The Three Little Butterfly Brothers

Concepts and Vocabulary

Composer

A person who writes music, especially as a professional occupation. A Composer in music is similar to an Author in literature.

Word Painting

Word painting, also known as tone painting or text painting, is the musical technique of composing music that reflects the literal meaning of a song's lyrics or story elements in programmatic music.

Three types of musical illustrations

1- Creating music for words that already evoke sounds (river, rain, thunder, horse galloping, etc.)
2- Creating music for words that have no sounds but evoke a movement (butterfly, snow, sunrise, sunset)
3- Creating music for words that have no sounds or movement
   a) Shapes: mountain, open road, etc.
   b) Emotions: Fear, sadness, joy, etc.

Concrete thinking

Thinking based on facts, based on thing we can experience with our senses, and often are in our physical presence. Thinking based on literal view of things

Abstract thinking

The ability to conceptualize things that are not usually present, and are somewhat tainted by our own personal experience. Thinking based on our own personal perception and interpretation.

Beat

A steady pulse that repeats and represents the basic unit of time in music.
Rhythm

A strong, regular, repeated pattern composed of a structured series of sounds and silences.

Melody

A linear succession of musical tones that the listener perceives as a single entity, often called the tune. It is usually the part of a song that we remember and can sing back. It is composed of musical phrases or sentences.

Motif

A short succession of notes that produce a single impression; a brief melodic or rhythmic formula out of which longer passages are developed.

Instrumentation

The particular instruments used in a piece of music. The choice of instruments has to do more with the tone color (timbre) each instrument brings, and less with its playability.

Four Families of Instruments in the Classical Orchestra

- **Strings**: Violin, Viola, Cello, Bass
- **Woodwinds**: Piccolo, Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, English Horn, Bassoon, Contra-bassoon
- **Brass**: Trumpet, Trombone, French horn, Tuba
- **Percussion**:
  1- Pitched ones: Marimba, Xylophone, Vibraphone, Glockenspiel, Timpani, Chimes
  2- Unpitched ones: Drums, Maracas, Tambourine, Triangle, Shaker, Gong

Orchestration

This is the arrangement of a musical composition for performance by an orchestra. It is the distribution of assigned parts to the instruments of an orchestra in a particular piece of music.

Score

This is the written form of all the separate instrumental parts of a musical composition. It is a complete map or blueprint of the piece.

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