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A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY ON CLASSICAL MUSIC AND COMPARISON WITH OTHER MUSIC STYLES, TYPES AND GENRES

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ABSTRACT

Throughout history, ideas have always changed about what will be called art and also during the time, different restrictions have been introduced and new definitions have been created. In the most general sense, art can be defined as an expression of creativity and imagination. Art is also the using human emotions, thoughts and dreams to affect the person by employing tangible and intangible materials and the power of creativity.

In the case of music, there is also a lot of definition about and they are all acceptable definitions, so it is a very difficult issue to make a general explanation to include them all.

Music can be explained as the arranged sounds that express people's feelings, thoughts, what they take from nature and sometimes express the nature, which can be considered as a field including both art and science.

In this study, classical music is generally defined and compared with other music genres and styles. In addition, the history, importance, impact of this kind of music and its condition in different countries in the world are discussed. This study may be useful for those who want to decide on the selection of music styles, instruments or for those who want to have general knowledge in the field of music.

Keywords: Classical music; Music styles; Music theory; Instruments

Introduction

Music is widely used to reduce stress, anxiety, improve mood and distract patients from unpleasant symptoms, which effects through the autonomic nervous system. Music has been used since ancient times to enhance wellbeing and reduce pain and suffering. Music also improves the quality of life and enhances a sense of comfort and relaxation (Kemper et al. 2005). Here, a summary of studies carried out in this area has been presented.

The background music in a wine store was varied during two months. The results showed that, the classical music influenced shoppers and they did more shopping. Moreover, it was revealed that, rather than increasing the amount of wine purchased, customers selected more expensive merchandise when classical music was played in the store background (Areni 1993). Music intervention for agitation behavior in elderly persons was studied and effects of individualized music to classical “relaxation” music in elderly persons with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders were surveyed. A repeated measures analysis of variance displayed a significant reduction in agitation during and following individualized music compared to that of classical music. The study can be considered as a part of a theoretically based intervention for agitation in elderly persons with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders (Gerdner 2000). A brain study to examine the influence of visual and musical stimuli on the brain processing was carried out and highly arousing pictures of the International Affective Picture System and classical musical excerpts were selected to evoke

the 3 basic emotions including happiness, sadness and fear. The results of heart rate, skin conductance responses, respiration, temperature and psychometrical ratings were collected. Obtained results revealed that, the experienced quality of the presented emotions was most accurate in the combined conditions. In addition, both the psychometric ratings and the physiological involvement measurements (skin conductance responses, heart rate, Respiration) were remarkably increased in the combined model and sound conditions compared to the picture conditions, which shows that, music can significantly enhance the emotional experience evoked by affective pictures (Baumgartner et al. 2006).

Music may act as an appropriate auditory stimulant in preterm infants. A total of 25 stable preterm infants with birth weight of 1000–2500 grams were examined. Each infant was exposed to classical music, lullaby music, and no music for two days each. Heart rate, respiratory rate, and oxygen saturation and changes were continuously monitored over the test days. It was shown that, music can affect vital signs of preterm infants, which can possibly be related to the reduction of stress during hospitalization (Amini et al. 2013). In a study the functional neuroanatomy of transient mood changes in response to classical music was investigated. Their emotional responses to 60 classical musical pieces were examined using a visual analogue scale ranging from sad through neutral to happy. During presentation of happy music, increased the blood oxygenation level was found in the ventral and dorsal striatum. With sad music, increased the blood oxygenation level dependent signal responses were recorded in the hippocampus/amygdala and auditory association areas. With neutral music increased the blood oxygenation level dependent signal responses was observed in the insula and auditory association areas (Mitterschiffthaler et al. 2007).

Music definitions

Music has been explained with different words and there is a lot of definition, and they are all acceptable definitions. However, it is very difficult to make a general definition that will include them all. Music is both an art and a science. Emotionally, it has relation with perception as well as the mind. It can be stated that, the most beautiful shape of the sound is expressed by music. If the painting is a combination of colors and how poetry is formed from the combination of words; the music is also formed from selecting and processing the sounds according to a certain aesthetic, which can express our feelings, thoughts and excitement. According to Aristotle, sound harmony is the numerical ratio between the treble and bass sounds.

The history of music

It is very difficult to determine the origin of the music and its exact history, because there is no archaeological record. It could possibly have been started by singing and clapping hands or hitting them on different surfaces.

As a musical instrument, the first device may date back to about 67,000 years. In July 1995, Slovenian archaeologist Ivan Turk discovered a bone carving in the northwestern region of Slovenia (Kunej et al. 2000). By predicting the age of the flute, researchers revealed that, it is the oldest musical instrument and the only musical instrument associated with the Neanderthal culture.

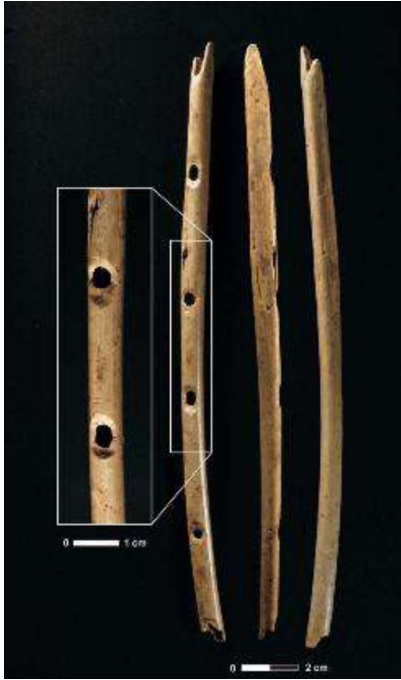


Fig. 1. A picture of the oldest flute(left) and a part of flute made by bone (right)

The hole made on an ox horn, a hollow reed or bone, could produce harmonious sounds. They found the resonant and different effects raised due the pulling string with a nail, scratching, hitting and stroking. Then many instruments such as rebec, rebab, luth and etc. were born over the time gradually.



Fig. 3. Picture of the instrument, Rebec

One of the significant differences between classical music and other styles is its long history and development.

Classical music is rooted in the traditions of Western culture, including both religious and secular music. The time divisions of classical music can be presented as follows,

1. Renaissance
2. Baroque
3. Classical
4. Romantic
5. 20th Century

Baroque era:

The Baroque Era in Music identifies the aesthetic tendency that characterizes the music of the period that included the second half of the 18th century. The word Baroque is related to the Portuguese Barocco word. In the beginning, the term Baroque was used for a new and vibrant architectural style that was born in response to Renaissance art. The combination of homophone writing and counterpoint facilitated the formation of a fuller and glorious style in the works of this period with long sentences, ornaments and sometimes a complex and showy expression. Major and minor tonalities were used. Many sound calculations were done vertically. By the end of the period, the harmony system came to light. Scales and harmony analysis were performed. It was argued that all kinds of effects could be achieved by classification and use of the incandescent materials.



Fig. 4. An orchestra in Baroque era,

Classical era:

Classism in music is the period covering the beginning of the 18th and 19th centuries (1730-1820). The meaning of classism is theorization. In the classical period, the Baroque era style left its place to a brighter, simpler and clearer art. All problems related to the timbre, nuance, rhythm contrasts and narrative characteristics of the orchestras were analyzed.

Romantic era:

In this time period, a new social class and the bourgeois class destroyed the aristocracy (is a form of government that places strength in the hands of a small, privileged ruling class). Romanticism was the name of this new movement, which strongly influenced the field of art. Romanticism is the realization of what is felt by fantasy, imagination, and mysterious truth. Romance between 1800 and 1850 was an intellectual movement that

influenced literature, music, philosophy and art in Europe. The romantic tendency in music means the tendency for colors and harmonies, being confused with nature, moving away from everyday events, and often devoting to a country. In the romantics, the melodic structure became increasingly intense and complex. In addition, it can be said that the virtuosity peaked in music.

Events that affect classical music

In the history, there are many events influenced classical music. The most important of them are discussed below.

- Construction of music centers and schools

Mannheim school in Germany at that time, was known for extraordinary music works. Moreover, there was an orchestra composed of skillful and experienced artists from a number of European cities, such as France and Italy. In the orchestra of the school, board blowing instruments and metal blowing instruments shared the responsibility of the strings. Room music also benefited from the school's developments.

- The invention of printing press

The invention of the printing press played a very important role in the development of music. Writing came down to the public.



Fig. 5. The invention of Gutenberg- printing press

- French Revolution

While the conditions preparing the French revolution were formed, art was approaching the people. The French revolution has intensified this movement. Politics also made a very special and immediate introduction to the field of art. Art descended from the nobles' halls and passed down the street in order to convey the emotions and excitement of the people. The choirs became the symbol of the people's feelings and voice.

Classical music is divided into different genres and varieties

Suite, sonata, concerto, concerto grosso, fugue and recital are some of the genres in the classical music.

Opera as one of the most important genres of classical music

According to the researchers, it is understood that the idea of opera came probably from the fact that some of the musicians and poets of the city came together to perform musical and theatrical works similar to the ancient Greek plays. It can be stated that, opera is a branch of art, which is in musical and theatrical form, and is usually put on a historical or mythological drama. The origin of opera is Italy- Florence, known as the main center of the Renaissance. Opera art showed the greatest development in the 19th century (Selanik et al. 1996).



Fig. 6. Two views of opera (aria and choir)

Unlike other genres, classical music groups have been formatted

The orchestra is a collection of instruments, which make music together in a group. Some of the main identified groups in classical music are as follows,

1. Duet
2. Quartet
3. Spring quartet
4. Chamber orchestra
5. Symphony orchestra
6. Philharmonic Orchestra

- Duet: is a composition for two performers included in a musical work. They have equal importance to the piece.

- Quartet: is a collection of four singers or instrumental performers. In the classical music, the most important combination of four instruments is the strings quartet consists of two violins, one viola and one cello.



Fig. 7. Two views of singer's quartet and strings quartet

- Chamber orchestra: consists of several basic instruments and is known as a small orchestra of artists. Some chamber orchestras use only string instruments, but can also use other instruments. Chamber orchestras, can be conducted with or without a conductor. However, it usually does not include solo instrument performances.



Fig. 8. A picture of a chamber orchestra

- Symphony: is a long musical work, often composed for orchestras. The symphony is the product of a classical period (1700-1850). Some pre-classical works were also called symphonies, but the first real symphonies emerged in the classical period. The first important symphonies are the symphonies of Joseph Haydn, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Johann Sebastian Bach's sons.

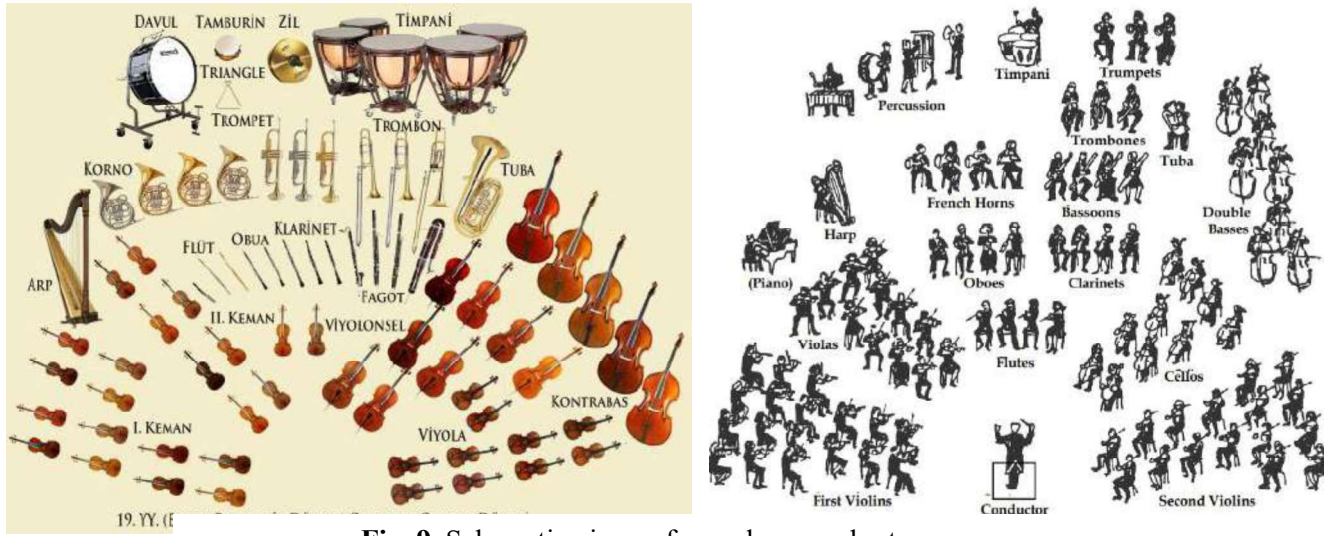


Fig. 9. Schematic views of symphony orchestra

- Philharmonic Orchestra: The Symphony and Philharmonic Orchestra are the same. The only difference is the symphonies are supported by the state, municipalities or universities; Philharmonic Orchestra by private institutions or foundations.

Instruments of classical music and its difference with other music genres

In classical orchestras, new instruments, especially electronic instruments, are not common. The location and type of instruments are classified in the orchestra. Some of the instruments used in the past have been obsolete and modified. In general, instruments of classical orchestra, especially the symphony orchestra, are categorized as follows.

- Strings (Violin, Viola and etc.)
- Woodwinds (Baroque flute ...)
- Brasses (Trumpet, Horn ...)
- Keyboards (Organ ...)
- Percussion (Timpani, Drum ...)

Composer position and value in classical music as a significant difference

The composer has a very important position in classical music, which is another difference to other music genres. In classical music, composer plays the most important role, but, in today's simple songs, only singer is known for people and normally, the composers of these popular songs are not known and haven't that importance. Three famous composers of classic era are

Franz Joseph Haydn, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Ludwig Van Beethoven.

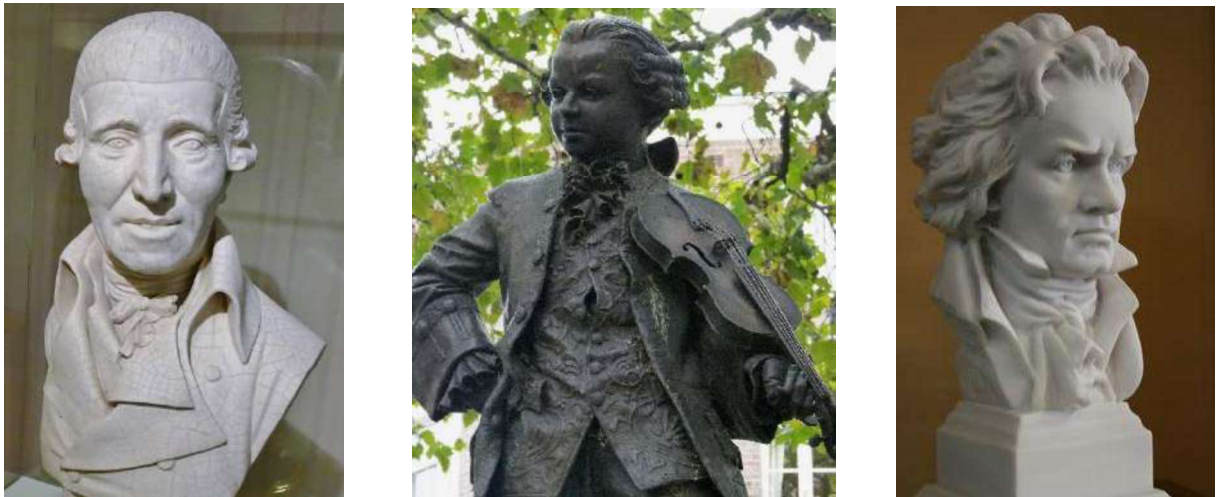
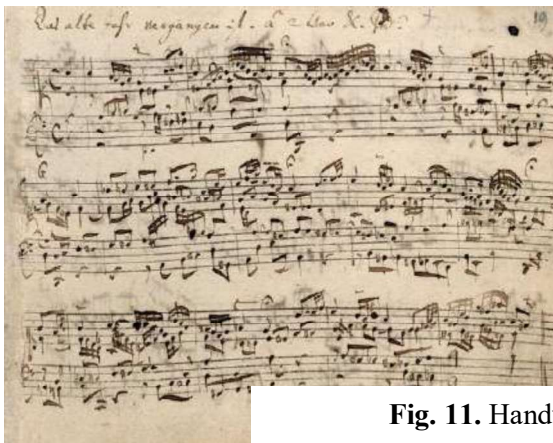


Fig. 10. composers of classic era: Franz Joseph Haydn (1723-1809)- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791) - Ludwig Van Beethoven (1770-1827)

Unlike other genres, music theory is very important part of classical music

Music theory is more important tools for classical music compared to other music styles. Uniformity, proficiency in reading notes and nuances are very important. In fact, classical music also had a very important role in the development of music theory and note writing styles. When there was a request to save music, different types of writing were found. Symbols and signs were used in each nation using their alphabet and letters. However, development of classical music solved that issue and provided extensive knowledge in the field of music theory.




Nuances				
PIANISSIMO	veya	<i>pp</i> <i>ppp</i>		: Çok hafif
PIANO	veya	<i>p</i>		: Hafif
MEZZO PIANO	veya	<i>mp</i>		: Orta Hafiflikte
MEZZO FORTE	veya	<i>mf</i>		: Orta kuvvetli
FORTE	veya	<i>f</i>		: Kuvvetli
FORTISSIMO	veya	<i>ff</i> <i>fff</i>		: Çok kuvvetli,
FORZANDO, CON FORZA	veya	<i>fs</i>		: Çok kuvvetli, vurgulu
FORTE PIANO	veya	<i>fp</i>		: Kuvvetli bir vuruşu izleyen hafiflik
CRESCENDO	veya	 <i>cresc.</i>		: Gittikçe Kuvvetlenerek
				: Gittikçe Hafifleyerek

Fig. 11. Handwriting of a composer and nuances

Conclusions

According to other studies the positive effects of music, especially in the case of patients and children were discussed briefly. Moreover, important features of classical music compared to different types of music were presented. It was revealed that, classical music is a deep-rooted style, which has been developed and completed over the long history. Some of the main differences were discussed, including classified orchestras, instruments, composer and performers positions and importance of the music theory.

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