**<work>**

Provides a detailed description of a work — a distinct intellectual or artistic creation — specifically its history, language use, and high-level musical attributes (e.g., key, tempo, meter, medium of performance, and intended duration).

Attributes

@analog, auth, auth.uri, class, codedval, copyof, corresp, data, evaluate, follows, label, n, next, precedes, prev, resp, sameas, synch, target, targettype, type, xlink:actuate, xlink:role, xlink:show, xml:base, xml:id

Member of

[model.workLike](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/model-classes/model.worklike.html)Collects work-like elements.

Contained by

elements having work as direct children

[workList](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/worklist.html)(work list) – Grouping mechanism for information describing non-bibliographic aspects of a text.

[model.workLike](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/model-classes/model.worklike.html)(MEI.header) Collects work-like elements.

[componentList](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/componentlist.html)Container for intellectual or physical component parts of a bibliographic entity.

May Contain

MEI.frbrFRBR (Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records) declarations.

[expressionList](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/expressionlist.html)Gathers bibliographic expression entities.

MEI.headerMetadata header component declarations.

[audience](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/audience.html)Defines the class of user for which the work is intended, as defined by age group (e.g., children, young adults, adults, etc.), educational level (e.g., primary, secondary, etc.), or other categorization.

[classification](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/classification.html)Groups information which describes the nature or topic of an entity.

[componentList](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/componentlist.html)Container for intellectual or physical component parts of a bibliographic entity.

[contents](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/contents.html)List of the material contained within a resource.

[context](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/context.html)The historical, social, intellectual, artistic, or other context within which the work was originally conceived (e.g., the 17th century restoration of the monarchy in England, the aesthetic movement of the late 19th century, etc.) or the historical, social, intellectual, artistic, or other context within which the expression was realized.

[extMeta](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/extmeta.html)(extended metadata) – Provides a container element for non-MEI metadata formats.

[history](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/history.html)Provides a container for information about the history of a resource other than the circumstances of its creation.

[key](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/key.html)Key captures information about tonal center and mode.

[langUsage](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/langusage.html)(language usage) – Groups elements describing the languages, sub-languages, dialects, etc., represented within the encoded resource.

[mensuration](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/mensuration.html)Captures information about mensuration within bibliographic descriptions.

[meter](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/meter.html)Captures information about the time signature within bibliographic descriptions.

[notesStmt](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/notesstmt.html)(notes statement)– Collects any notes providing information about a text additional to that recorded in other parts of the bibliographic description.

[otherChar](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/otherchar.html)(other distinguishing characteristic) – Any characteristic that serves to differentiate a work or expression from another.

[perfDuration](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/perfduration.html)(performance duration) – Used to express the duration of performance of printed or manuscript music or the playing time for a sound recording, videorecording, etc.

[perfMedium](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/perfmedium.html)(performance medium) – Indicates the number and character of the performing forces used in a musical composition.

MEI.sharedComponent declarations that are shared between two or more modules.

[arranger](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/arranger.html)A person or organization who transcribes a musical composition, usually for a different medium from that of the original; in an arrangement the musical substance remains essentially unchanged.

[author](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/author.html)The name of the creator of the intellectual content of a non-musical, literary work.

[biblList](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/bibllist.html)List of bibliographic references.

[composer](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/composer.html)The name of the creator of the intellectual content of a musical work.

[contributor](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/contributor.html)Names of individuals, institutions, or organizations responsible for contributions to the intellectual content of a work, where the specialized elements for authors, editors, etc. do not suffice or do not apply.

[creation](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/creation.html)Non-bibliographic details of the creation of an intellectual entity, in narrative form, such as the date, place, and circumstances of its composition. More detailed information may be captured within the history element.

[editor](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/editor.html)The name of the individual(s), institution(s) or organization(s) acting in an editorial capacity.

[funder](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/funder.html)Names of individuals, institutions, or organizations responsible for funding. Funders provide financial support for a project; they are distinct from sponsors, who provide intellectual support and authority.

[head](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/head.html)(heading) – Contains any heading, for example, the title of a section of text, or the heading of a list.

[identifier](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/identifier.html)An alpha-numeric string that establishes the identity of the described material.

[incip](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/incip.html)(incipit) – The opening music and/or words of a musical or textual work.

[librettist](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/librettist.html)Person or organization who is a writer of the text of an opera, oratorio, etc.

[lyricist](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/lyricist.html)Person or organization who is a writer of the text of a song.

[relationList](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/relationlist.html)Gathers relation elements.

[sponsor](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/sponsor.html)Names of sponsoring individuals, organizations or institutions. Sponsors give their intellectual authority to a project; they are to be distinguished from funders, who provide the funding but do not necessarily take intellectual responsibility.

[tempo](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/tempo.html)Text and symbols descriptive of tempo, mood, or style, e.g., "allarg.", "a tempo", "cantabile", "Moderato", "♩=60", "Moderato ♩ =60").

[title](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/title.html)Title of a bibliographic entity.

Remarks

The [perfDuration](https://music-encoding.org/guidelines/v4/elements/perfduration.html) element captures the *intended duration* of the work.