

Pictures at an Exhibition

Name

Institution

Abstract

According to Carlson and Birkett (2017), every original artwork is associated with some kind of relation to people's feeling. As evident in the provided video *Pictures at an Exhibition* by *Mussorgsky*, one can have nothing to say concerning the fundamental aesthetic principle of music if people merely characterize music in general. As a result, instead of clinging to secondary and vague feeling-effects of musical phenomena, it can be better if people can figure out the principles of their structure to account for the differential efficacy of impression that they receive from them (Carlson and Birkett, 2017). Therefore, this paper seeks to analyze four pictures of *Pictures at an Exhibition* by *Mussorgsky* by the genuine feeling that people are likely to develop upon listening to them.

Discussion

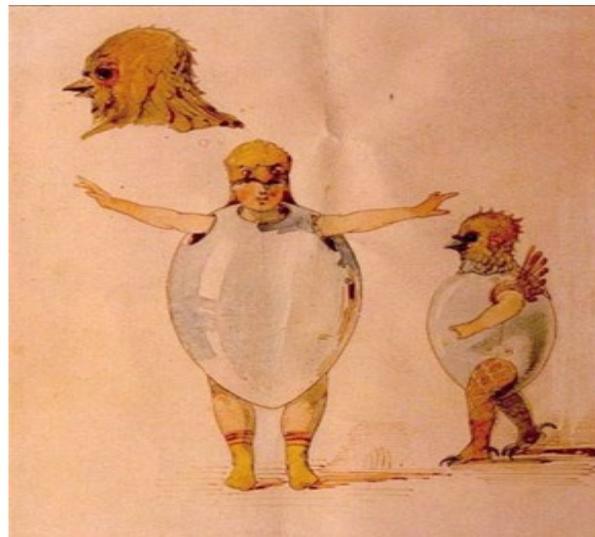


Figure 1 (Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DXy50exHjes>)

In the provided video, Figure 1 is accompanied by a classical music *Ballet of the Chicks in their Shells*, which was composed by Hartmann. Beginning at 14:45, one can identify the

cheerful and folksy quality of the fifth movement, which represents a group of little boys and girls dressed as canaries scampered on the stage. Based on the image and accompanied classical music, one can develop a cheerful and folksy mood upon listening to clip. Just like the way a little bird would feel when it has been hatched, the classical music in this section symbolizes joy and happiness (*Mussorgsky - Pictures at an Exhibition*, n.d.).



Figure 2 (Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DXy50exHjes>)

Just like figure 1, figure 2 is accompanied by a classical music *Samuel Goldenberg and Shmuyle*, which accounts for the two opposite social classes of the Jews. Beginning at 16:00, this sixth movement makes emphasis on Mussorgsky's skills as a dramatic composer. As a result of his long experience, as well as his exceptional ability, he was able to create this unique image of *Samuel Goldenberg and Shmuyle*. When listening to this section of the clip, one would probably feel sorry for the poor man and expect that the rich man would assist the poor man (*Mussorgsky - Pictures at an Exhibition*, n.d.).



Figure 3 (Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DXy50exHjes>)

Just like figure 1 and 2, figure 3 is accompanied with a classical music *Catacombs*, which was composed by Hartman. Beginning at 19:36, this eighth movement comprises of classical music that has taken a different style. The agitation in the clip suddenly stops, making the listener fear and possibly have an impression of death. Therefore, figure 3 illustrates Hartmann and his friend Vasily Kenel being guided by a lantern (*Mussorgsky - Pictures at an Exhibition*, n.d.).



Figure 4 (Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DXy50exHjes>)

Figure 4 is the last image in the provided clip; it is the tenth movement that was developed by Hartmann. Beginning at 27:08, the movement is accompanied by the classical music *The Great Gate of Kiev.*, which pays tribute to the escape of Alexander II. One would probably be glorious that Alexander II was not assassinated (*Mussorgsky - Pictures at an Exhibition*, n.d.).

Conclusion

In summary, every unique artwork is often associated with some feelings. As illustrated in figure 1, 2, 3, and 4, and the accompanied classical music, it is clear that images and music will always create feelings to the listener. Depending on the images and the sort of music one listens to, he/she will develop feelings that will ultimately match the images and the music.

References

Carlson, N., & Birkett, M. (2017). *Physiology of Behavior*.

Mussorgsky - Pictures at an Exhibition [Video file]. (n.d.). Retrieved from

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DXY50exHjes>