Modest Mussorgsky

Pictures at an Exhibition
Modest Mussorgsky was a Russian composer who wrote this suite in memory of his friend Viktor Hartmann, who died at the age of 39 from an aneurysm.

*Pictures at an Exhibition* depicts an imaginary musical tour through the art exhibition of Hartmann's art.
*Promenade*—Connecting music, music depicting the travel time as Mussorgsky moves through the art exhibition

Listen Here:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kkC3chi_ysw
The Gnome

A drawing of a nutcracker in the form of a gnarled and nasty old gnome.

Listen Here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kkC3chi_ysw&t=116
A medieval castle before which a troubadour (a wandering singer) sings a melancholy ballad (sad, slow song).

Listen Here:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kkC3chi_ysw&t=359
Children Quarreling at Play

“An avenue in the garden of the Tuileries, with a swarm of children and nurses”

Listen Here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kkC3chi_ysw#t=673
Cattle

A Polish cart on enormous wheels that is pulled by oxen (Bydlo)

Listen Here:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kkC3chi_ysw#t=738
Ballet of the Unhatched Chicks

A scenic background piece for the ballet *Trilby* (the ballet is about unhatched canary chicks)

Ternary form (A B A Coda)

Listen Here:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kkC3chi_ysw#t=969
Two Jews: Rich and Poor

Two separate drawings which Mussorgsky used for his inspiration

Listen Here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kkC3chi_ysw#t=1040
French women quarreling and gossiping in the market
(Limoges is a city in France)

Listen Here:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kkC3chi_ysw#t=1180
Viktor Hartmann symbolized himself examining the catacombs (tombs) that lie beneath the city of Paris by the light of a lantern.

Listen Here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kkC3chi_ysw&t=1266
A drawing depicting a clock face in the form of Baba-Yaga’s hut on fowl’s legs (Baba-Yaga is a grotesque witch of Russian folklore)

Ternary form (A B A Coda)

Listen Here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kkC3chi_ysw#t=1543
Hartmann proposed reconstruction of the ancient Gate of the Bogatyrs at Kiev, in the massive traditional style, with the central section topped by a cupola in the shape of a Slavonic warrior's helmet.

Listen Here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kkC3chi_ysw#t=1753