



Mu 102: Principles of Music

Instructor: Dr. Alice Jones

Borough of Manhattan Community College

Fall 2018

Sections 0701 (MW 7:30-8:45a), 2001 (TTh 8:30-9:45p)



THIS IS MY NEW ART MOVEMENT, "NEO REGIONALISM." I'M APPEALING TO POPULAR NOSTALGIA FOR THE SIMPLE VALUES OF RURAL AMERICA 50 YEARS AGO.







Western Art music (or "classical music") is not stylistically diverse.

- a) True
- b) False

Pieces of music in a major key usually sound sadder or darker than pieces in a minor key.

- a) True
- b) False

Every note in a scale sounds the same.

- a) True
- b) False



What texture word best describes the piece of music being played?

- a) Monophonic
- b) Homophonic
- c) Homorhythmic
- d) Polyphonic
- e) It has no texture.

What were the 3 locations you chose for your soundscape journal this past week?

Recap

- Texture = all the parts of a piece of music interacting simultaneously
 - Different textures = different listening experiences
- Stereotypes about music
 - Reveal our values, how we listen, and how we think about the world in which we live
 - Associating classical music with upper classes, education, or constraint (i.e., sounds that are boring) is something we've learned (and passed down) culturally over a long period of time

Careers in music

- Composer someone who writes music, usually for others to perform
- Performer someone who performs music (voice, instrument, conductor)
- Musicologist someone who studies music, what it is, and what it means
 - Analysis, write program notes, teach, write books, Spotify algorhythms
- Ethnomusicologist someone who does everything a musicologist does, usually also thinking about non-classical (non-Western) music and with more attention to cultural context and social structures
 - Same as above + field recordings
- Arts administration someone who works at an organization that presents, preserves, or educates about an artistic discipline or disciplines (schools, museums, theaters, concert halls)
 - Fundraising, marketing, record keeping, financial management, designing programs and curricula, hiring other artists to teach and/or perform, production management

Claude Debussy (1862-1918), Syrinx (1913)



Debussy at the piano (1893)



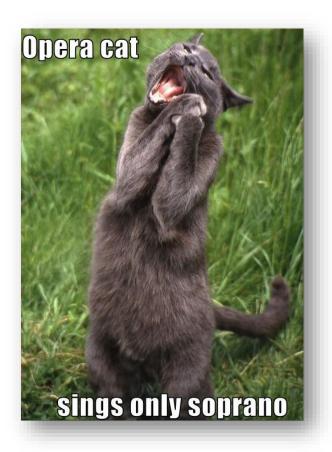
Debussy and his daughter, Claude-Emma, on a picnic (1916)



Debussy photographed by Félix Nadar (1908)

Melody

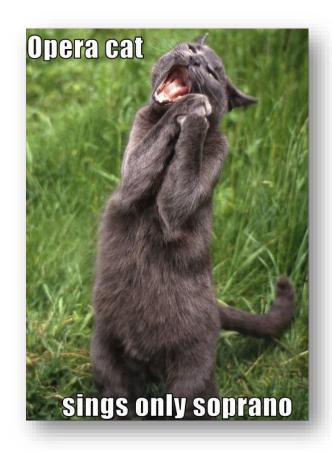
- Line or tune of music
- Often the highest or most prominent line in a musical texture
- Guides a listener through a piece of music like a story
 - 1. Recognize the melody
 - 2. Remember the melody
 - 3. Follow the melody



Melody



- Solfège a system of pitch solmization that allows musicians to develop their skills of audation and recognize the sounds they hear more accurately
 - Solmization a system of associating a note with a syllable
 - Audation hearing musical notation in your head









- 1. Recognize the melody
- 2. Remember the melody
 - 3. Follow the melody

Texture

- Composite musical sound: the "fabric"
- Different layers interacting
 - Melody, inner voices, bass line, countermelody, accompaniment
- Instrumentation what kind and how many instruments or voices are playing
 - How many instruments (voices) are playing?
 - What kind of instruments (voices) are playing?
 - What is each instrument (voice) doing?
 - With what kind of style are they playing?

Texture

Anonymous, Kyrie eleison





Ke\$ha, We R Who We R (2010)



The Weeknd, The





Hills (2015)

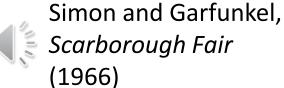




Franz Schubert, Die Forelle (1817)









Monophonic

Homorhythmic

Homophonic

Polyphonic

Homework and reminders

- This week's Online Discussion (Music and the brain) ends Sunday, Sep 9
 - Meaningful conversation = Respond to the content of the post, pose questions your classmates can answer, respond to your classmates' ideas
 - Have you emailed me your username yet?
- The next Online Discussion (Musical educations and the education of music): Sep 10-23
- Assigned reading for next class is available online: defining music
- Soundscape journal is due Sep 17
- See you next Wednesday—have a great long weekend!



End write

What's a question you have about any material that's been covered in class so far?