Mus 27A Mid Term Study Guide Fall 2016

Melody is a successive line of single tones or pitches perceived as a unity

Tone or pitches = Frequencies

Notation is how sound is recorded in writing

There are three characteristics of Melody: Range, shape, and movement

Range is the distance between the lowest and the highest tone

Shape is the geometric line combines the notes together

Movement is how the melody moves:

 Conjunct is to move stepwise and is connected

 Disjunct leaps from pitch to pitch with no natural connection

Harmony is 2 more notes heard together

There are two types of harmony: Consonance and Dissonance

 Consonant is pleasant sound and Dissonant came from the word distortion

Rhythm is musical time or flow

Beat is consistence regular pulse

Tempo is the speed of the beat

Dynamics is the volume of music

Pianissimo is softest

Fortissimo is loudest

Scale is an arrangement of notes is ascending or descending order

Meters are how beats group together

Major scale has 8 notes with the following formula:

 1 1 ½ 1 1 1 ½

All sharps and flat are called accidentals and it’s function is to move notes half steps either higher or lower

Monophony is a single unaccompanied melody

Homophony is one melodic line combine with other texture like chord

Polyphony is more than one melodic that functions independently

Forms in music are the sections of music: strophic, and through compose, Binary and Ternary form

Western Musical Instruments: Strings, Woodwinds, Brass, and Percussion

 Strings: Violin, Cello, Viola, Bass, Harp, Guitar

Woodwinds: Piccolo, Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon, English Horn, Saxophone

Brass: Trumpet, Trombone, French Horn, Tuba

Percussion, Timpani, Cymbals, Bass drum, Side Drum, Xylophone, Vibraphone, Glockspiel

Keyboard instruments: Piano, Organ, Clavichord, Harpsichord, Electronic Keyboard

Non western musical instruments category: areophone, chordrophone, idophone, membranophone, electrophone

Church is the highest employer of music in the 1300

Music of the early Christian church is plainchant or Gregorian chant

Chant melodies fall in three classes:

 Syllabic – one note sung to each syllable

 Neumatic – Up to 5 or 6 notes to one syllable

 Melosmatic – Many notes to one syllable

Hidegard of Bingen was a medieval compaser of chants: Alleluia, O virga Meditarix

Sacred is religious music

Secular is non-religious music

Early secular songs in social setting in polyphony

Madrigal is a secular musical style in the renaissance

John Farmer wrote madrigal, Fair Phyllis

Renaissance sacred music was general performed a cappella, without accompaniment

Motet is a sacred work with a Latin text

Chasons are secular polyphonic songs often with French text

Josquin des Prez wrote over 100motes, at least 17 masses as wells many French Chansons

Mass Structure are divided in Ordinary and Proper

Ordinary mass order: Kyrie, Gloria, Credo, Santus and Agnus Dei

Virtuoso is skillful players

Baroque characteristics: Vigor, elaborate, decorative, luxury, magnificent, grand, and splendor

Figure bass is a numeral above or below the bass note, indicating the chord required

Overture is a composition appear in the beginning of an opera

Opera is a total art form which joins singing, drama, poetry, set design arts, and sometimes dance.

Aria are songs within and opera or oratorio

Henery Purcell wrote opera Dido and Aeneas in the Baroque Era

Oratorio is an extended composition for vocal soloist, chorus and orchestra, in biblical stories

Among famous composers in oratorio there are Handel and Bach

Handel wrote his last few works like “Messiah” in London

Bach wrote srickly Cantata vs. Oratorio

Baroque suites include:

 German Allemande

 French Courante

 Spanish Sarabande

 English Gig

Handel wrote the water music, suite in D major hornpipe

Concerto are solo composition

Concerto have two category in Baroque period: Concerto Grosso, and solo concerto

Concerto are typical arrange in Fast-Slow-Fast order

Program music is with pictorial images

Antonio Vialdi wrote the Four Season

Bach wrote preludes, Toccatas and Fugue

Prelude is like an introduction of a composition

Toccata is to touch or a fantasy

Fugue is a contrapuntal composition technique in two or more voices, built on a single subject