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Digital Humanities Research Ideas

1. Analyze the relationship between classical music concert programs (i.e. the pieces and composers that an orchestra / hall chooses to play) and concert attendance.
   1. It would be interesting to see what draws audiences to classical music concerts. For example, a Mahler symphony always fills a concert hall, whereas a Schoenberg symphony might not.
   2. Bringing in the demographics of the audience could add another dimension of analysis, whether it be age, gender, national/ethnic origin, or past musicianship and training, to see what attracts different groups of people. This data would likely be more difficult to find, but hopefully not impossible.
   3. Amongst the ongoing discourse of featuring more contemporary or underplayed and historically underrepresented composers such as women and people of color, this may lend insight into how to structure a concert program and how best to create interest for and expose audiences to non-canonical classical music.
2. These are two separate ideas for music analysis: use AI to dissect and analyze the similarities (in stylistic choices, phrasing, abstractness, chord progressions, etc) between the music of
   1. Composers from the same country – to reinforce the concept of musical nationalism during the mid to late 19th century in Romantic era music.
   2. Two composers with similar styles – current thought is to compare Debussy and Ravel, both of whose music was part of the transition from Romanticism to Modernism in France. Sometimes they sound similar and other times they are vastly different, and metrics on how they build a piece would be great for both listeners and musicologists/music theorists.
   3. Would involve arduous data collection process to input all pieces of the composers in a way that a model could do analysis.
3. Build a tool that scrapes and conglomerates postings from popular secondhand sites such as eBay, Poshmark, Facebook Marketplace, Grailed, and Mercari. Simplifies thrifting process while also increasing seller visibility.
4. Some sort of analysis with my favorite tv show, Downton Abbey. I found this dataset (<https://openpsychometrics.org/tests/characters/stats/DA/>) that ranks notability and categorizes personalities of each of the 15 characters. Also contains data for many other fictional characters and personality tests, if I can think of a good research question regarding character sentiments then this would be a very cool dataset to use.
5. Lyrics to Princeton songs changing over time/popularity of fight songs being sung