



## Extemporization

By Frank J Sawyer

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Improvisation, or extemporization, is the art of creating and performing music at one and the same time. As music is the combination of well-balanced rhythmical phrases, welded together by the symmetry of form, so the mere rambling from chord to chord, without aim or design is not extemporization, since it is not music. It is frequently said that the power of creating and performing music at the same time is a gift, but this is only true to a very limited extent. Fancy, or the power of imagination, is undoubtedly a gift, and to this power the student must turn for the invention of his original themes, and of the phrases or figures that he will need in the development of his movements. To this extent, therefore, the beautiful German word for improvisation - phantasiren to fancy - is appropriate. But beyond this power of imagination, which will only assist the musician in the origination of his themes, there is the great power of development, on which he will depend, to work out from...



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