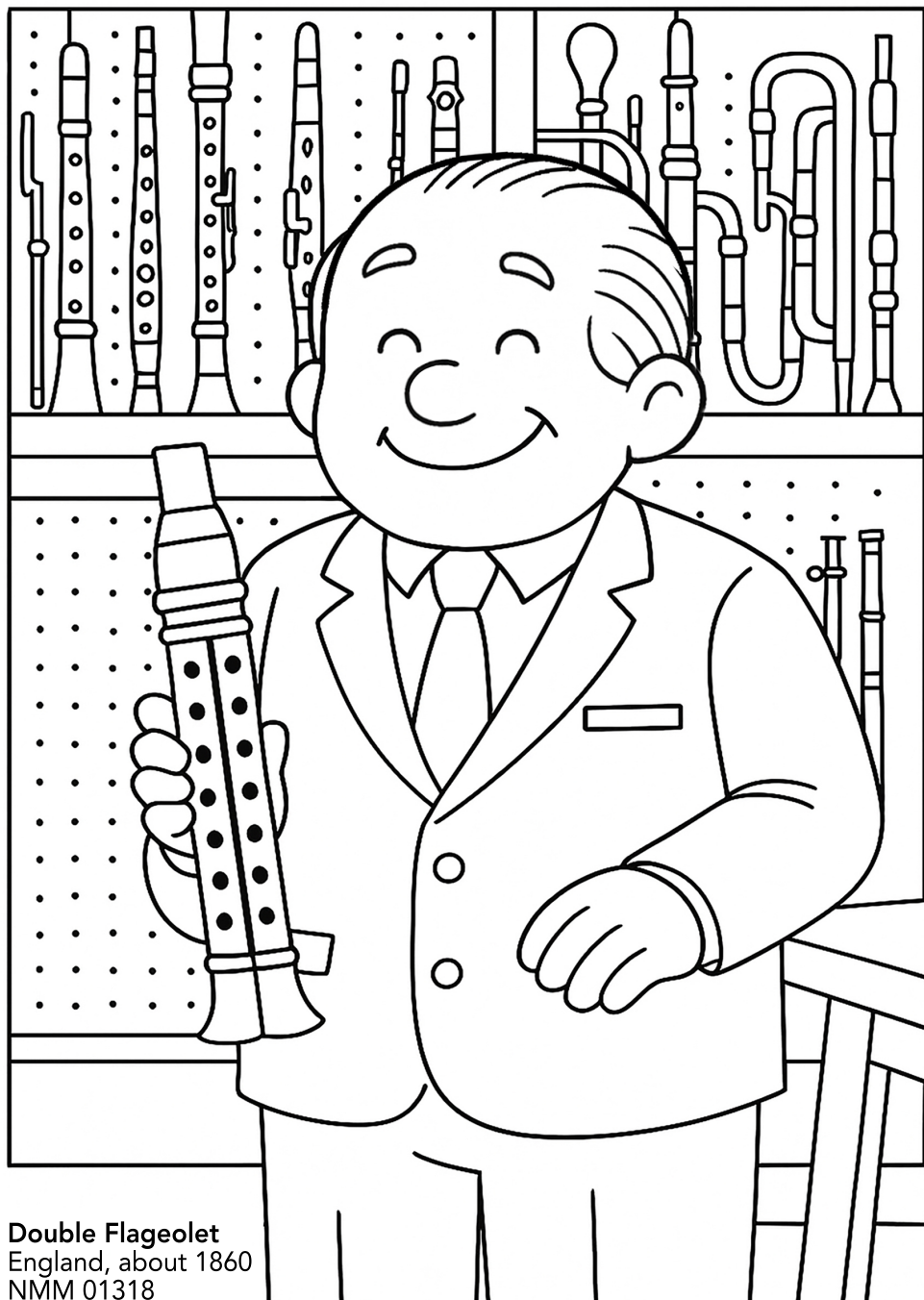
Conch Shell Trumpet
Caribbean Sea, about 1925
NMM 04520

This instrument is made from a real antelope horn! Arne said hunters in Africa used it before big hunts. Just blow into it and BWWAAHH! It's called a baragumu.



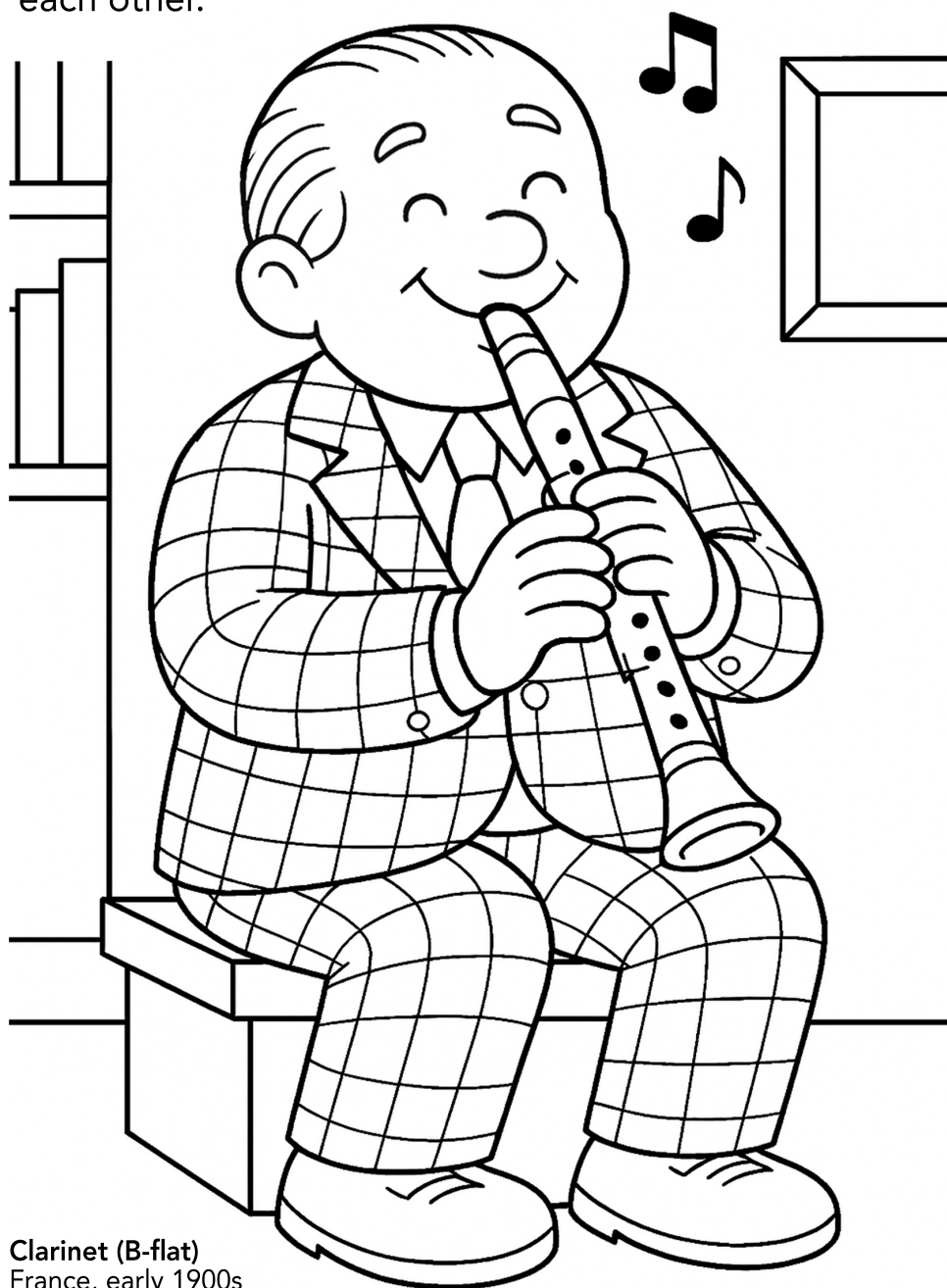
Side-Blown Horn (Baragumu)
Kenya, about 1900–1925
NMM 04994

Arne called this his "two-in-one" flute! It's also called a double flageolet. It plays two notes at once — one sings the tune, the other adds a little harmony. Easy to play, fun to hear!



Double Flageolet
England, about 1860
NMM 01318

Arne was a lifelong clarinet player. He started playing when he was only 5 years old! A long time ago, people had to use different sized clarinets to play in tune with each other.



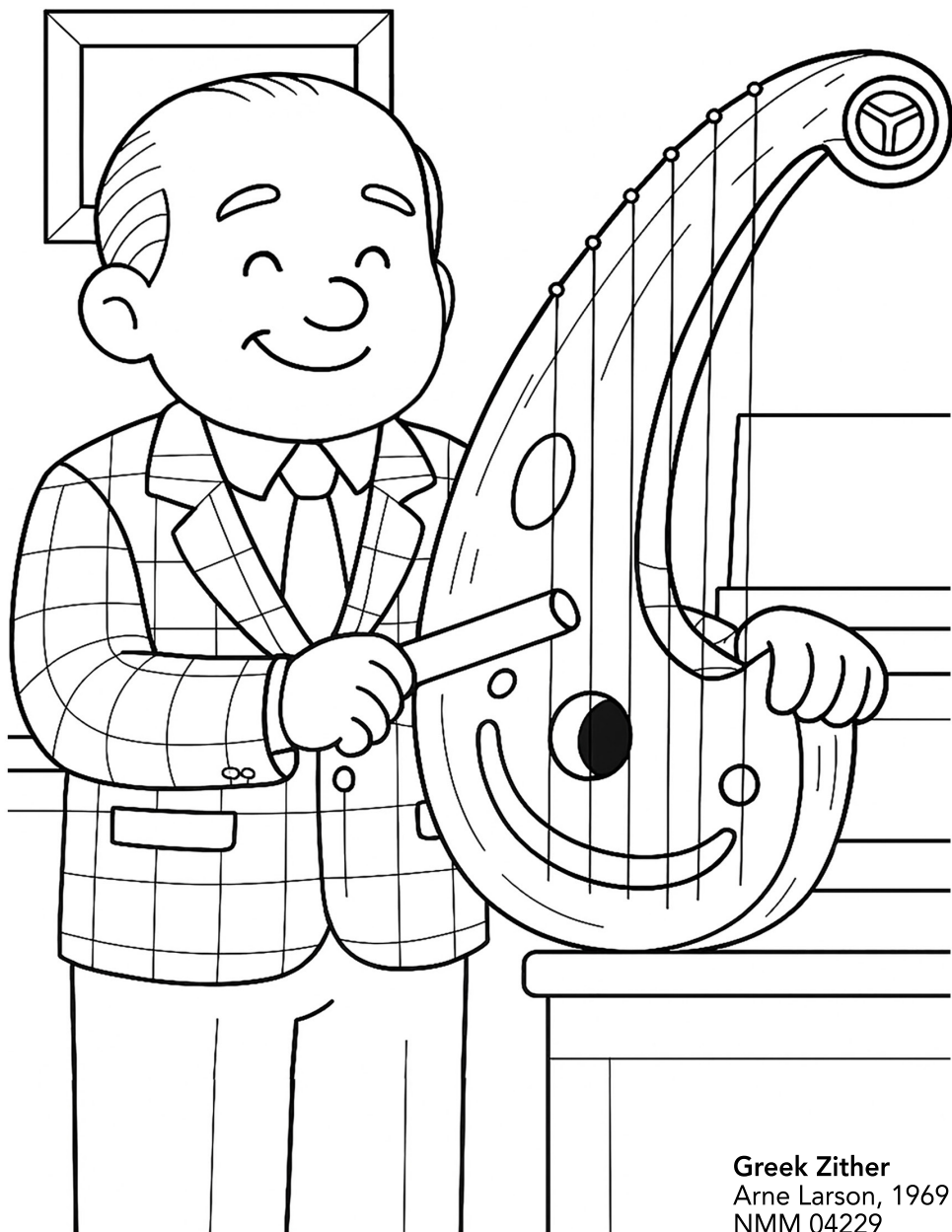
Clarinet (B-flat)

France, early 1900s

(High Pitch) NMM 00947

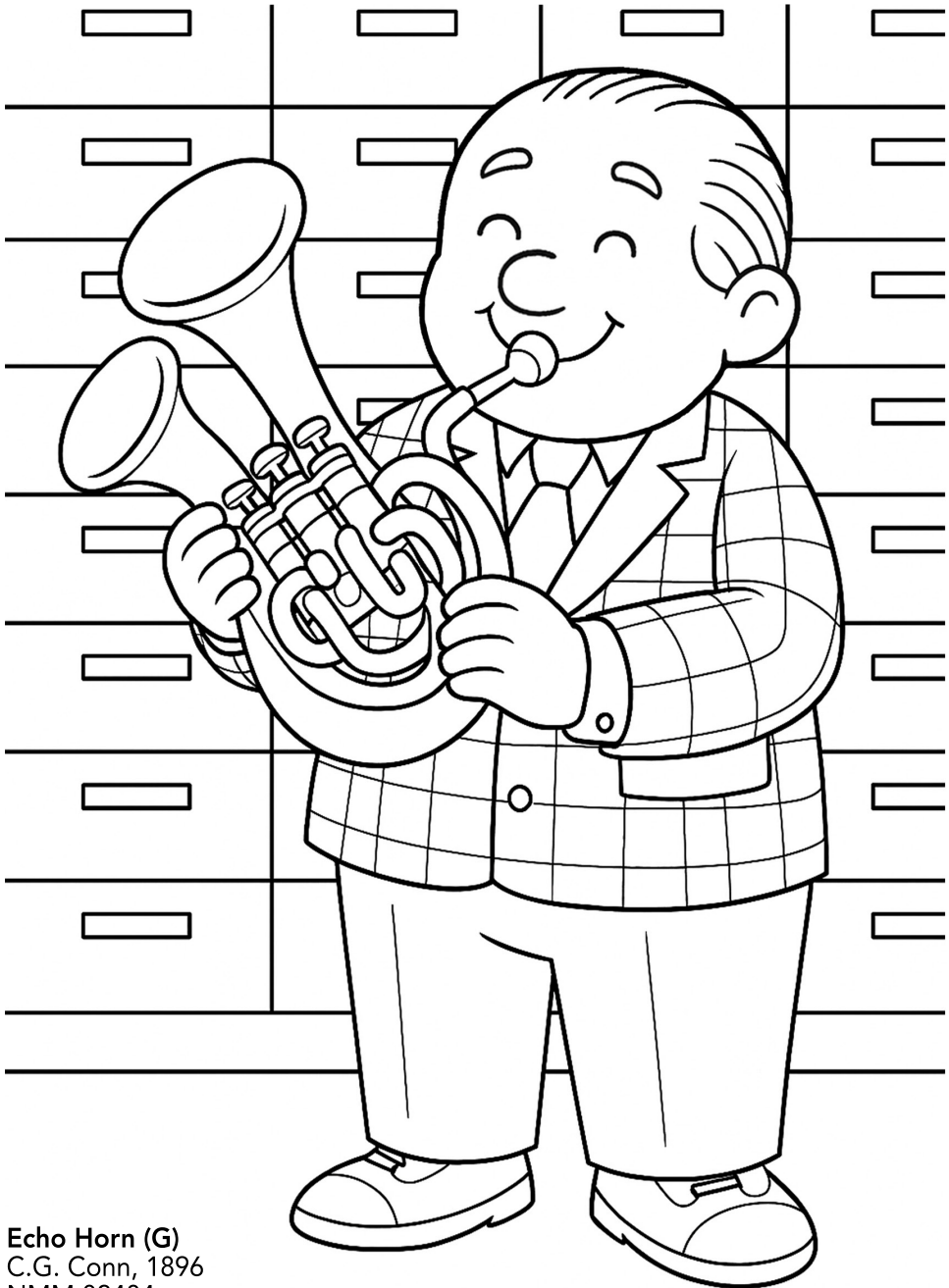
(Low Pitch) NMM 01410

Arne liked to imagine what instruments could be, not just what they were. He made this one himself out of an old, broken piano and window blinds to look and sound like something the ancient Greeks might have played.



Greek Zither
Arne Larson, 1969
NMM 04229

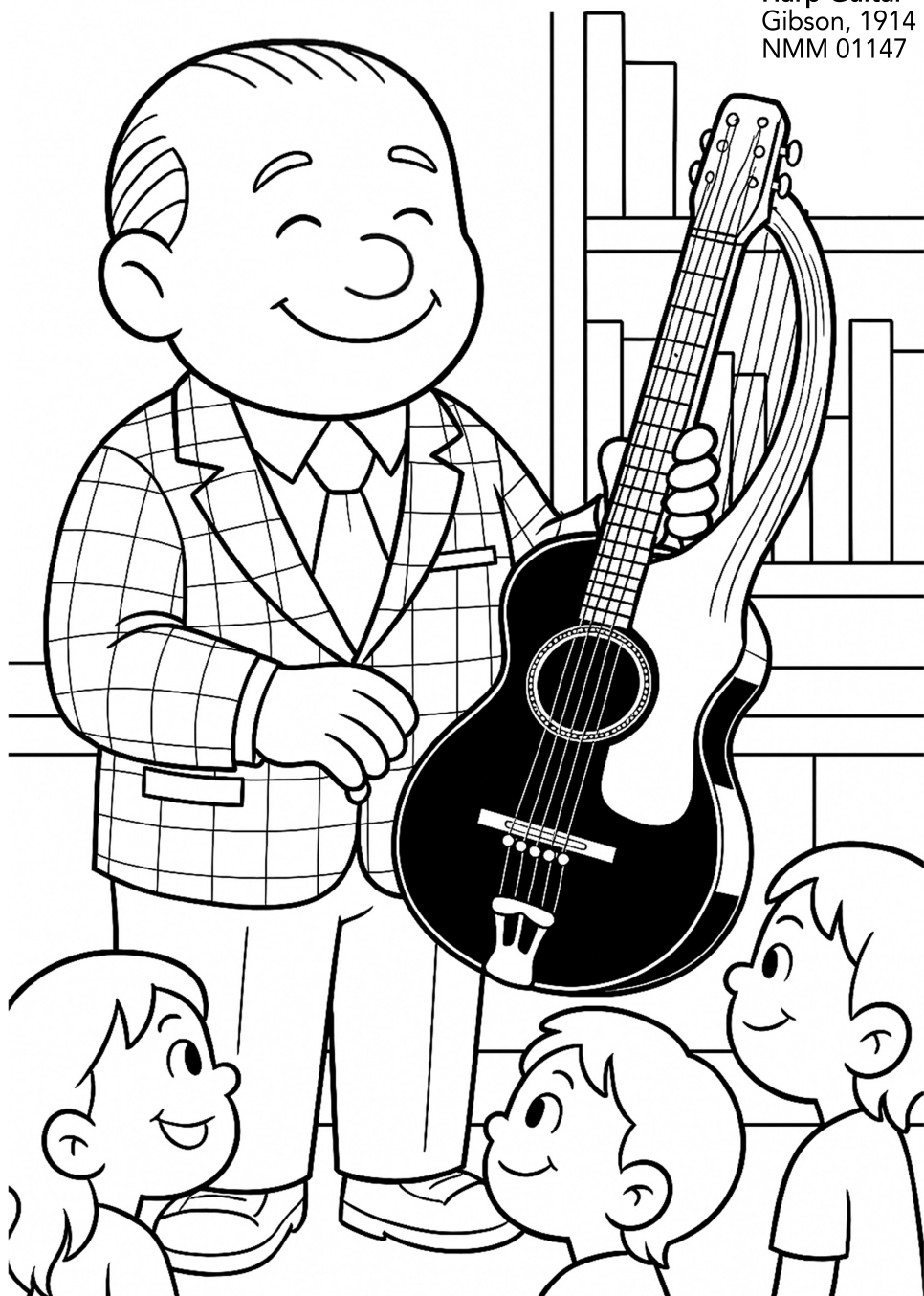
Arne wanted to share the sounds of his instruments with as many people as possible, so he took them on a TV show called *Mr. Roger's Neighborhood*. "This horn plays loud sounds and soft sounds, like an echo!" Arne said.



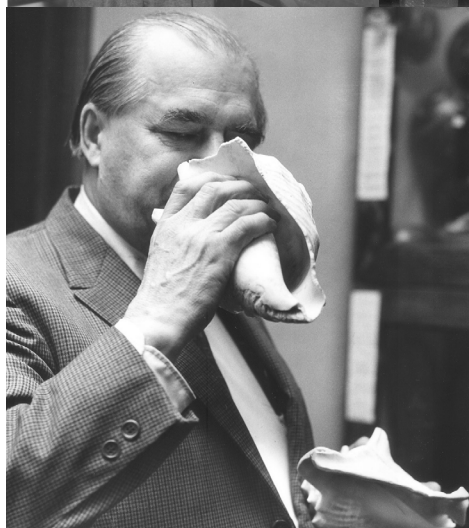
Echo Horn (G)
C.G. Conn, 1896
NMM 02484

"Whoa!" said Arne. "This guitar has harp strings too!"
It was supposed to be the next big thing in music. Arne loved how it looked and sounded — part guitar, part harp, and all cool!

Harp Guitar
Gibson, 1914
NMM 01147



This is the real Arne Larson. Even though Arne passed away in 1988, his adventure exploring musical instruments lives on—through you!





Color your own Flat Arne at the NMM activity table, or pick one up from the front desk, then take Flat Arne with you on your adventures as you explore the world of musical instruments. Ask your grown-ups to help you snap some photos, then share them with us by mentioning the National Music Museum and using **#FlatArne** in your post!



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National Music Museum
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