

# ASK, DECIDE, ACT:

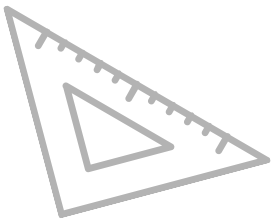
## A Conductor's Introduction to Score Study

Cormac Cannon  
The University of South Carolina

The 78th Midwest Clinic  
Thursday, December 19, 2024  
10am Room W179

### Why and How to Invest in Serious Score Study?

- Efficient, Engaging Rehearsals and Greater Student Success
- Three S's: Scheduled, Silent, and Sober
- Time is Hard to Find

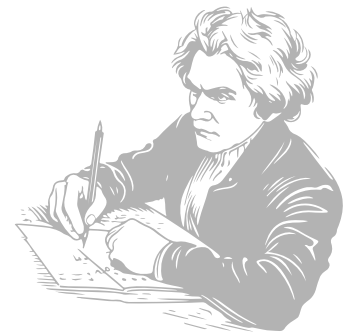


### Develop a Personalized, Measurable Process for Studying Scores

- Marking vs. Learning
- Multiple Passes Through Score - In an Order That Works for YOU
- Active Noticing

### Preparation: Background

- Composer
- Context
- Programming
- Performance Practice

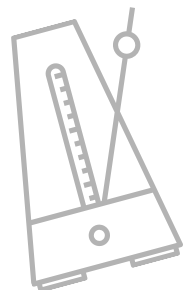


### 1st Pass: Perusal

- Score Order, Layout, Transposition
- Measure Numbers, Rehearsal Marks
- Instrumentation
- Textual Information

### 2nd Pass: Tempi & Meter Changes

- Printed vs. Realized Tempo
- Terminology & Tempo Relationships
- Navigating Tempo Changes
- Marking & Learning



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## 3rd Pass: Orchestration & Cues

- A System for Marking Cues
- Cues & Orchestration
- Line-By-Line Approach



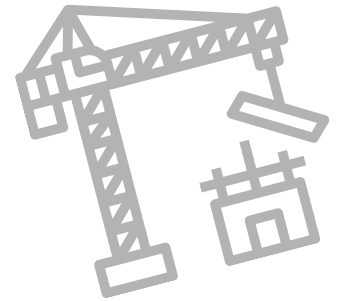
## 4th Pass: Harmony

- Analyze Every Single Harmony
- Develop a System for Marking Harmonies
- Harmony Helps Develop an Aural Image
- Compositional/Expressive Device
- Pedagogical Opportunities - Chords of Just Intonation

V-vi-ii-V-I

## 5th Pass: Form

- Repeated Passes Through Score Help Form Come Into Focus
- May or May Not Be a Traditional Form
- Knowing the Big Picture is Essential for Pacing
- Knowing the Big Picture Increases Rehearsal Efficiency



- **Develop an Aural Image**
- Each Pass Strengthens Our Aural Image
- During Each Pass We are Making Decisions
- We Act on These Decisions Through Physical Gesture
- Commit to Your Decisions in Writing by Marking Your Score

## Other Considerations

- Phone a Friend for Help!
- Develop Exercises/Handouts for Particularly Challenging Concepts



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