



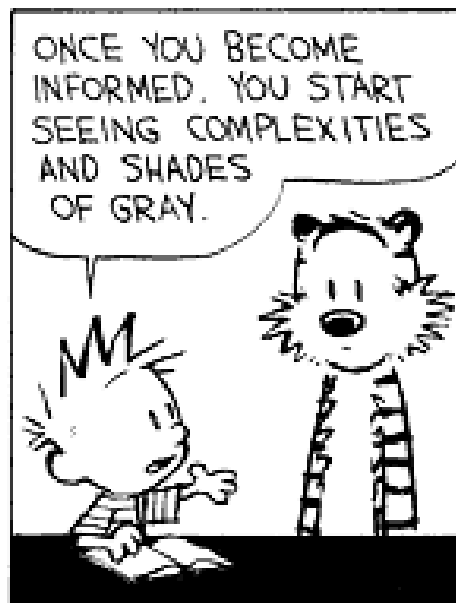
Mu 101: Introduction to Music

Instructor: Dr. Alice Jones

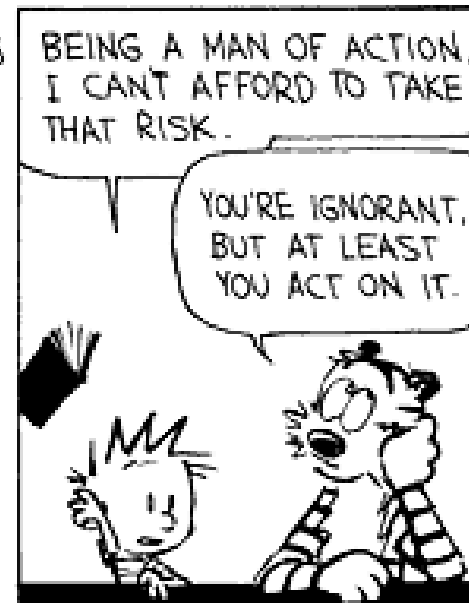
Queensborough Community College

Fall 2019

Sections F2 (T 12:10-3), J4A (Th 3:10-6), M4 (Th 6:10-9)



YOU REALIZE THAT NOTHING IS AS CLEAR AND SIMPLE AS IT FIRST APPEARS. ULTIMATELY, KNOWLEDGE IS PARALYZING.



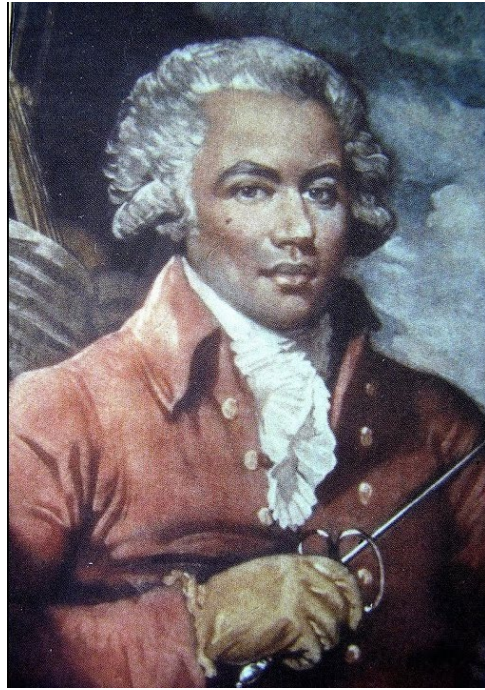
Recap

- Minimalism
 - John Cage
 - Steve Reich
 - Philip Glass
 - Frederic Rzewski
- Creating performance art – sounds, motions, acting, visual props

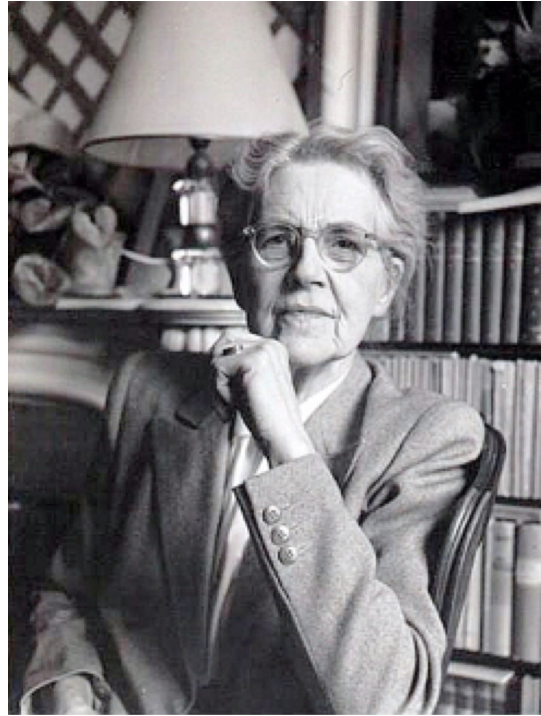
Joseph Boulogne or Chavalier de Saint George (1745-99) – A champion fencer and virtuoso violinist known as the “Black Mozart”



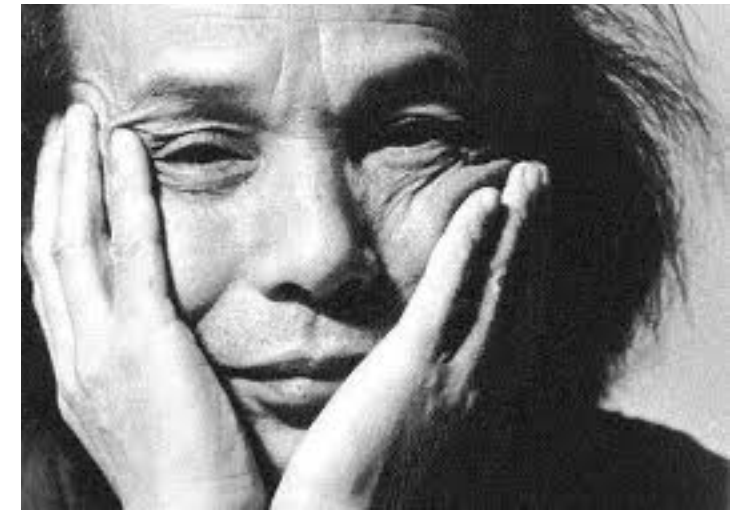
Barbara Strozzi (1619-77) - One of the most innovative composers of the Baroque period; published over 100 works



William Grant Still (1895-1978) – The first Black graduate of Oberlin, known as the “dean” of Black American composers



Nadia Boulanger (1887-1979) - composer, conductor, pianist, organist, prolific teacher

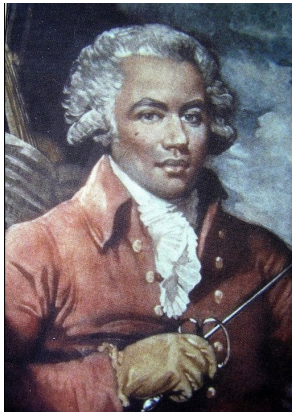


Toru Takemitsu (1930-96) - Largely self-taught in music; began by writing film scores



Aristocrat; studied with Claudio Monteverdi

"I knew I wanted to write a symphony; I knew that it had to be an American work; and I wanted to demonstrate how the blues, so often considered a lowly expression, could be elevated to the highest musical level."

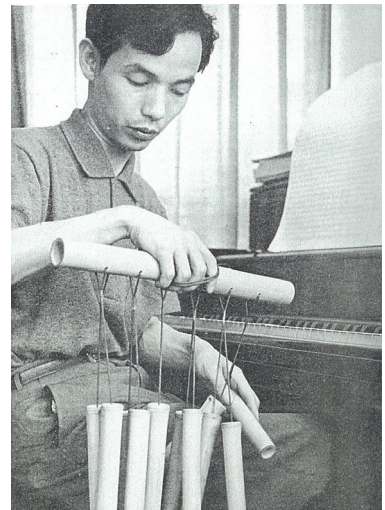


Son of a plantation owner in the French colony of Guadeloupe. He was prevented from becoming director of the Paris Opera when its leading female singers petitioned Queen Marie Antoinette: "degrading their honor and delicate conscience by having them submit to the orders of a mulatto."



Submitted pieces for the Prix de Rome competition (her father had won in 1835) three times but never won. She turned to teaching because she believed she couldn't be a composer. She helped her students escape Europe before World War II.

"I must express my deep and sincere gratitude to John Cage. The reason for this is that in my own life, in my own development, for a long period I struggled to avoid being "Japanese", to avoid "Japanese" qualities. It was largely through my contact with John Cage that I came to recognize the value of my own tradition."



Listening: What do we know?

1. Barbara Strozzi, *Che si puo fare*, Op. 8 (1664)
2. Joseph Boulogne, Symphony in G Major, Op. 11 No. 1, I. Allegro (1779)
3. Nadia Boulanger, *Vers la vie nouvelle* (1918)
4. William Grant Still, *Afro-American* Symphony, I. Moderato assai (1930)
5. Toru Takemitsu, *Toward the Sea*, I. The Night (1981, rev. 1989)

Final thoughts?

Not all music is worth listening to multiple times, but all music is worth listening to once

To commit to education is to commit to growing

“Just listen with the vastness of the world in mind. You can’t fail to get the message.” —Pierre Boulez



Reminders

- Final exam dates
 - F2: T Dec 17, 12:15-2:15
 - J4A: Th Dec 19, 2:30-4:30
 - M4: Th Dec 19, 6:10-8:10
- Final exam = Final discussion + in-class writing project
 - Preparatory blog post is available online
- Any other work you need to hand in is due by your final exam
 - If you need to take an Incomplete for the semester, make an appointment to talk to me

