

Listening to Music

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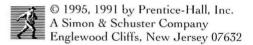
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I dedicate this book to my wife, June August. Her continuous encouragement, editing expertise, musical advice and many hours of work eased the project from its inception to its completion.

To the Student

Picture yourself a few years from now. You are entering a concert hall in your city to hear a performance by your local orchestra. Or perhaps on an out-of-town business or pleasure trip, you have chosen the concert as your evening's entertainment. Wherever you may be throughout the world, you feel at home entering that hall.

You feel comfortable there because you completed this music appreciation course and know that the great music of the world belongs to you. Reading the program, you understand the musical terms. You are familiar with the composers: their styles, significant passages in their lives, some of their music, how and where they earned their livelihoods. You are aware of the social, economic, and historical events that influenced them. Above all, you realize that they composed their music for your enjoyment.

As the concert starts, you are confident about concert procedure and etiquette and pleased that you can make sense out of the sounds you hear. You easily follow the composer's logic, the melodic themes, and the interplay of musical ideas heard throughout the orchestra. You recognize that this first piece is a concerto, a symphony, or an orchestral overture.

After the concert you'll be able to discuss the performance, feeling secure in your perceptions. In fact, your friends and business associates may acknowledge your expertise by asking questions or seeking your opinions.

Music belongs to everyone. Albert Einstein, an avid music lover, played the violin well into his old age. Commenting on his Theory of Relativity that led to space travel, Einstein said, "It occurred to me by intuition, and music was the driving force behind that intuition."

Listening to great music is an enchanting, exciting growth experience. You have a lifetime of listening ahead of you.

Organization

Listening to Music, Second Edition is arranged in four parts:

Part 1: The Musical Process The opening chapter focuses on ways of listening. Chapter Two explains how to take full advantage of concert attendance.

Part 2: The Musical Elements Detailed explanations and sound examples on the cassette tapes reinforce the book's presentation of the basic musical elements. Martin Bookspan, distinguished announcer for the Public Broadcasting System's classical music series, "Live at Lincoln Center,"

guides you through the "Musical Elements" demonstration. As your host on the recordings, he announces each music example on the tapes. Discussions in this section include the commonly used instruments and ensembles, and the classifications of the human voice.

Part 3: The Common Style Periods of Music Beginning with a basic survey of music before 1600, the text progresses chronologically from the Baroque style period through contemporary music of North America. Since most of the music chosen for discussion appears regularly on concert programs and includes works that audiences seem to favor, you are likely to encounter these pieces in your concertgoing.

Part 4: Adjunct Music Discussions of American popular music, Broadway musical theater, film music, and music of world cultures have been expanded in this new edition. Pops Orchestras now perform this music in their concerts.

Important Features

This new edition includes:

- 53 biographies of composers
- 14 Listening Insights Boxes
- 18 Historical Notes Boxes
- 38 detailed Listening Guides
- 8 pages of color art plates

Listening Insights: Fourteen *Listening Insights* give you practical suggestions for approaching and listening to various types of music, for example:

How to Listen to Classical Music
What to Listen for in Romantic Music
Enjoying Programmatic and Highly Descriptive Music
Listening to Nationalistic Music
Eclecticism in Music

Form in Early Broadway Musical Theater Songs

Historical Perspectives: Eighteen special information boxes highlight interesting facts about music. Here is a sampling:

What is the Secret of the Cremona Instruments?

Book and Music Printing

Use of Italian Terms in Music

Evolution of Public Concerts: The Baroque Period

Haydn's Labor Protest: The "Farewell Symphony"

Beethoven and the Changing Status of Composers

Opera in North America

Kern's Show Boat: The New Broadway Musical

The Listening Guides: Of the 38 detailed Listening Guides in the text, you will find 31 of the works on your cassette tapes. First, listen to each work until you are acquainted with it. Then, listen as often as you like while following the detailed listening guide.

The timing indications in the book will remind you at what point musical events occur on the recordings. For example, the second theme in the first movement of Beethoven's 5th Symphony enters 0:46 seconds after the piece begins. After several hearings, you will no longer need to watch the timings to follow the events. The more often you listen, the sooner you will be able to follow the events without the guides, just as you would at a live concert.

The goal of both the text and the course is your lifelong enjoyment of concert music. You have the vehicle to get there. Good luck on your journey.

∽Acknowledgments

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I especially acknowledge my talented teaching assistants—more than 75 of them over the past twenty-two years. With their collaboration I have had the pleasure of presenting the material in this text. Observing them teach and receiving their feedback, I have learned from each of them. I am

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