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Art 175/Blanton  
3/7/2017

## **Reading 2**

Thoughts on *A conversation between Concrete Music and Kinetic Art*

This is a discussion between Frank Malina and Pierre Schaeffer. Frank Malina was an engineer and a painter and is responsible for the future of a lot of mathematical artworks. Pierre Schaeffer is a musician. Schaeffer starts out by discussing his concept of "Concrete music," which refers to music made from sound and not instruments.

Schaeffer believes that watching the gestures of a violinist playing or a kinetic art visual distracts really listening to the music itself. Listening to the music without the visual is inductive listening. Inductive listening is starting out with the question and then works out the theory. He believes this provides the most clarity. He also states that he believes that artificial visuals might accentuate these sounds whereas real visuals would not. Deductive listening is when you are given all the information at once.

I can see Schaeffer's point about deductive listening, especially when they talk about Opera. Opera is the oldest form of audio and visual combinations. I love going to see the opera and sometimes am overwhelmed by everything happening. Our local theatre, the Bankhead in Livermore adds translation text above the scene and sometimes combined with reading that, the expressions of the singers, the moving stage sets, the overall tension created by the storyline, and the glittering costumes, I sometimes feel lost and irritated. I do not think it is necessary to have all these elements to still tell the story of an oratorio.