

Man and Arts Final I **Music**

Forms

This classical music composition undoubtedly takes the listener on a journey. The composition evokes reflection of an experience someone had and could certainly be played at any ceremony of accomplishment, or a joyous celebration with friends and family. Three different drop off points where the composition goes quiet gives the listener thematic understanding and makes you feel as if you are experiencing four different parts or episodes of a journey.

Theme & Content

The use of the brass, strings, and percussion in the form of chimes aid in this understanding greatly. The chimes keep everything on pace as if to represent the passage of time during a journey. The smooth consistent tempo of the chimes in this piece coupled with varying intensities (soft and loud) evoke an understanding of how along someones journey though schooling, apprenticeship, or any other life commitment, time can seem to pass at different speeds but is always ticking regardless. Next, the violins and brass instruments in this piece are what effectively put the listener into thoughts of reflection and contemplation. The violins create the melody which is easily picked up by the listener early on, and the brass instruments range in pitch to express ups and downs in life or on a journey. Dynamics and harmony play a huge role in this work as the sudden high and low pitch changes flash memories into the listeners mind of good and bad or happy and difficult parts of the journey. Together with these pitch changes is the dynamic changes that range from piano (soft) and fortissimo (very loud). When combined the dynamics and pitch changes seem to control the listeners thought and ultimately are what take the listener on a reflective journey.

Work of Art

This composition is certainly a pure work of art. Although this is an assignment and part of my grade I found myself consistently wanted to just listen and allow the music to take me on that journey that I described above. It was a conflicting feeling having to listen to this piece critically since I simply wanted to enjoy it and let my mind flow. With an understanding of how much school grades effect young academics in modern life, I believe this is a testament to this composition. When people can enjoy a song so thoroughly and be taken on a journey though their past no matter where they are in life, you have a true work of art. Not to mention the combination of unity and variation allow the listener to consistently take a new and different reflective journey. For example, a week from now I could listen to this piece again and have an entirely different mental thought process. The journey I went on today while listening wont be the same as the one I will if I listen to the song again at another time. Even with just three listens though I had different experiences each time. Something that provokes so much though and emotion regardless of time could even be considered a classic work of art. I myself would regard this as a brilliant work of art that just nearly falls outside the category of a timeless masterpiece.