

HSSP Summer 2007: From Wolfgang to the White Stripes

Class Outline

Class 1: Medieval and Renaissance Music: Gregorian chant, Palestrina, other Renaissance music, lots of discussion on how the two periods differ

Class 2: Baroque music: Typical characteristics: no cadence, perpetual motion, multiple melody lines, Bach, Handel, maybe current music with perpetual motion, no cadence

Class 3: Classical music: clarity of structure, balanced composition, melody and harmony, mostly Mozart, maybe watch some opera (The Marriage of Figaro or The Magic Flute) in addition to listening to music

Class 4: Romantic music I: Beethoven as a revolutionary figure, how he single-handedly changed the course of music, Schubert and the Erlkonig, other lieder, Liszt as an Elvis figure, focus on emotional side of music, maybe play some emo music to contrast

Class 5: Romantic music II: Nationalism in music, Grieg, Dvorak, Wagner and maybe some opera as well, Puccini, Bizet

Class 6: Impressionist Music and Modern Music: Debussy, why so revolutionary, how followed the times, Stravinsky and the Rite of Spring (watch video), how it sparked rioting, Ravel

Class 7: Modern Music: Hindemith, Schoenberg, John Cage and chance music, Philip Glass and minimalism

Class 8: Rise of Popular music: Tin Pan Alley and AABA form, still the most ubiquitous form in music, modern examples, Elvis, the Beatles, etc

Class 9: Current music, what are bands trying to do: Broken Social Scene and Math rock bands with weird time signatures, teach conducting in 7/4, The Arcade Fire and instrumentation, The White Stripes and rhythm, maybe do an “orchestral arrangement” of Seven Nation Army depending on interest, lesson plan based on class interest

Class 10: Many possible topics: International music, how it differs from western music: atonality, different scales, Tuvan throat singers, traditional Indian music or bring in a guest to teach drumming or some form of dance or something else

Class plan will change/vary based on class interests and experience as will be determined on the first day