

A Level Music: Bridging work

Exam Board: AQA – Course Code 7272

Google classroom: Year 11 – 12 Bridging Work Music

Class code: yv3a3n2

Googlemeet time: 11am Friday

Western Classical Tradition Listening Work

A great way to start to familiarise yourself with Baroque Concerti is through immersing yourself in listening - these examples are not our set works but will help you start to recognise the Baroque style.

Purcell Concerto Grosso - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3zo1IVfnMVI>

Listen for the use of:

- Basso Continuo
- Imitative Entries
- Antiphony between parts
- Short phrases
- Use of repeated one or two small motifs / ideas
- Very clear cadential phrases

Vivaldi Violin Concerto - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=46w3KOy_ros

The introduction of RITORNELLO FORM. A structure which highlights the relationship between the soloist and the RIPIENO (the orchestra). The RITORNELLO SECTIONS are for the orchestra which the EPISODES are the soloists opportunities to shine. The two sections alternate.

- Very steady harmonies / tonality
- Short contrasting central movement
- Final movement is a flourish
- Basso continuo holds harmonies together
- Viola a 'warming' timbre adding depth to the harmonies
- Scurrying semiquavers
- Clearly recognisable motifs

Bach - the complete Brandenburg Concerti

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hbQORqkStpk>

You may prefer to look for links where you can see the performers

I should warn you that I LOVE these concerti - particularly number 6 - this is my favourite recording of number 6! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YZW791uMSAQ>

Listen for that RITORNELLO structure

- Uneven phrases
- Consider the idea that Bach was the first great JAZZ musician! Why might that be?
- More melodic role of Basso Continuo
- Forte Spinning (look it up) - Bach was the MASTER of forte spinning
- String Crossing figuration
- Relationship between the parts (imitation / antiphony)
- Imitative entries

Notice how the movements have got longer and longer since Purcell