

Chapter 4

Measuring Performance

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Musical Value

- ❖ Technique
- ❖ Interpretation
- ❖ Expression
- ❖ Communication

Technique (1)

- ❖ Physiological
 - ❖ Breathing
 - ❖ Posture
 - ❖ Relaxation- Tension
 - ❖ Balance
 - ❖ Coordination

Technique (2)

- ❖ Physical

- ❖ Sound: Production, projection, and control of instrument/voice and consistency, clarity, and focus of tone across all registers and dynamic levels
- ❖ Range
- ❖ Intonation
- ❖ Physical control (e.g. stamina, endurance)
- ❖ Bodily coordination

Technique (3)

- ❖ Instrumental
 - ❖ Ensemble coordination, balance and cohesion
 - ❖ Accuracy, assuredness, and facility of rhythm, pitch, articulations, dynamics, timing as well as the degree to which errors undermine and detract from the overall quality of the performance
 - ❖ Pacing of performance
 - ❖ Sensitivity to intonation, both individual and ensemble

Interpretation

- ❖ Authenticity: Understanding of the style / genre and established performance practice (e.g. use of a reliable edition)
- ❖ Accuracy: based on faithful reading and / or memorisation of the score, and realisation and exploration of the composer's intentions
- ❖ Musical coherence: perceptive choice of tempo, phrase shaping, dynamic shadings, sense of line, and understanding of overall structure

Expression

- ❖ Understanding of the emotional character of the work
- ❖ Projection of mood and character of the work
- ❖ Communication of the structural high points and turning points of the work
- ❖ Sensitivity to the relationship between parts within a texture
- ❖ Appropriate use of tone and colour, light and shade, and / or drama

Communication

- ❖ Among the members of the ensemble (e.g. listening and leadership)
- ❖ Confidence, as demonstrated in performances that are both convincing and purposeful
- ❖ interest, in terms of the degree to which the performer holds the audience's attention, maintains a sense of direction, create a sense of occasion, and ends the work convincingly
- ❖ Projection of expressive, interpretative, and structural features of the composition performed

Performer-related aspects

- ❖ Self-efficacy - in control of their cognition
- ❖ Expressive variations
- ❖ Attractiveness and flair - smiling / eye contact
- ❖ Movement - “balance in the articulation of musical expression, coordination, and virtuosic display within the social convention”

Context-related aspects

- ❖ Communication within the ensemble - Communicate musical ideas while perform - especially non musicians
- ❖ Acoustics - Attend performance / practice / being prepared to adjust
- ❖ Social factors - Purpose of assessment / Type of performance / Performance etiquette
- ❖ Audience support

Evaluator Characteristics

- ❖ Memory influence - prior knowledge and expectation
- ❖ First impressions - ...this is why I feel this way..
- ❖ Mood of the assessor
- ❖ Familiarity and preference
- ❖ Halo effect