

# Issues with Music and Sciences

Welcome!!

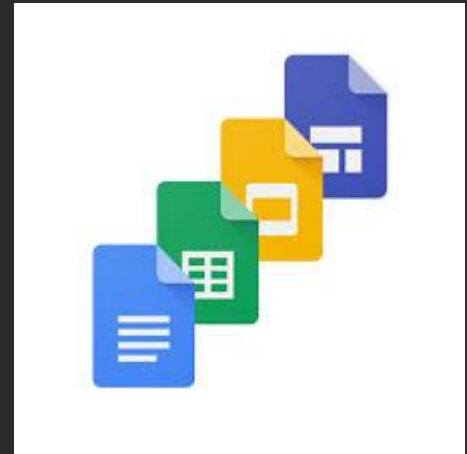
Issues and Music and Sciences

David John Baker, PhD

HU Berlin, Winter 2020

# Welcome!!!

- Introduction to Online Learning
- Class Expectations
- Introduction to Me
- Introduction to Ya'll
- Introduction to Course Objectives
- Lecture 01



# Online Learning

- Issues with Music and Sciences taught as synchronous class
- Taught TUESDAYS at 4PM Berlin Time
- Classes will be recorded for those that cannot make the time (life happens)
- Classes will be interactive
  - Zoom Chat for Streamed Engagement (Using the chat now!)
  - Class Document for Questions (Moodle, sent out now in chat)
  - Frequent Break Out Rooms (Will use today)
- Class designed so you can set your own learning pace

# Class Expectations

- Lecturing and communication will be in English (Es tut mir Leid!)
- If I am speaking too fast, please let me know in the chat!
- Class designed so you get what you put in
- Cameras are NOT required to be on
- Ample opportunities to engage (last thing I want is non-interactive YouTube)
- Respect you as adult learners and desire of peers to learn
- Violations of code of conduct will be reported and dealt with immediately
  - See Syllabus

# Course Objectives

- Introduce you to the problems, solutions, and difficulties associated with studying music and science
- Critically assess scientific inquiry applied to music
- Give practical examples that demonstrate your ability to critically think about science and music
- Be aware of what career options are available if studying science and music
- Learn music and scientific terminology to help you when discussing complex issues

*Introduction to Science, but every example is music*

# Course Overview

1. Why Science and Music
2. Philosophy of (Music) Science
3. Measuring Music
4. Eureka! I've Discovered C Major

# Course Overview

1. Tools for Scientific Thinking with Music [First Four Lectures]
  - Goal of the course is to learn how to think about music scientifically
  - Make sure everyone is on same page, has same language
  - Introduce everyone to common problems in science
  - Use music examples to highlight the complexities of problems
2. Applications in Music and Science [Next ~10 Lectures]
  - Introduction to Different Research Areas in Music and Science
  - Able to discuss each with critical lens and common language
  - Present topics not as what we know, but ongoing attempts of real people attempting to solve real problems
  - Class can steer research topics near end

# Whirlwind Tour of Lectures Planned



# Whirlwind Tour of Lectures Planned

(tentative)

# **Tools for Scientific Thinking with Music**

# Why Science and Music (today after break)

- Introduction to why someone might want to combine science and music
- Brief history of Music and Science
- Scope interests of the class

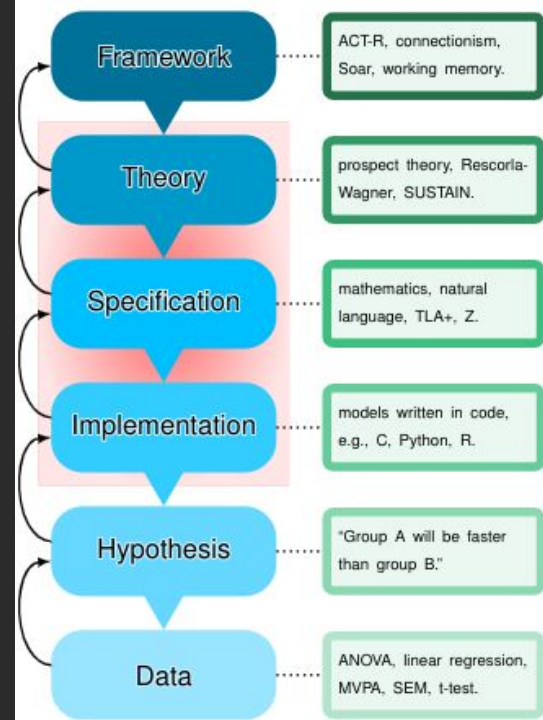


# Philosophy of (Music) Science

- The Problem of Induction
- Theory in Science
- Theory in Music
- Path Models of Theory

Learning Goal of Course →

Use language in science to help discuss these problems



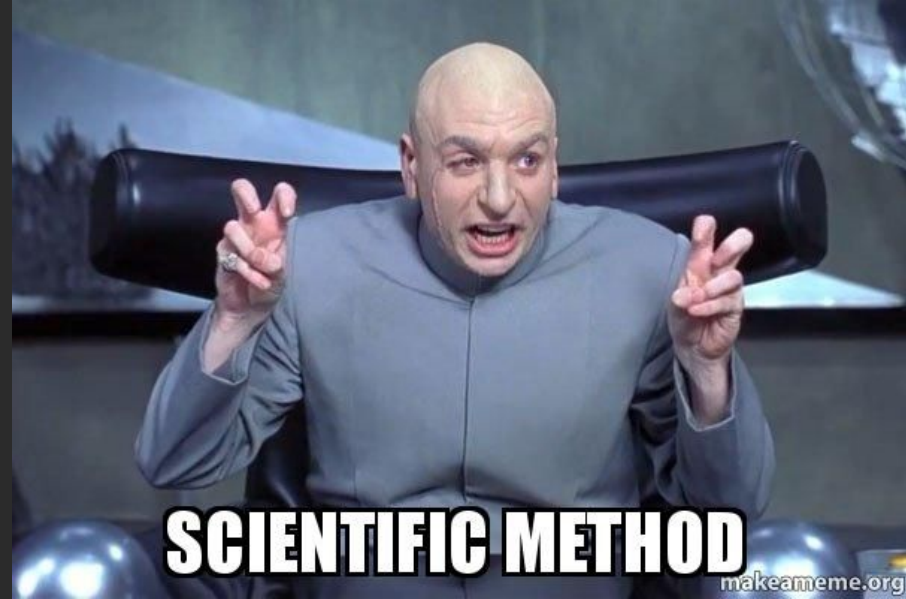
# Measuring Music

- Falsifiability and Operationalization
- Small Worlds and Big Worlds (Models)
- Validity and Reliability
- Measuring Sounds
- Measuring People



# Eureka! I've Discovered C Major

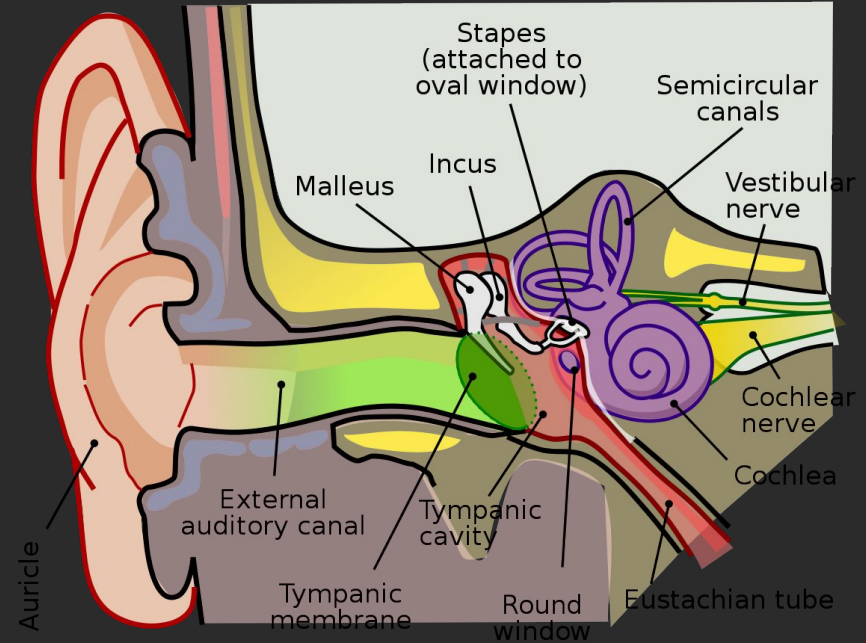
- The Scientific method
- Claiming a Discovery
- Being Proved Wrong
- The Many Ways to Be Wrong (Type I and II Errors)



# **Applications in Music and Science**

# Bleep Bloop | Music and Psychoacoustics

- The Human Auditory System
- What Humans Can Hear
- Repetition and Music
- Pitfalls of Deterministic Listening  
(Reductionism, Atomism, Universalism)





# On The Tip of My Tongue | Musical Memory and Expectation

- The many forms of musical memory
- Expectation in music
- Statistical Learning



Position	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Pitch	G <sub>5</sub>	F <sub>5</sub>	A <sub>4</sub>	B <sub>4</sub>	C <sub>5</sub>	E <sub>5</sub>	D <sub>5</sub>	C <sub>5</sub>
Probability	0.509	0.234	0.003	0.053	0.691	0.234	0.314	0.360
IC	0.98	2.10	8.34	4.25	0.53	2.09	1.67	1.47

**Figure 2.** Three excerpts from the fourth movement of Schubert's *Octet in F Major* (C) and 23–24 (C). (A and B) Probabilities and corresponding information content (IC)



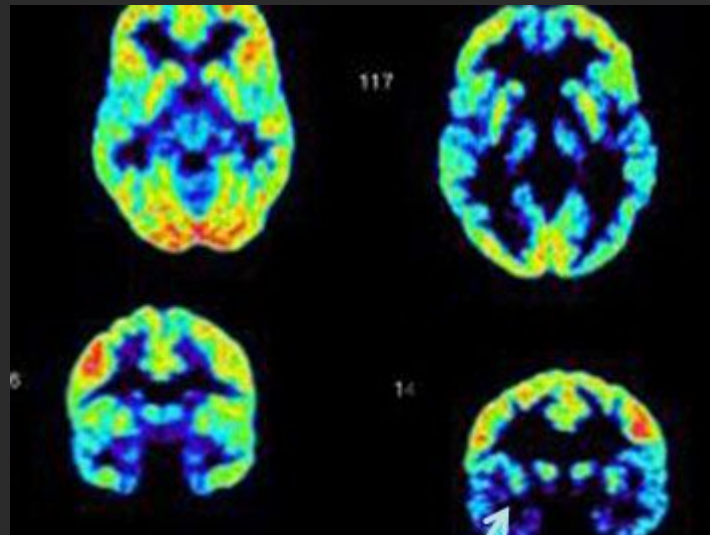
# Scorpions Prefer UK Garage (p<.05) | Music and Identity

- Musical Identity
- Problems with Genre
  - Applied and theoretical
- Links to Personality
- Everyday Listening



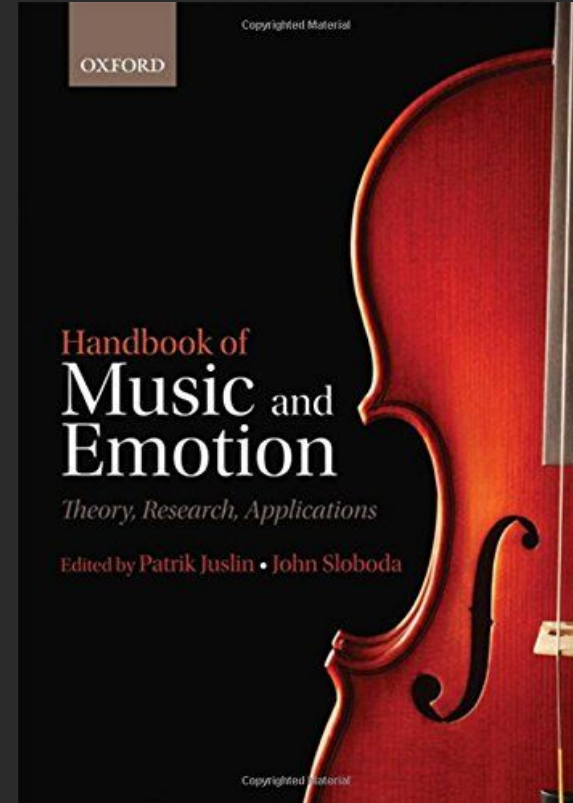
# Music Makes Your Brain Light Up | Music and Neuroscience

- What can neuroscience tell us?
- How fMRI Works
- One dataset, many theories
- Learning from Lesions



# Right in the Feelings | Music and Emotion

- Categorizing Musical Emotions
- Direct and Indirect Measurement
- The many ways it might work



# Loftier Claims | Music, Culture, and Evolution

- “Music” and Pre-history
- Universality, Ethnocentricity, and Adaptations
- Cross Species Work
- Questioning Definitions



# I Died Not Knowing I was a Violin Prodigy | Music and Learning

- Music and Development
- Music and Cognitive Ability
- Music and Practice



# Problems with Cash Rewards | Music and Industry

- Audio Branding
- Music and Advertising
- Behavioral Economics of Music



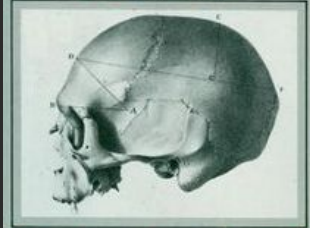


# Biases in Research | Music, Science and, Racism

- History of Racism in Science
- Racism in Musicology (Music Theory)
- Eugenics, Statistics, and Measurement Errors



## The Mismeasure of Man



Stephen Jay Gould

author of *Ever Since Darwin* and *The Panda's Thumb*

## SUPERIOR

→ The  
Return ↓↓

'Roundly debunks racism's core lie'  
RENI EDDO-LODGE

of  
Race ← Science

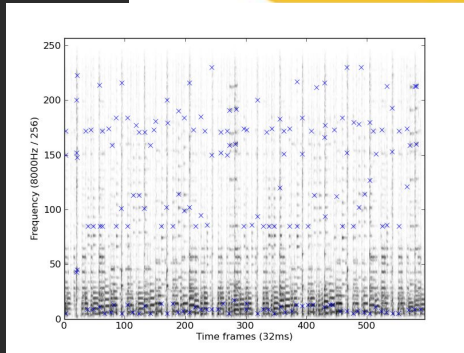
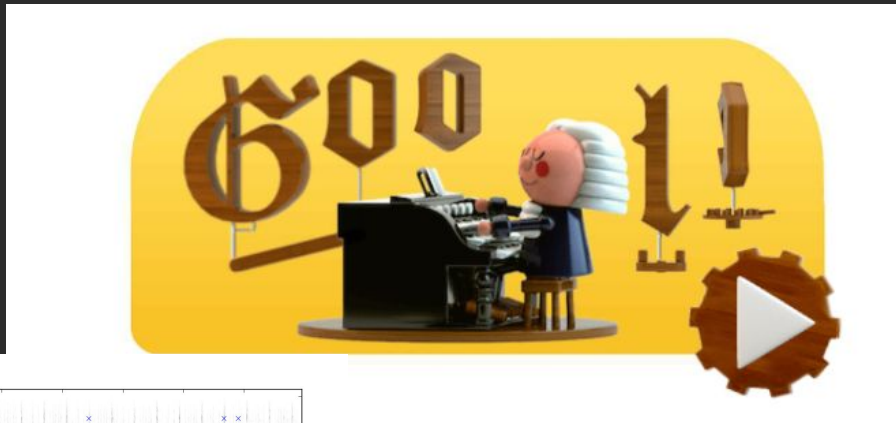
Angela Saini

'One of the world's best science writers' ED YONG



# I'm sorry, Dave | Music and Artificial Intelligence

- Google Doodle and The Need for Data
- Shazam and Audio Fingerprints
- WaveNet, Musical Emulation
- Recommendation Systems



# The Big Questions

Things we learn about music from science



(the sweet spot)



Things we learn about science from music

# Assessment

Things you learned about music from science



Final writing assignment introduced halfway through course



Things you learned about science from music

# Assessment

- Many options in writing choice
  - Discussion of something that you find interesting
  - Proposal of new research idea
  - Critique of something you read that you didn't like
- Required to discuss topic in reference to tools in first four lectures
- Subject of writing can be taken from later subject matter lectures
- Open to more complex ideas, but they need to be approved by instructor
- Want you to **document and thus demonstrate critical thinking of a topic** so if and when you were to approach someone involved in this area of research you would have a fruitful conversation

# Get to Know You!

- Next to name in Google doc, link to one song I (and your peers) can listen to that would get to know you better AND write one question you would like answered about music and science !!

Exercise will get you used to working between Zoom and Google Docs

→ Link is sent out now in the chat!!!

# Who Am I? David John Baker, PhD



**BM**  
**Instrumental**  
**Performance**



**MSc**  
**Music, Mind and**  
**Brain**



**PhD**  
**Music Theory**



**TROMPA**

**Senior**  
**Research**  
**Associate**

**David John Baker, PhD**



**BM  
Instrumental  
Performance**

**Goldsmiths**  
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

**MSc  
Music, Mind and  
Brain**



**PhD  
Music Theory**

**Data Scientist**



**Senior  
Research  
Associate**

**BREAK**



# Why Science and Music?

What is Systematische Musikwissenschaft?!

Issues and Music and Sciences

Dr. David John Baker

HU Berlin, Winter 2020

# Think, Pair, Share #1

( 5 Minutes )

In breakout rooms, come up with three questions:

- a question about music that science could not answer
- a question science might be able to help answer
- question science could definitely answer

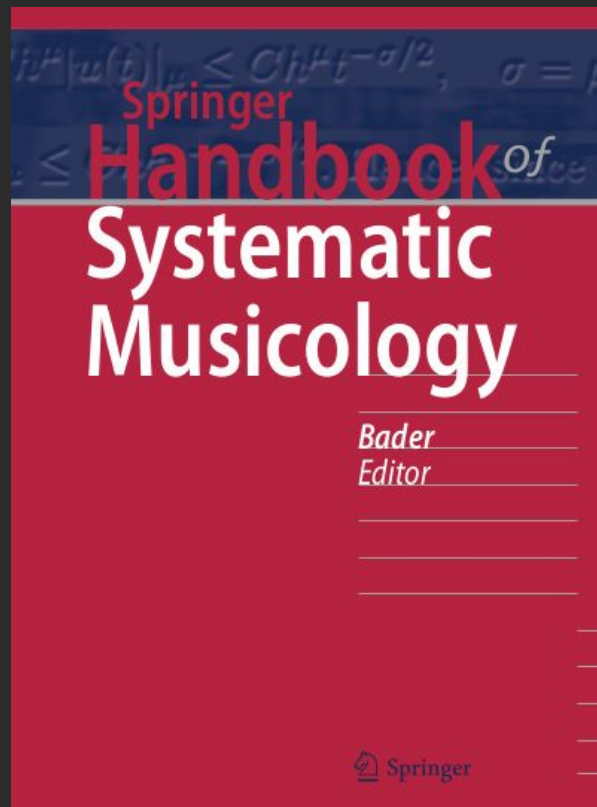
→Put your answers in the google doc!

# Motivation for pairing music and science

- **Historical Reasons ??**
  - Music and science have a long history with one another
  - Take a quick whirlwind tour of Western conceptions of the history of music...

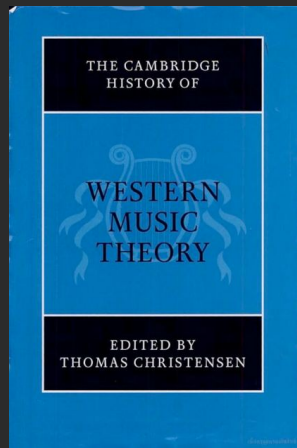
# Historical Perspectives

- Systematic
  - Scientific Discipline
  - Large and Interdisciplinary
- Musicology
  - Study of Music (very broadly defined)
- All definitions will come with some sort of caveat
- Definitions are also going to change based on geographic location
  - Europe → Systematic Musicology
  - North America → Under Music Cognition/Perception



# Motivation for pairing music and science

- **Historical Reasons ??**  
→ Music and science have a long history with one another



The transmission of ancient music theory into the Middle Ages 139

Table 5.2 *The place of musica in the liberal arts*

	Varro (1st c. BCE)	Martianus (5th c. CE)	Boethius (6th c. CE)	Cassiodorus (6th c. CE)	Isidore (7th c. CE)
i	Grammar	Grammar		Grammar	Grammar
ii	Dialectic	Dialectic		Rhetoric	Rhetoric
iii	Rhetoric	Rhetoric		Dialectic	Dialectic
iv	Geometry	Geometry	Arithmetic	Arithmetic	Arithmetic
v	Arithmetic	Arithmetic	Music	Music	Geometry
vi	Astrology	Astronomy	Geometry	Geometry	Music
vii	Music	Harmony	Astronomy	Astronomy	Astronomy
viii	Medicine				Medicine
ix	Architecture				

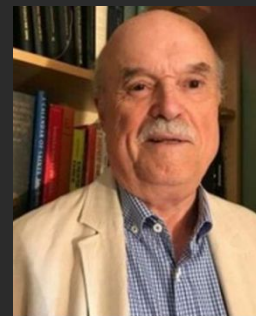


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# Motivation for pairing music and science

## Quadrivium

Arithmetic

→ number

Music

→ number in time

Geometry

→ number in space

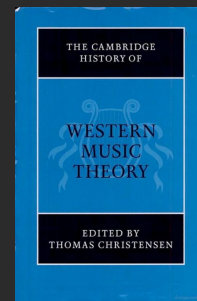
Astronomy

→ number in space and time

The transmission of ancient music theory into the Middle Ages 139

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ix	Architecture				





# Motivation for pairing music and science

Table 4.1 *Primary Greek treatises*

Aristoxenus	375/360 BCE – after 320 BCE	<i>Harmonic Elements</i> (Ἀρμονικὰ στοιχεῖα) and <i>Rhythmic Elements</i> (Ρυθμικὰ στοιχεῖα)
Anonymous (attr. to Euclid in some sources)	4th–3rd century BCE	<i>Division of the Canon</i> (Κατατομὴ κανόνος)
Cleonides	2nd century CE	<i>Introduction to Harmonics</i> (Εἰσαγωγή ἁρμονικῇ)
Nicomachus of Gerasa	fl. 100–50 CE	<i>Manual of Harmonics</i> (Ἀρμονικὸν ἐγχειρίδιον)
Theon of Smyrna	fl. 115–40 CE	<i>On Mathematics Useful for the Understanding of Plato</i> (Τῶν κατὰ τὸ μαθηματικὸν χρησίμων εἰς τὴν Πλάτωνος ἀνάγνωσιν)
Claudius Ptolemy	fl. 127–48 CE	<i>Harmonics</i> (Ἀρμονικὰ)
Gaudentius	3rd or 4th century CE	<i>Harmonic introduction</i> (Ἀρμονικὴ εἰσαγωγή)
Porphyrius	232/3 – c. 305 CE	<i>On Ptolemy's Harmonics</i> (Εἰς τὰ ἁρμονικὰ Πτολεμαίου ὑπόμνημα)
Aristides Quintilianus	late 3rd – mid 4th century CE	<i>On Music</i> (Περὶ μουσικῆς)
Bacchius Geron	4th century CE or later	<i>Introduction to the Art of Music</i> (Εἰσαγωγή τέχνης μουσικῆς)
Alypius	4th–5th century CE	<i>Introduction to Music</i> (Εἰσαγωγή μουσικῇ)

# Greeks and Music

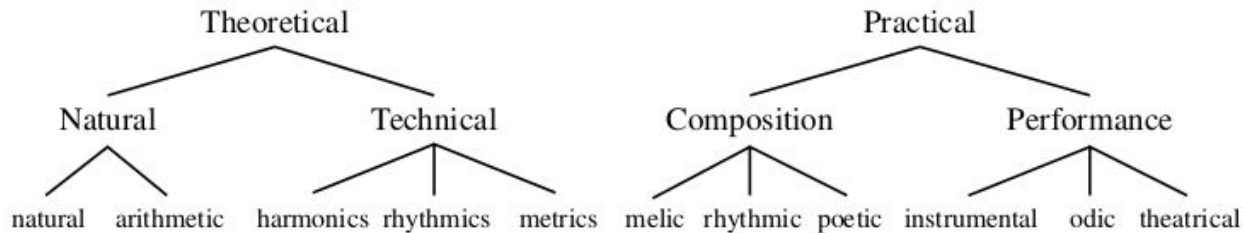


Figure 1.1 Architecture of music theory in Aristides Quintilianus, *On Music*

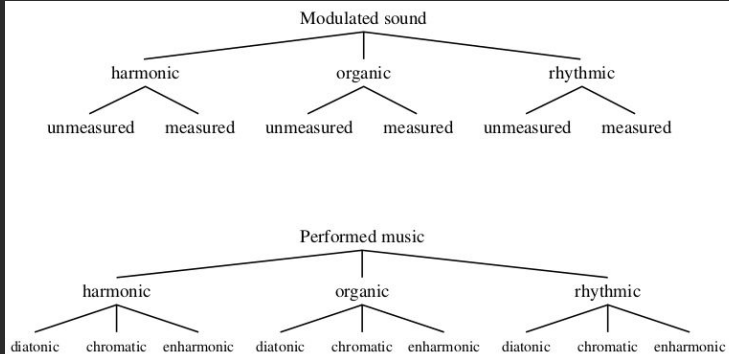


Figure 1.2 Architecture of music theory in Marchetto of Padua, *Lucidarium* (1309–18)

# Greeks and Music

**Pythagoreans → Not as interested “real world”  
since that only reflects a higher reality  
(Pythagoras)**

**Harmonicists → Look at the real world and  
observe from it (Aristoxenus)**

# Greeks and Music

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**Harmonicists** → Look at the real  
observe from it (Aristoxenus)



# Motivation for pairing music and science

*6th Century*

*Boethius*



*Responsible for transmission and translation of writings over time to modern era?*

# Motivation for pairing music and science

*9th Century*

*Guido d'Arezzo*



Plate 1.1 Frontispiece to Franchino Gaffurio, *Theorica musicae* (1492)

**(Skipping ahead hundreds of years...)**



# Motivation for pairing music and science

Today

Pitchfork

NEWS REVIEWS BEST NEW MUSIC FEATURES THE PITCH VIDEO PODCAST STAFF PICKS EVENTS

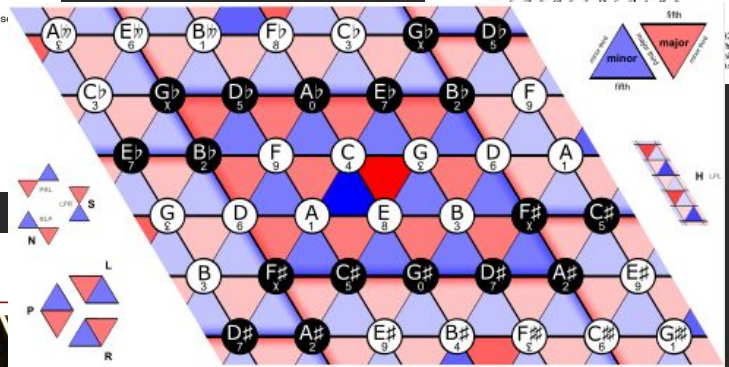
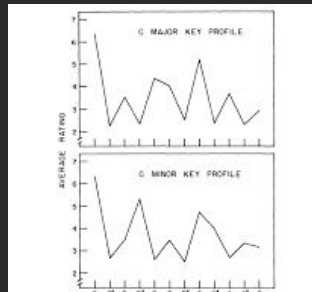
THE PITCH

## TOKiMONSTA Lost Speaking and Musical Abilities After Brain Surgery. This Is How She Regained Them.

For the first time, the electronic producer shares her struggle with Moyamoya, a rare and dangerous disease that required a rewiring of her brain.

By Sasha Geffen  
September 12, 2017

For Jennifer Lee, the worst part of recovering from two brain surgeries wasn't the loss of her ability to comprehend language. It wasn't even the fact that she had to relearn how to walk, or the extreme anxiety she felt stepping outside after an extended recovery period spent immobile. The worst part was that Lee, who produces kinetic, psychedelic hip-hop beats as



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Society for Music  
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# Motivation for pairing music and science

- **Historical Reasons ??**
  - Music and science have a long history with one another
- **Didactic/teaching reasons**
  - Music is good to think with !!

# Music is good to think with

The British Academy

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## What is musicology?

*by Professor Katharine Ellis FBA*

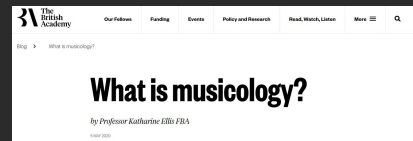
5 MAY 2020

-“ology” Greek suffix meaning the study of

One of the reasons music is good to think with is that this soundtrack to people’s lives tells us a lot about who we (and they) are, about values and traditions. We create music, it surrounds us and we carry it around on our phones, but for social as well as musical reasons, we are also selective. We choose our preferred styles or accept those recommended by others and from our early years, we use them to define ourselves. Musicologists ask how and why. Some of the answers will help explain how the music was chosen for the last internet advert you watched, or why your shoulders relax when you enter one restaurant but tense up in another.

# Music is good to think with

- Lots of people have opinions about music
- Gives us common language to discuss
- Full of very complex problems
- Complexity of problems reflects complexity about people, culture, and problems



One of the reasons music is good to think with is that this soundtrack to people's lives tells us a lot about who we are and how we think about ourselves and the world. We create music, it surrounds us and we even listen to it on our phones, but for social as well as musical reasons, we are also selective: we choose our preferred styles or accept those recommended by others and from our early years, we use them to define ourselves. Musicologists ask how and why. Some of the answers will help explain how the music was chosen for the last internet advert you watched, or why your shoulders relax when you enter one restaurant but tense up in another.

# Learning Review

- Music and science have a long history of being paired with one another
- When looking historically, it is important not to apply what we think of today as what qualifies music AND science to other times
- The same exists when looking at other cultures, just because we want to call it music, does not mean that someone else shares our same definition
- Taking a brief tour of history begins to scratch that surface

# Learning Review

- Music and science have a long history of being paired with one another
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  - The same exists when looking at other cultures, just because we want to call it music, does not mean that someone else shares our same definition
  - Taking a brief tour of history begins to scratch that surface
1. In the chat, write one name that you remember from the lecture, what was said about them, and why you think that might be important
  2. In the Google Doc, try to think of an example of when an older definition of music OR science might not be appropriate to apply to what we think of those terms today