

Double Blog Post #5 and 6- Music Part I Due Sunday Oct 8, 6pm

From Copeland's book

The sensuous plane-- music without thinking, music as a mechanism to get away from thinking about your life, to daydream

Page 11. "Don't get the idea that the value of music is commensurate with its sensuous appeal or that the loveliest sounding music is made by the greatest composer."

The expressive plane: is there a meaning to music [and] can you describe that meaning in words? Tchaikovsky vs Beethoven. T always seems to mean the same thing, regardless of you, the listener's state of mind, whereas, B seems to change each time.

Part I. Look up who Copeland is, then listen to these excerpts of Beethoven and Tchaikovsky before you address Copeland's statements.

Beethoven's 9th Symphony, 1st movement as referred to in the chapter. This link has an animated musical bar graph which helps you follow the music with your eyes.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3SZ9QzGg95g>

For those of you who prefer to watch the musicians as they perform, try this link instead of the Chicago Symphony's rendition. Play up until 16 minute mark for the first movement.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rOjHhS5MtvA>

Now for Tchaikovsky. Listen to the first few minutes of Swan Lake

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wG0fUnomgYw>

Does the Beethoven seem harder to pin down as to what it 'means'? Is T more predictable? These and other comments from you.

Part II (Blog post 6) due Monday at 6 pm.

Think of a piece of music you listen to often for at least the past several months, that you consider **magnificent or exquisite and that has changed for you over time**. State what the song is and the singer or musician. For the purposes of this assignment, please do NOT use any rap/hip hop or other spoken word-heavy types of music won't address the question that Copeland is discussing.

Best to use music that has no words or not words in a language you understand, so you can listen to the piece *musically*.

Now: How has your understanding of that piece of music changed since you first listened to it? Did it first seem hopeful and then you found it melancholy or vice versa? How would you describe this music in terms of colors? How would you describe this music in terms of how your body feels when you hear it?