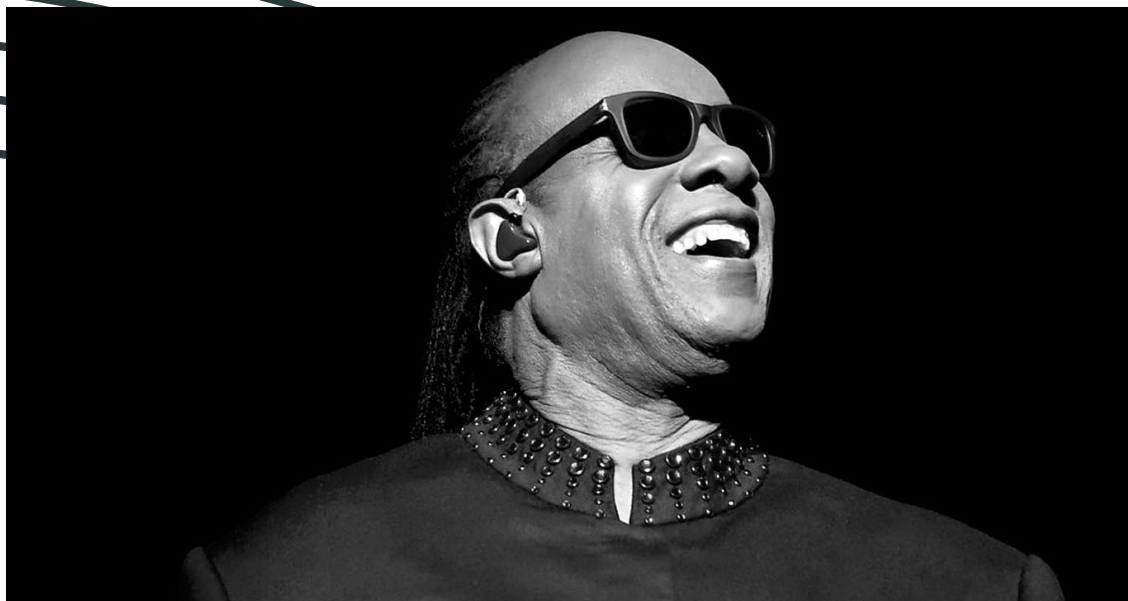




## Context

- Stevie Wonder was born in 1950 (Michigan, USA).
- Famous global singer-songwriter and record producer.
- At age 11 he signed for record label Motown.
- First album released in 1962.
- He enhanced the use of electronic instruments and R&B style.
- *Sir Duke* is on the album *Songs in the Key of Life*.
- This album was produced at Tamla Records (Motown).
- It won Album of the Year at the 19<sup>th</sup> Grammy Awards.
- *Sir Duke* was released as a single (May 1977).
- It was re-recorded for live album *Natural Wonder* (1995).
- *Sir Duke* was written as a tribute to music in general.
- He showed appreciation for these amazing musicians:
  - Duke Ellington (bandleader, pianist & composer)
  - Louis Armstrong 'Satchmo' (singer & trumpeter)
  - Ella Fitzgerald (jazz singer)
  - Count Basie (bandleader & jazz pianist)
  - Glenn Miller (big band conductor & trombonist).



## Structure

Section	Bar numbers	Duration (bars)
Introduction	1-8	8
Verse 1	9-16	8
Pre-chorus 1	17-20	4
Chorus 1	21-28	8
Instrumental 1	29-36	8
Verse 2	37-44	8
Pre-chorus 2	45-48	4
Chorus 2	49-56	8
Chorus 3	57-64	8
Instrumental 2	65-72	8
Chorus 4	73-80	8
Chorus 5	81-88	8
Chorus 6	89-96	8
Instrumental Outro	97-104	8

## Voices &amp; Instrumentation

- Solo male voice
- Electric piano (Fender Rhodes)
- Electric guitar
- Bass guitar
- Drum kit
- Acme siren whistle
- Wood block
- Trumpets (two)
- Saxophones (one Alto and one Tenor)

## Musical Elements 1

- **Genre:** R&B / soul / motown (influenced by jazz and funk).
- **Tempo:** moderate (105 crotchet beats per minute).
- **Metre:** 4 crotchet beats per bar (simple quadruple/regular/constant).
- **Dynamics:** loud throughout.
- **Performance techniques/articulation:** use of staccato, pitch bend, glissando, fill, palm muting, 4 to the floor, stop chords, belting, shouting, raspy quality, strumming, backbeat plus syllabic and melismatic word setting.

## Musical Elements 2

- **Melody:** riffs, pentatonic scale, chromaticism, repetitive material, arpeggios, falls, ascending/descending movement, sequences, decorations, conjunct/ disjunct patterns, blue notes, grace notes and improvisatory passages.
- **Harmony:** mainly diatonic with major and minor chords (with added 7<sup>ths</sup> and 9<sup>ths</sup>) in the key of B major (5 sharps) including perfect and imperfect cadences.
- **Texture:** monophonic in sections with no voice and homophonic/melody and accompaniment in other sections – brief use of call and response and stab chords.
- **Rhythm:** straight, swung, dotted, syncopated, triplet figures and the Scotch snap.