

How to Make an Impression of Classical Music on Students: Introduction of a Trial Using Musical Quotations

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In this article, the author introduces one interesting method to attract the attention of students considerably to classical music. That is a method to introduce quotation of music. Quotation of music means to quote a work by incorporating some of past composer's melodies or melodies of others to one's composing music. In some cases, it is done intentionally. Quotation is a kind of symbiosis of past composers and recent composers, and we can understand the intension of composers clearly by finding these quotations in the music.

INTRODUCTION

The way to make familiar with classical music that seems to be difficult esoterically to students is difficult except for some students with environmental literacy. Recently, it seems that the popularization of classical music to young people has progressed greatly by TV drama that appointed popular talent, but still some famous music are only introduced. Also, being in touch with live concerts is very effective for understanding and accepting classical music, but there are limitations on opportunities that can be realized and not everyone has such opportunities. Recently, as a method

of impressing classical music which I am carrying out, there is a method to introduce quotation of music, explain it more by that music, and understand the creative act of composing, I would like to introduce representative examples and the latest research results on the citation of music including the results of trial.

What is “quotation of music”? One composer is to quote a work by incorporating some of his past melodies or melodies of others. There are many pieces such quotations were made, and the way of doing it is quite varied. Gounod’s “Ave Maria” is a representative example to quote it completely. J·S·Bach’s Das Wohltemperierte Clavier, 1 teil nr.1 as it is quoted, and placing the melody and lyrics of “Ave Maria” on it, which is close to so-called arrangement. Even though such examples are unusual, there are various examples of quoting such as small quotations and symbolic quotations. Here I will first talk about quotations of various musical pieces, including my own research, and then I would like to talk about examples of how to actually use these in educational ways.

SEVERAL EXAMPLES OF MUSICAL QUOTATION

There are various research examples on the citation of such music, and there are cases where there are discussions as to whether it is a quotation or a mere coincidence, but here I would like to mention a few examples of what I received a lot of impression. Many of these are consciously or symbolically citing the melody, so the quoted melody is characterized by many messages including strong message nature.

The most famous thing in history is a quotation of the melody or rhythm (score example 1) which is the famous motif of Beethoven’s Symphony No. 5 in C minor “fate”. When writing the symphony, the composer must be conscious of this Beethoven’s 5th symphony considerably. Shostakovich’s 5th is a symphony that begins with an atmosphere very similar to “fate” although tonality is D minor, and Mahler’s symphony No. 5 is an example of imitating “fate”. First of all, its tonality of C# minor is quite equivalent to Beethoven’s C minor, and although the rhythm of the trumpet (score example 2) has the difference between eighth notes and triplets, it is “fate” itself. The famous marriage march as an interlude to the fifth act of the famous Mendelssohn’s “Midsummer Night’s Dream” also begins with this “fate” motif (score example 3). Perhaps both pieces are conscious of “fate” considerably, and in fact the beginning of Mahler’s symphony No. 5 is said to be a double quote of Beethoven’s “fate” and Mendelssohn’s marriage march. If you compare Mahler and Mendelssohn indeed, both motifs are triplets, and after repeating twice with the same sound, they look exactly the same as where they rise to third. The fourth movement “Adagietto” of this symphony is a musically romantic string orchestra, which is said to be a love letter to his wife Alma at that time, so I can make a lot of

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