

Attendance/Reading Quiz!



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)



Reading quiz

Before doing the assigned reading for today, how did you think a member of an orchestra got their job?

What was something that surprised or interested you about the process of getting an orchestra job?

Recap

- Symphony – a multi-movement work for orchestra that originated in the Classical era
 - First movement: Sonata form
 - A middle movement: Minuet
- Musical gestures, rhythms, and ideas inspired by dancing exist in many other musical styles
- Our historical survey of dance so far
 - Baroque: court dances, especially in France (Lully)
 - Classical: remnants of court dances in concert music (Haydn)
 - Romantic and 20th century: changing ballet styles (Tchaikovsky, Stravinsky, Copland)
- Musical elements we've covered in class: melody, texture, rhythm, form
 - (+ dynamics, tempo)

Performance art

- Often interdisciplinary
 - Combines skills and expressivity of multiple kinds of art making simultaneously
 - Film, dance, music, painting
- Challenges conventions or norms
 - Not meant to be “safe”
 - Unfamiliar or experimental sounds, gestures, or presentation (use of space, audience interaction)

Marina Abramovic and Ulay,
“Rest Energy” (1980)



Meredith Monk (b. 1942)



Harmony

- Adds color, taste, or motion to a melody
- The notes included in a piece, section of a piece, or a chord are determined by a scale
 - Scale – a series of notes that define a key
 - Key – all the notes in key revolve around a central pitch (note)
- Scales in Western classical music are usually major or minor
- Example:
 - Beethoven, Symphony No. 5 in C Minor
 - Mozart, Piano Concerto in G Major



Joseph Haydn, Symphony No. 100,
“Military,” II. Allegretto (1794)



Harmony: active and rest chords

- Consonance: Intervals that sound pleasant together
 - i.e. “the harmony is consonant”
 - Calmer, more relaxing, more stable
- Dissonance: Intervals that clash with each other produce dissonances
 - i.e. “the harmony is dissonant”
 - Instability
 - Needs resolution (relief)
- Chords provide a sense of motion and return
- This “traveling” creates musical space
- Rest chords – points of cadence
 - Calmer, more stable, more consonant
- Active chords – more tension and energy
 - More dissonant



Harmony: active and rest chords in a major key

- Chords provide a sense of motion and return
- This “traveling” creates musical space
- Major keys often have a bright quality



Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-91), Sonata No. 16 in C Major, I. Allegro, K.545 (1788)

Describing texture: style of playing

- *Legato* or slurred
 - Notes are played in a smooth and connected manner rather than separated
 - The notes “touch” each other
- *Staccato* – short, detached notes (all instruments, voices)
- *Pizzicato* – plucking technique used by string instruments only



Claude Debussy,
*Prelude to the
Afternoon of a
Faun* (1894)



Niccolò Paganini, *Moto
perpetuo*, Op. 11
(1835), played by
James Galway, flute

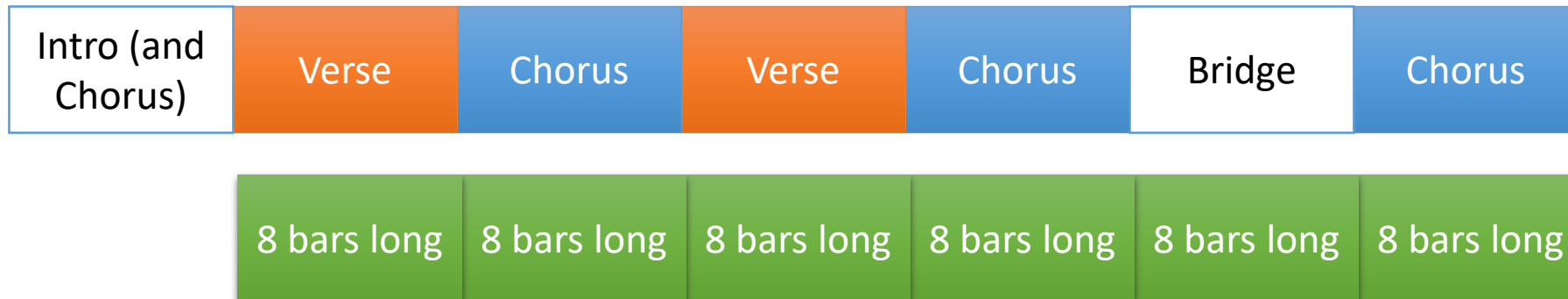


Describing texture: style of playing



Béla Bartók, String Quartet No. 4, IV. Allegro pizzicato (1928), played by the Amadeus Quartet

Music sets up expectations



Reminders and homework

- The current Online Discussion (Sound Migration) ends Sunday, Oct 7
 - Meaningful conversation = (1) Respond to the content of the post; (2) Pose questions your classmates can answer; (3) Respond to your classmates' ideas
 - Do at least 2 of these during each discussion to earn full credit
- Next online discussion: Music and Gender, Oct 15-21
- Next class: Articles roundtable #1
 - You'll receive your assigned article in an email today
- Have a great weekend!



End quiz: Listening for musical details



1. Instruments – Name 3 instruments you hear playing this piece.
2. Texture – Monophonic, homorhythmic, polyphonic, or no texture?
3. Dynamics – Mostly piano or mostly forte?
4. Style of playing – Mostly legato, staccato, or pizzicato?
5. Meter – Non-metric, duple or triple?

Bonus: Make an inference or educated guess about this piece of music (e.g., time period, genre, reason for composition, performance practice, etc.).