

***“The written note is like a strait jacket,
whereas music like life itself, is constant
movement, continuous spontaneity,***

Pablo Casals

There are so many instrumentalists who are completely obsessed by the printed note, whereas...it has a very limited power to express what the music actually means.”

Pablo Casals

THE ***SEVEN DEADLY*** SINS...

Lust

Gluttony

Greed

Sloth

Wrath

Envy

Pride

**TRANSGRESSIONS
FATAL TO SPIRITUAL
PROGRESS**

REPENT !!!



SHUN THESE SINS

MAKE GREAT MUSIC

Despite the surprisingly widespread belief that all a player need do is to ‘play the notes’, this very concept is nonsensical, for as soon as notes are sounded, they have a full complement of attributes: intensity, attack, dynamic level (loudness), warmth, character, direction, length, speed and so on.

So if we assert that we are merely ‘letting the music play itself’, it can only mean that we are forfeiting a conscious choice of attributes, allowing habitual, automatic ways of playing to overlay and strangle the voice of the composer.

**~Ruth Waterman - concert
violinist**

THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS OF MUSIC MAKING:

ARTICULATION

DYNAMICS

RHYTHM

TEMPO

LINE

SILENCE

PROPORTION

BUT WAIT . . .

THERE'S MORE !!!

THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS OF MUSIC MAKING:

GENERIC ARTICULATION

DYNAMICS

RHYTHMS

TEMPO

LINE

SILENCE

PROPORTION

THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS OF MUSIC MAKING:

GENERIC ARTICULATION

UNCONVINCING DYNAMICS

RHYTHMS

TEMPO

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THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS OF MUSIC MAKING:

GENERIC ARTICULATION

UNCONVINCING DYNAMICS

PERCEIVING ALL RHYTHMS **LITERALLY**

TEMPO

LINE

SILENCE

PROPORTION

THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS OF MUSIC MAKING:

GENERIC ARTICULATION

UNCONVINCING DYNAMICS

PERCEIVING ALL RHYTHMS LITERALLY

BEING OBSESSED WITH TEMPO MARKINGS

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ABSENCE OF LINE

IGNORING THE FUNCTION OF SILENCE IN MUSIC

FAILURE TO CONSIDER THE ROLE OF PROPORTION

**Everything that needs to be
said has already been said.
But, since no one was
listening, everything must be
said again.**

Andre Gide
French Writer

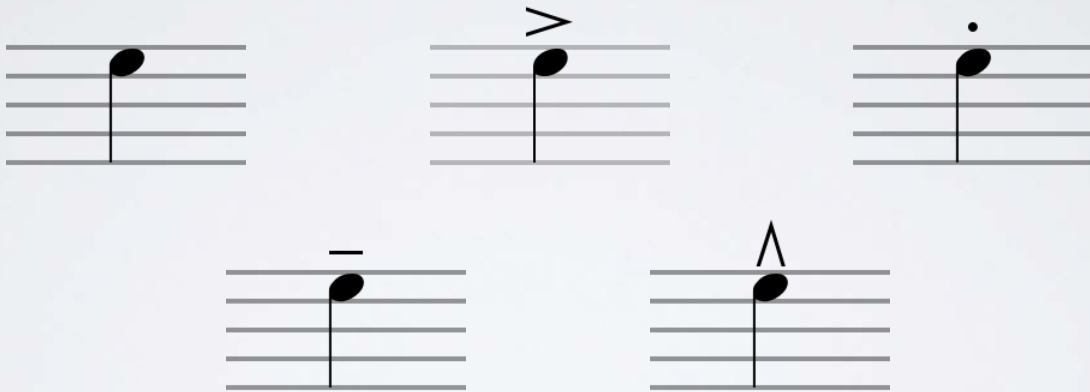
GENERIC ARTICULATION

Music is never mere information.

— Bruce Adolphe

ARTICULATION IS ...

NOTE SHAPE



ARTICULATION THEN

BECOMES

EXPRESSIVE

MUSICAL

DICTION

THE NECESSITY OF...

NUANCE

*A subtle difference in shade, expression, or sound reveals
and deepens true meaning.*

WORDS TO GUIDE US

LENGTH

WEIGHT

STYLE

MOOD

PERSONALITY

ORIGINAL SOURCE

DO WE IMAGINE VOWELS OR CONSONANTS

COMPOSER

BACH

HOLST

PERSICETTI

TICHELI

MACKEY

WHITACRE

TITLE

AIR FOR BAND

CRADELSONG

BALLAD FOR BAND

SLEEP

TOCCATA

FOLK DANCES

VESUVIUS

NIGHT ON FIRE

NO MARKING...

DOES NOT IMPLY

NON ESPRESIVO



STACCATO

“To Detach”

NOT...SHORT !

**LIGHT
CRISP
BUOYANT
SHARP
BRITTLE
RESONATE
BUBBLY
DRY**

Symphony for Band, Mvt. III

Score for *Symphony for Band, Mvt. III*, featuring the following instruments:

- Oboe
- E♭ Clar.
- B♭ Clar. 1
- B♭ Clar. 2
- B♭ Clar. 3
- A. Clar.
- B. Clar.
- Bassoon

The score is written for three measures. The Oboe part begins in 6/8 time and changes to 2/4 time in the third measure, playing a half note G4 and a quarter note A4. The E♭ Clarinet, B♭ Clarinet 1, and A. Clarinet parts play a half note G4 in the first measure and are silent in the second and third measures. The B♭ Clarinet 2, B♭ Clarinet 3, B. Clarinet, and Bassoon parts play a half note G4 in the first measure and a half note G4 in the second measure, with a slur over the first two measures. The B♭ Clarinet 3 part also plays a half note G4 in the third measure. The B. Clarinet and Bassoon parts play a half note G4 in the third measure. The dynamic marking *pp* (pianissimo) is indicated for all parts.

Symphony for Band, Mvt. IV, mm. 1-4

Piccolo
p sempre

Flute
p sempre

Oboe
p sempre

E♭ Clar.
p sempre

B♭ Clar. 1
pp

B♭ Clar. 2
pp

B♭ Clar. 3
pp

B. Clar.
p sempre

Bassoon
p sempre

Alto Sax
p sempre

A C C E N T

QUALITIES

**Some degree of audible emphasis
associated with the front end of
the note**

...

Perhaps a slight separation

...

Slight increase in volume

Scenes from "The Louvre," mm. 35–45

(35)

Tpt. 1 & 2

ff sempre

(45)

The musical score is written for two trumpet parts (Tpt. 1 & 2) in 2/4 time. The first staff, labeled with a circled 35, begins with a melodic line starting on G4, moving to A4, then B4, and continuing with eighth and sixteenth notes. A slur covers the first two measures. The second staff, labeled with a circled 45, continues the melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, followed by a series of chords and a final note on G4. The dynamic marking *ff* sempre is placed below the first staff.

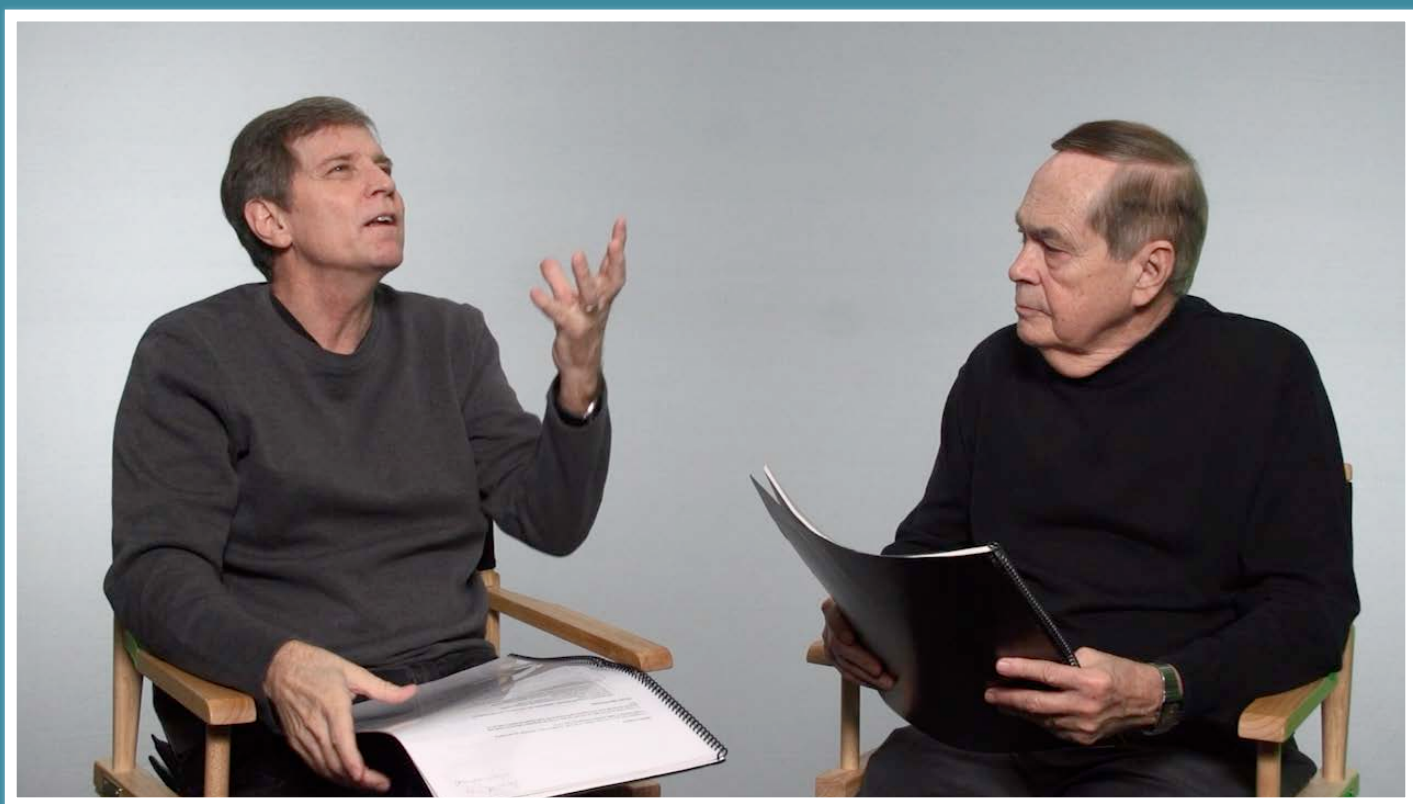
Prelude, Siciliano and Rondo, mm. 1-3

Allegro ma non troppo (♩ = 112)

Hns. a4
Tbn. 1, 2
Tbn. 3, Bar.
Tuba, Timp.
S.D.
Cr. Cyms.
B.D.

Prelude, Siciliano and Rondo

Hns. a4
Cnts., Hns.
Tbn. 3, Bar.
+ Timp.
Tuba
Susp. Cym.
B.D.



T E N U T O

Conductors don't make them musical: they just lean on the notes.

So, the overall phrase doesn't sound natural at all.

It sounds like a machine reproducing the concept of a musical line.

Eric Whitacre

Shenandoah, mm. 41-46

(41) **Ethereal, Floating** (♩ = c. 50)

Solo

Flute 1
p

Flute 2
Solo
p

Flute 3
Solo
p

La Procession du Rocio

T Andante con moto

Picc.

Fl. 1 & 2

Ob. 1 & 2

E♭ Clar.

B♭ Clar. 1

B♭ Clar. 2

B♭ Clar. 3

MARCATO

FIRM

FORCEFUL

HARD

PERCUSSIVE

STRONG

VIOLENT

AGRESSIVE

PROFANE (four letter word?)

UNCONVENCING DYNAMICS

*The dynamics never sit. They are
always in motion.*

— *Robert Shaw*

DYNAMICS DO NOT EXIST

UNTIL...

THEY ARE PERCEIVED BY THE LISTENER



THE GOAL

TO CREATE

ARTFUL

EXAGGERATION

Ashokan Farewell Excerpt #1



***Dynamics are one of the
composer's most basic
tools to decorate the music.***

—Gunther Schuller

Ashokan Farewell Excerpt #3

♩ = 84

pp mp p

6 f mf mp

12 p

(reduced score, measures 83 - 98)

molto rit.

63

$\equiv$

This musical score is for the piece 'The Rose Tree' from Tchaikovsky's 'The Nutcracker'. It features three main instrumental parts: Woodwinds (Ww's), Brass, and Cymbals (Cr. Cym.).

Woodwinds (Ww's): The part includes staves for Woodwinds (Ww's) and Low woodwinds (Low ww's). Dynamics range from *ff* (fortissimo) to *p* (piano). There are triplets marked with a '3' and a 'distinct' marking.

Brass: The part includes staves for Trumpets 1 and 2 (Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2, 3), Horns (Hns.), and Low Brass. Dynamics range from *ff* to *p*. There are triplets marked with a '3' and a 'distinct' marking.

Cymbals (Cr. Cym.): The part includes a staff for Cymbals (Cr. Cym.). Dynamics range from *f* (forte) to *mf* (mezzo-forte).

The score is written in 2/4 time and features a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The tempo is marked 'Allegretto'.

PERFORMANCE NOTE

Dynamics

A common gesture in this piece is a crescendo that swells sharply near the end of its duration, indicated by a flared hairpin (see below). The shape of this crescendo should be dramatic, balanced, and, where appropriate, consistent across sections and the ensemble. It is critical that the release is abrupt though still resonant (not an “articulated” release) and that the duration of the note last until the (down)beat indicated.







*Remember that all music, in general,
is a succession of rainbows.*

PERCEIVING ALL RHYTHMS LITERALLY

*The measurability of musical rhythm, and therefore the
accurateness of its notation, is only approximate.*

BRUNO WALTER

RHYTHMIC PRECISION MUST SERVE

...NOT SUPERSEDE...

MUSICAL ARTISTRY

EXAMPLES OF INEXACTNESS

DISTORT RHYTHM TO HIGHLIGHT STYLE

NOTE OR NOTES ELONGATED FOR NUANCE

STRETCH PULSE TO EMPHASIZE HARMONY

BLURRED OR DELAYED RELEASE

SHORT NOTES IN DOTTED RHYTHMS

ENTRANCE DELAYED TO ADD DRAMA

Lux Aurumque, mm. 1–8

Adagio, Molto Legato (♩ = 56)

Flute 1

Flute 2

5

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

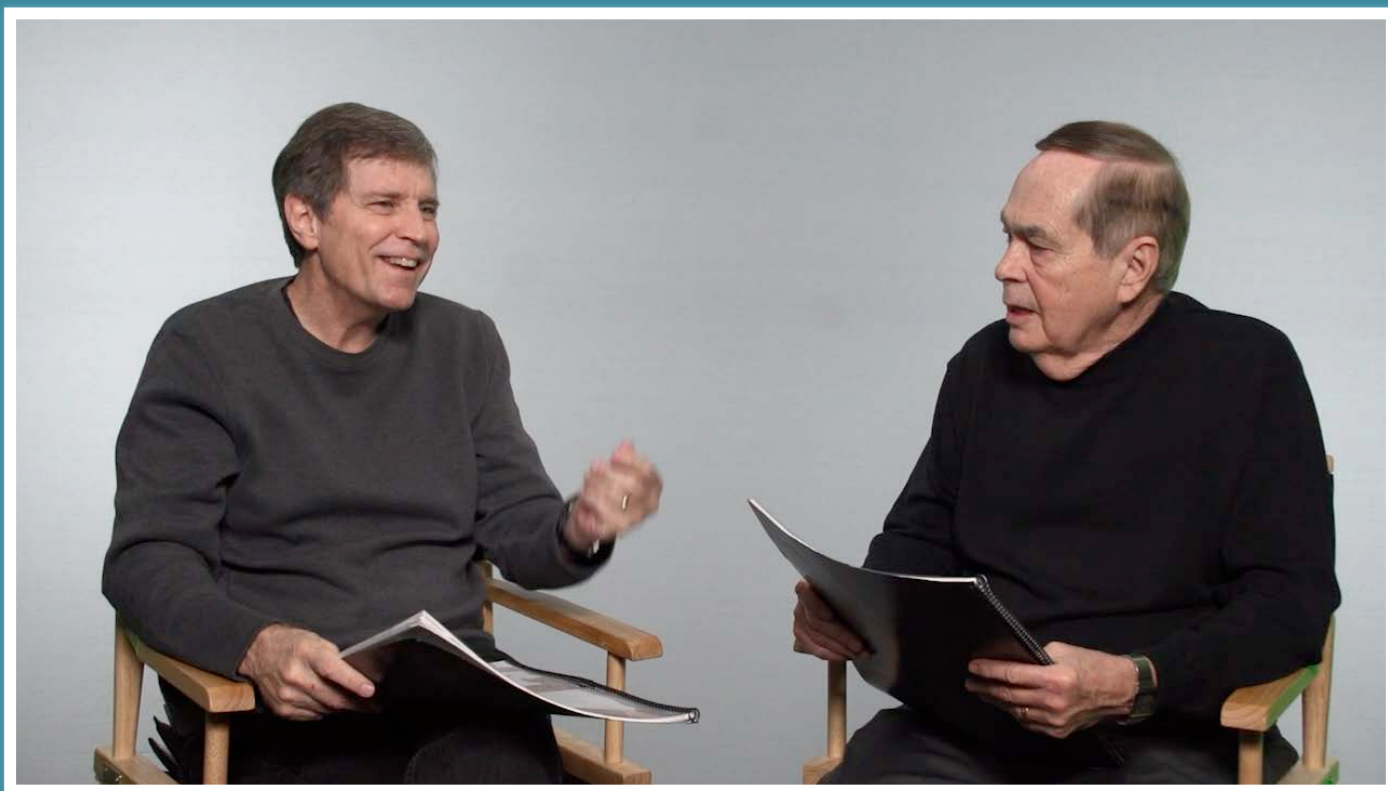
LISBON

'Tis on the Monday morning
all in the month of May.

This image shows a page from a musical score, likely for a symphony or concert band. The score is written for a large ensemble of instruments. The instruments listed on the left side of the page are:

- Pic.
- Fl.
- Ob.
- Es-Cl.
- B♭-Cl.
- B♭-Bass Cl.
- B♭-Cb. Cl.
- Bon.
- Es Alto Sax.
- B♭ Ten. Sax.
- E♭Bar. Sax.
- B♭ Tpt.
- F Horn
- Trb.
- Euph.
- Tuba
- Temp.
- Perc.

The score is written in 4/4 time and features a variety of musical notation, including notes, rests, and dynamic markings. The percussion section includes a Tom (Toms) and a Snare (Snare). The woodwind section includes Piccolo, Flute, Oboe, English Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, Contrabass Clarinet, Bassoon, and Saxophones. The brass section includes Trumpets, Horns, Trombones, Euphonium, and Tuba. The percussion section includes Tom, Snare, and other percussion instruments.



FACT!

**DEVIATIONS ARE
OMNIPRESENT**

BEING OBSESSED WITH TEMPO MARKINGS

A good tempo is a discovery.

Bruce Adolphe

**THE METRONOME DOES
NOT ALWAYS
REVEAL THE TRUTH**

DON'T PLAY THE TEMPO THAT IS
MARKED.....

PLAY THE TEMPO THAT IS RIGHT!

PAUL HINDEMITH

“Oh...I changed my mind.”

Samuel Adler

“I got it wrong.”

Francis McBeth

If I were conducting it, I would go at the tempo I indicated, but I want you to go at the tempo that feels right to you.

Aaron Copland

*MUSICIANS KNOW YOU CANNOT KEEP TIME
MUSIC TRAVELS IN TIME AND MUSICIANS TAKE A RIDE.*

TEMPO IS A LIQUID

LIKE WATER, IT SEEKS ITS OWN LEVEL.

A GOOD TEMPO IS A DISCOVERY !

BRUCE ADOLPHE

ABSENCE OF LINE

*Music is not a bunch of separated notes strung
together,
but rather one note that swims from pitch to pitch
on a line.*

David McGill

LIVE FOR THE LINE!

FREDERICK FENNELL



**ACTORS DON'T SPEAK THEIR WORDS
THEY
DELIVER
THEIR LINES.**

A HORSE

A HORSE

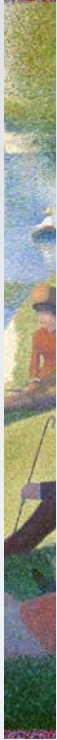
MY KINGDOM FOR A HORSE

I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE





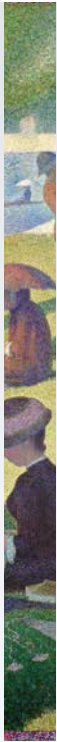


























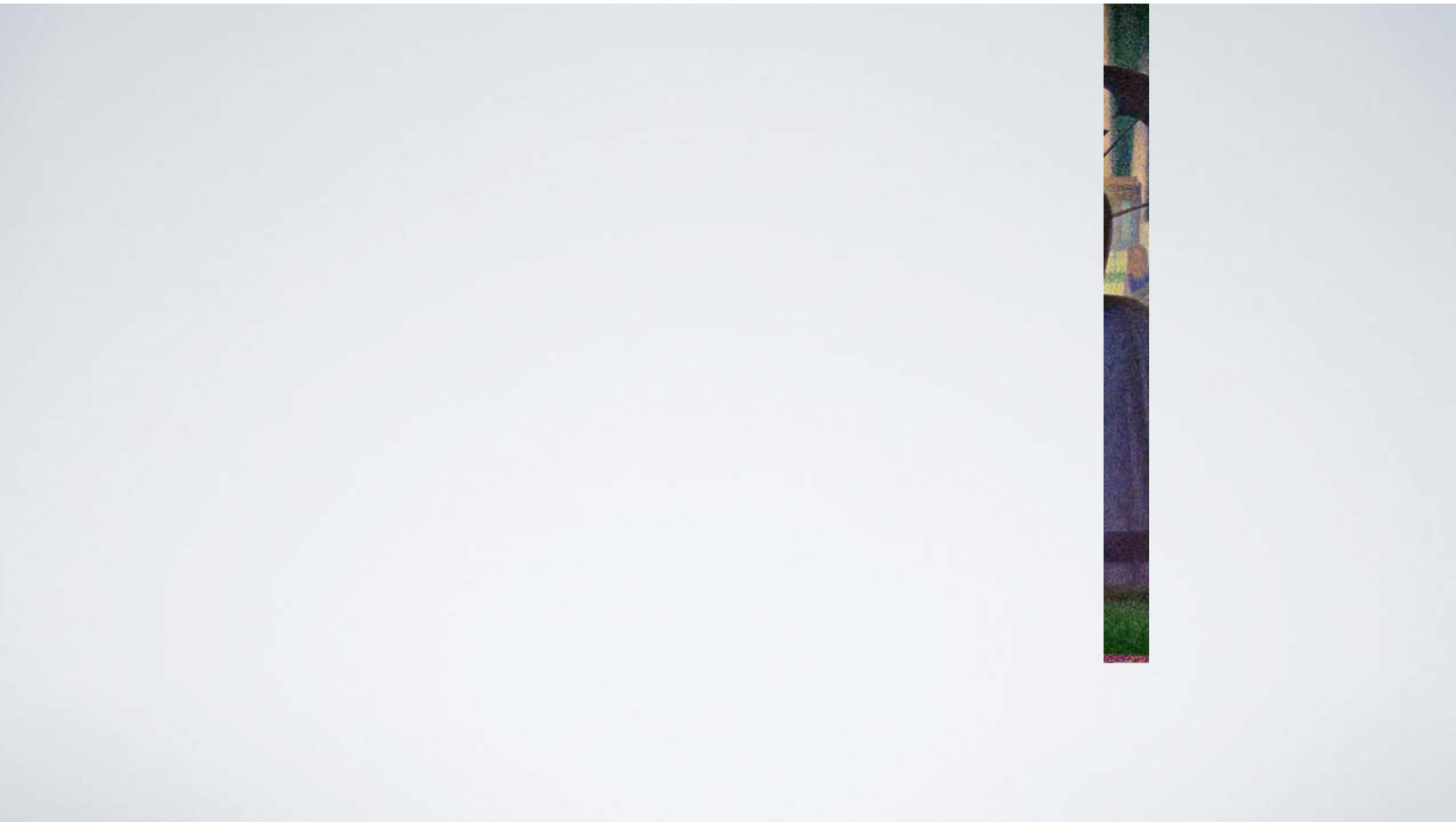




















Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte

~Seurat

IGNORING THE FUNCTION OF SILENCE IN MUSIC

*Music and silence combine strongly because
music is done with silence, and silence is full of music.*

Marcel Marceau

***A MUSICIAN PLAYS
THROUGH THE SILENCE
BRUCE ADOLPH***

**THE RIGHT WORD MAY
BE EFFECTIVE, BUT NO
WORD WAS EVER AS
EFFECTIVE AS A
RIGHTLY TIMED PAUSE**

MARK TWAIN

THE SILENCE THAT PRECEDES THE MUSIC

THE SILENCES DURING THE MUSIC

THE SILENCE FOLLOWING THE MUSIC

Silence Before the Music

**BEFORE THERE IS SOUND THERE IS
ALREADY MEANING**

BRUCE ADOLPH

Silence During the Music

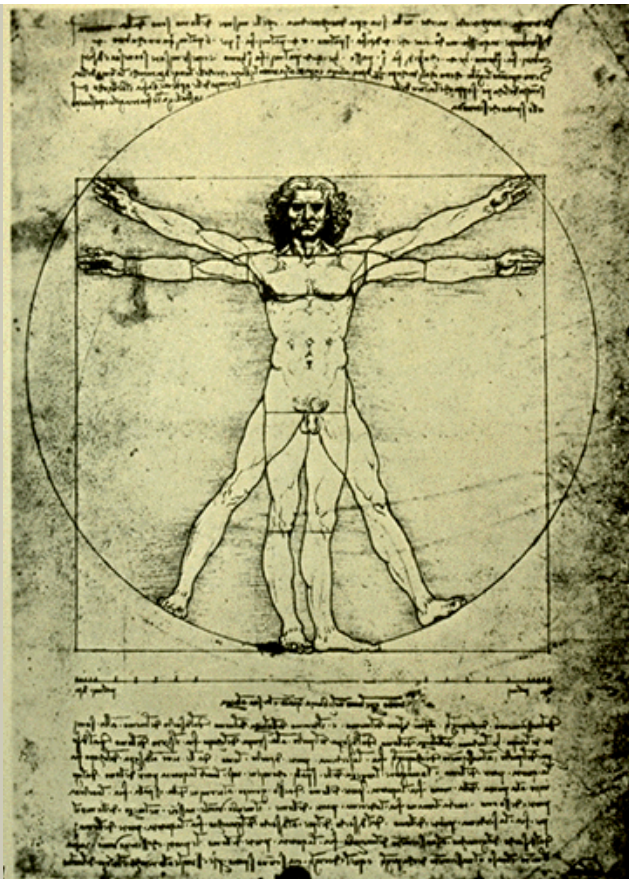


**RETURNING
TO SILENCE
WITH ARTISTRY**

FAILURE TO PONDER THE ROLE OF PROPORTION

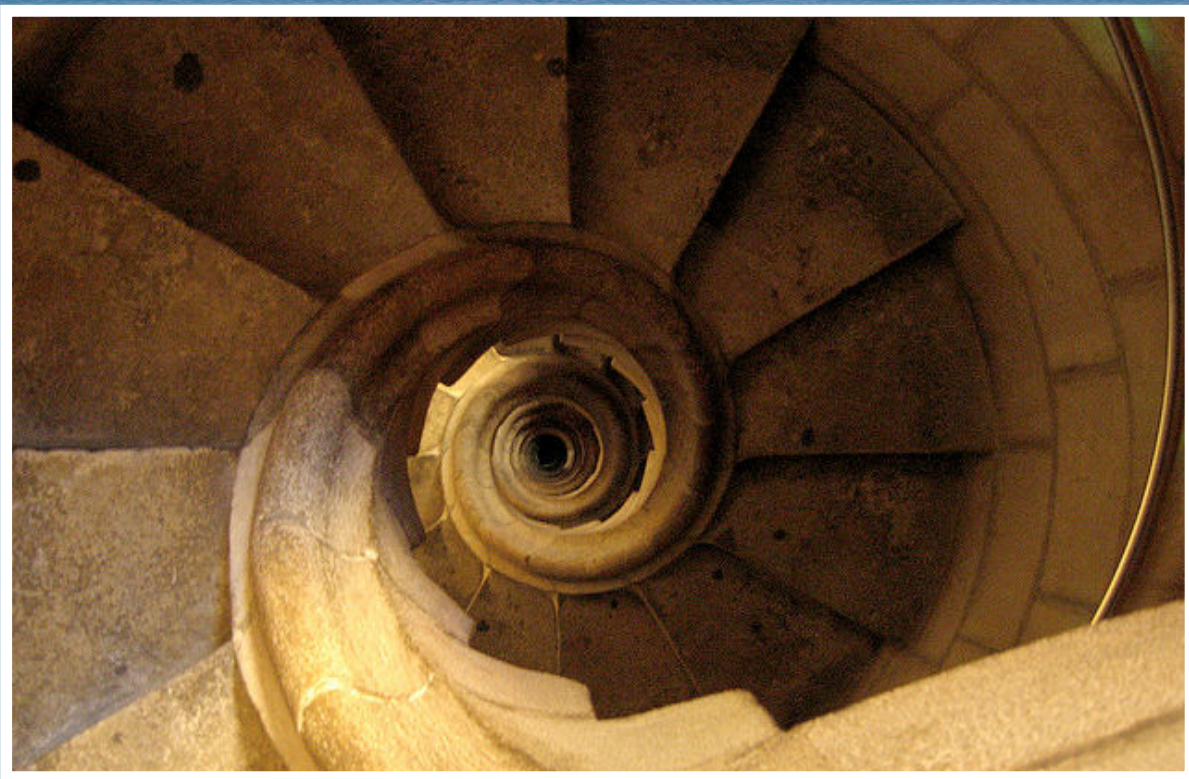
Proportion is the heart of beauty.

Ken Follett



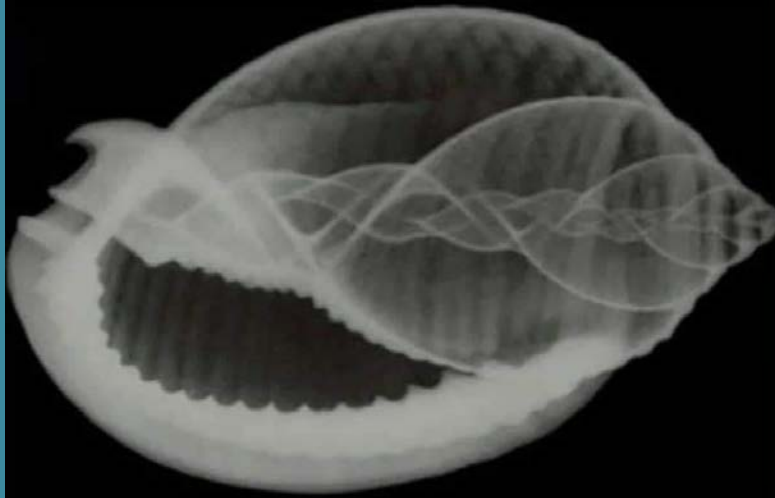
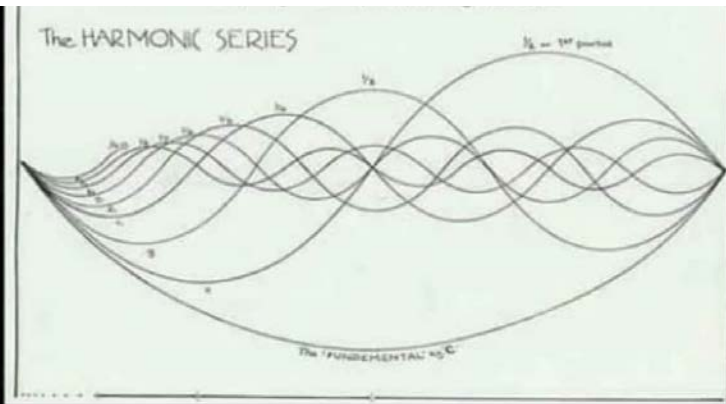
Leonardo da Vinci, drawing from the notebooks





PROPORTION





come...to...me

come . . . tooooo . . . meeeeeeeee

come...toooo...meeeeeeee

Come toooo meeeeeeeeeeee



**PLAY ONLY WHAT IS ON
THE PAGE
AND...
YOU WILL BE WRONG!**

MALLORY THOMPSON



THE ULTIMATE SIN

***To have no opinion or to make
no judgments whatsoever.***

RICHARD
FLOYD

THE **SEVEN**
DEADLY SINS OF
Music Making

BEING A SLAVE TO TEMPO MARKINGS ABSENCE OF
LINE IGNORING THE ROLE OF SILENCE FAILURE TO
CONSIDER THE ROLE OF PROPORTION PERCEIVING
ALL RHYTHMS LITERALLY BEING A SLAVE TO TEMPO
MARKINGS ABSENCE OF LINE IGNORING THE
ROLE OF SILENCE FAILURE TO CONSIDER THE RO
OF PROPORTION PERCEIVING ALL RHYTHMS LITERALLY BEI