

Attendance/reading Quiz!



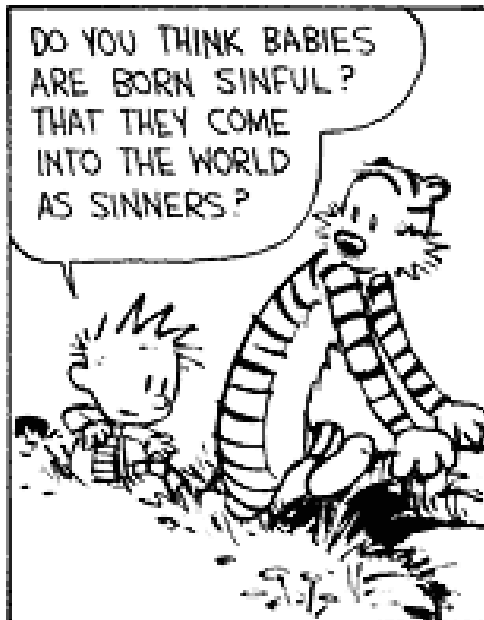
# Mu 101: Introduction to Music

Instructor: Dr. Alice Jones

Queensborough Community College

Spring 2019

Sections C3 (W 9:10-12), C5 (F 9:10-12), F5 (F 12:10-3)



WHENEVER YOU DISCUSS CERTAIN THINGS WITH ANIMALS, YOU GET INSULTED.



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# Recap

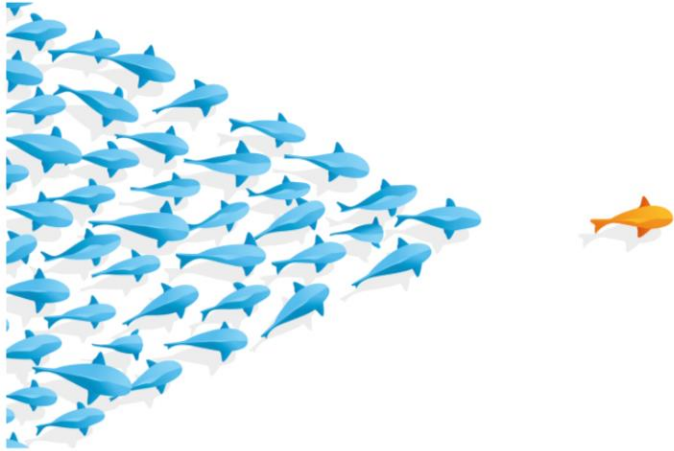
- Musical careers
  - Composer
  - Performer
  - Musicologist
  - Ethnomusicologist
  - Arts administration

# The central task in musicology: Musical analysis

- Analysis = Description + “So what?”

# Four roles in group work

Ogre



Scribe



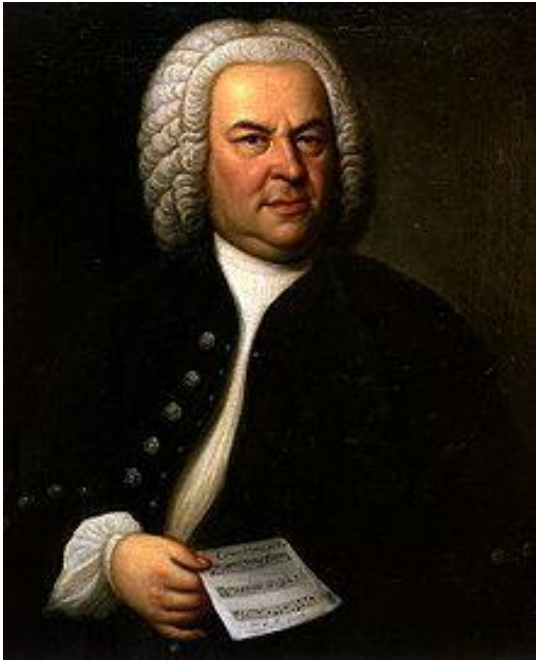
Challenger



Empath



# Four composers



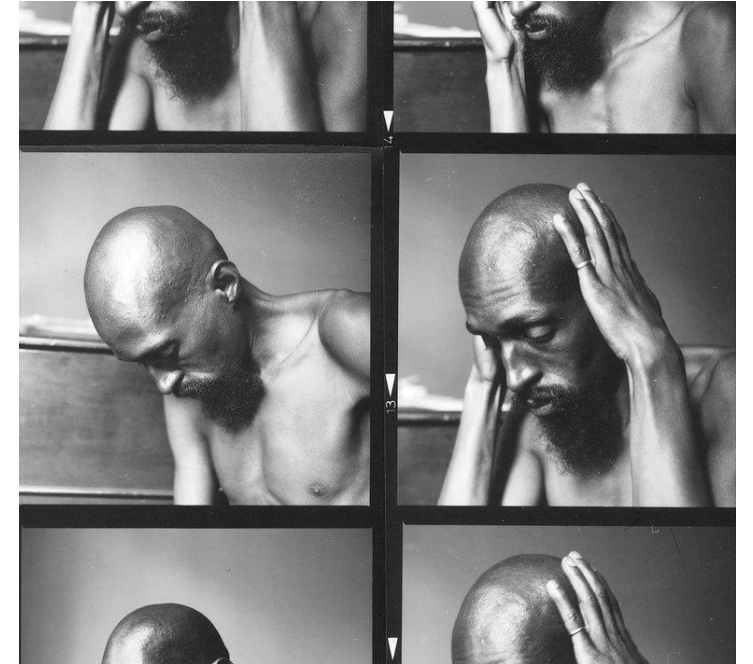
1685-1750



1770-1827



1819-96



1940-1990

# Four composers



Johann  
Sebastian Bach



Ludwig van  
Beethoven



Clara Schumann



Julius Eastman



# Four composers



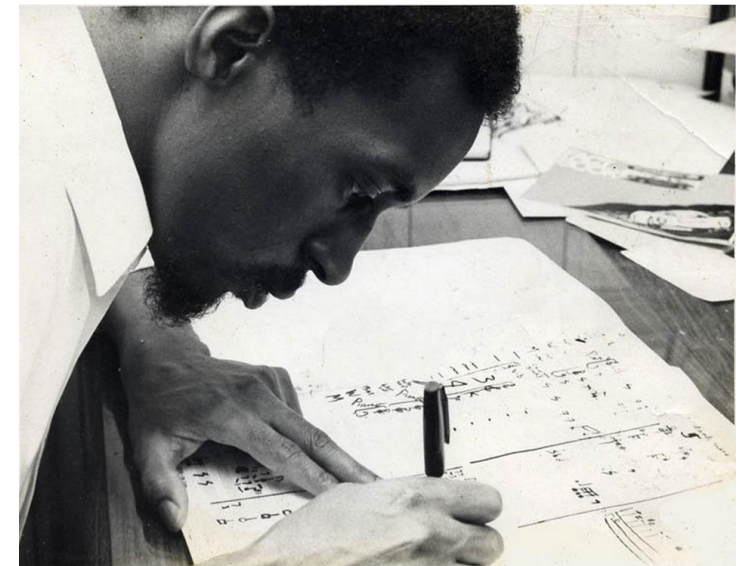
Had 17  
children



Estranged from  
his family



Cared for and  
committed her  
husband and son to  
insane asylums



Died homeless

# Four composers



Johann  
Sebastian Bach  
(1685-1750)

- Lasting influence as a craftsman of music, explorer of harmony
  - His music is considered “serious” and worthy of analysis and contemplation – often revered without question
- Central figure in the “canon” of Western music – the music that is taught in school and performed regularly in concert halls
- Known for his keyboard music, sacred music (cantatas)
  - Wrote chamber music, solos, and concertos for every instrument available



# J.S. Bach, Brandenburg Concertos – Dedication to Christian Ludwig, March 24, 1721

As I had the good fortune a few years ago to be heard by Your Royal Highness, at Your Highness's commands, and as I noticed then that Your Highness took some pleasure in the little talents which Heaven has given me for Music, and as in taking Leave of Your Royal Highness, Your Highness designed to honour me with the command to send Your Highness some pieces of my Composition: I have in accordance with Your Highness's most gracious orders taken the liberty of rendering my most humble duty to Your Royal Highness with the present Concertos, which I have adapted to several instruments; begging Your Highness most humbly not to judge their imperfection with the rigor of that discriminating and sensitive taste, which everyone knows Him to have for musical works, but rather to take into benign Consideration the profound respect and the most humble obedience which I thus attempt to show Him.

# Johann Sebastian Bach, Brandenburg Concertos

- While Bach was employed at Cöthen (1717-23), the Prince married a woman who was unmusical and persuaded the Prince to spend less time on his musical pursuits
  - Prince disbanded his orchestra
  - Bach started looking for new employers
- Bach sent a set of 6 concerti as a gift to Christian Ludwig (Margrave of Brandenburg-Schwedt)
  - Written for the 17 instrumental players Bach worked with in Cöthen – each piece features a small group of soloists
  - Ludwig didn't have the musicians to perform the pieces
  - Manuscript was lost and forgotten until 1849

# Bach's duties as Kantor of St. Thomas Church, Leipzig, 1723-50

- In charge of the music in the town's 4 main churches
- Run the collegium musicum (public concert series)
- Instruct schoolboys in music (both vocal and instrumental)
- Be an upstanding citizen and show respect to the town council at all times



Thomaskirche, Leipzig

# Final thoughts

- Skill and success and fame aren't the same thing
  - Defined differently in different time periods
  - Defined differently in different genres of music making
  - Defined differently by different individuals within the same time period or genre of music making
- What we have access to as listeners is determined by factors other than skill alone – but the way we talk about music often makes it seem like skill = success, skill = fame, and that if we're hearing something it must be the “best”
  - What about luck?

# Homework and reminders

- Our online discussion (Music and gender) ends March 17
  - Next online discussion: Music and disability (Mar 18-24)
- Reading for next class is available online: economics
- How classical music gets made today
  - Reflection 4 – due Mar 22/27
  - Roundtable #2 – in class Mar 22/27

March 16, 5:30pm  
Concert at Brooklyn Conservatory  
of Music (Park Slope)  
Free for Dr. J.'s students

