

❖❖❖ Glossary ❖❖❖

- A cappella**--Sung without instrumental accompaniment
- Accelerando**--(*accel.*)--Get gradually faster
- Accompaniment**--Music that supports the melodic line
- Act**--The major division of an opera. Operas are often divided into 3 acts.
- Antiphonal**--Music sung by two groups who respond in turn to answer each other
- Aria**--Solo song in an opera
- Arrangement**--A new setting of an existing melody
- A tempo**--Resume the music at the previous tempo; often used after a ritard or a fermata
- Barline**--A line through the five lines of the staff that divides music into measures. A double barline denotes the end of the piece or the section.
- Bass clef**--A sign that indicates that the notes presented are in the lower range in pitch
- Beat**--A regularly repeating pulsation in music
- Bordun**--"Open" fifth accompaniment
- Broken bordun**--An open fifth accompaniment in which *Do* and *So* are played consecutively
- Broken chord**--A triad in which the notes are sounded consecutively instead of simultaneously
- Call and response**--A soloist presents a phrase of music and the choir responds.
- Canon**--Performance of a single melody by 2 or more voices beginning at different times
- Chorus**--An ensemble of many voices
- Coda**--New musical material added to the end of a piece of music
- Common meter**-- $\frac{4}{4}$ time. Four beats in each measure, the quarter note receives 1 beat.
- Counter-melody**--A melody written to accompany the original melody
- Counterpoint**--Literally "point against point"--a style of musical composition in which two or more independent lines of music interact with each other
- Crescendo**--Get gradually louder
- DC al Fine**--Go back to the beginning and end at "*Fine*."
- Decrescendo**--Get gradually softer
- Duration**--The length of time (in beats) that a note is played
- Dynamics**--Loudness and softness in a piece of music
- Ensemble**--Two or more people performing together; a French word meaning "together"
- Fifth**--The interval of five; the distance between the first and fifth notes of a scale (*Do* and *So*) the second and sixth (*Re* and *La*), third and seventh (*Mi* and *Ti*), etc.
- Finale**--The last musical scene in an opera before the final curtain
- Fine**--The end (Italian)
- Flat**-- \flat --A note that has been lowered by one-half step
- F Major**--The major key that has one flat (\flat) in the key signature.
- Form**--The pattern of repeated sections in a piece of music.
- Forte**--Loud; symbol- *f*
- Fortissimo**--Very loud; symbol- *ff*
- Frequency**--Number of vibrations per second of a particular pitch
- G Major**--The major key that has one sharp (\sharp) in the key signature
- Grand pause**--A complete break in the music for as long as the director wishes; symbol--
- Half note**--A musical tone that sounds for 2 beats in common meter
- Half rest**--A two-beat period of silence in music

- Half step**--The distance between a note and its closest neighbor, either above or below
- Harmony**--Performance of 2 or more different lines of music at the same time
- I Chord**--A triad consisting of the notes *Do*, *Mi*, and *So*
- Improvisation**--The spontaneous creation and performance of music
- Interlude**--A musical piece between the acts of an opera. Also called **intermezzo** and *entr'acte*.
- Interval**--The distance between two musical tones
- Key Signature**--The indicator at the beginning of a line of music that identifies the key the piece is in--indicates how many notes in the scale are sharped (\sharp) or flatted (\flat)
- Libretto**--The text of the opera; the story
- Major Scale**--A series of eight notes that progress in order (either up or down) from one pitch to the next pitch of the same name, using the sharps or flats, in any, that are indicated in the key signature for the key that corresponds to the pitch name
- Major third**--The distance between *Do* and *Mi*; 4 half steps
- Measure**--The distance between 2 barlines of music.
- Melody**--A tune; the predominant line in a musical composition
- Meno mosso**--Slower; literally "less motion"
- Mezzo-forte**--Medium loud. Literally "half-loud"symbol-- *mf*
- Mezzo-piano**--Medium soft. Literally "half-soft"symbol-- *mp*
- Minor scale**--A sequential series of eight notes, beginning and ending on *La*
- Minor third**--The distance between *Mi* and *So*; 3 half steps
- "Movable" Do**--A sightsinging system that uses solfege syllables to identify the pitches of the scale. It is called "movable" because *Do* "moves" from key to key depending upon which line or space the tonic pitch is found.
- Octave bordun**--A bordun accompaniment that echoes the fifth in a higher octave
- Obbligato**--A counter-melody in a high voice
- Opera**--A play that is sung; plural of the Italian word "*opus*," meaning "a work"
- Ostinato**--A short and continuously repeating accompaniment pattern
- Overture**--A musical work presented before the first act of an opera. Often the overture contains statements of musical themes from throughout the opera.
- Patsch**--Body percussion sound made by slapping hands on one's thighs
- Pedagogy**--The science of teaching
- Percussion**--Musical instruments played by striking, scraping, or shaking
- Perfect fourth**--The distance between *Do* and *Fa*; 5 half steps
- Pianissimo**--Very soft; symbol -- *pp*
- Piano**--Soft; symbol-- *p*
- Pitch**--The highness or lowness of a musical sound; determined by its frequency
- Piu mosso**--Faster; literally "more motion"
- Pulse**--The underlying steady beat of music
- Quarter note**--A musical tone that sounds for a duration of 1 beat in common meter.
- Quarter rest**--A single beat of silence in music
- Recitative**--Dialog in an opera, often sung in free rhythm
- Relative Minor**--A minor key with the same key signature as a specified major key
- Repeat sign**--A sign that tells the performer to repeat the previous measures, or to the beginning of the piece
- Rest**--A period of silence in music

- Retrograde**--Performance of a musical passage in reverse order of what it is written; from right to left instead of left to right.
- Rhythm**--The way that notes of various durations are combined in a piece of music
- Ritardando**--(*ritard, rit.*) Get gradually slower
- Rubato**--Varying the tempo of a piece of music as a tool for expressiveness
- Scat**--Jazz singing using nonsense syllables to improvise
- Scene**--A subdivision of an act of an opera. Often the scene changes when there is a change in setting
- Setting**--Where the specific scene in an opera takes place
- Sharp**-- # --A note that has been raised by one-half step
- Simple bordun**--An open fifth accompaniment in which *Do* and *So* are played at the same time
- Singspiel**--A German musical play
- Sixteenth notes**--Notes that receive $\frac{1}{4}$ of one beat in common time. Four sixteenth notes fill up one beat of music in common time.
- Staff**--The set of five lines upon which music is written
- Tempo**--Speed; how fast or slow a piece of music is
- Third**--The distance between two notes in the scale with one note between them
- Three-four meter**--Time signature in which there are 3 beats in a measure and the quarter note receives one beat
- Time signature**--The sign that indicates how many beats will be in each measure, and what kind of note will receive one beat
- Tonic chord**--The I Chord
- Treble clef**--A sign that indicates that the notes presented are in the upper range in pitch
- Triad**--A chord of three notes
- Waltz time**--Another name for three-four meter
- Whole note**--A musical tone that sounds for 4 beats in common meter.
- Whole rest**--One whole measure's rest
- Whole step**--Two half steps

❖❖❖ Orff Abbreviations ❖❖❖

AM--Alto metallophone	AX--Alto xylophone
BM--Bass metallophone	BX--Bass xylophone
SM--Soprano metallophone	SX--Soprano xylophone
AG--Alto glockenspiel	Rec--Recorder
SG--Soprano glockenspiel	FC--Finger cymbals
Cym--Cymbals	Rat--Ratchet
Whis--Slide whistle	VS--Vibraslap
TB--Temple blocks	WB--Woodblock



❧ Index of Poems ❧

Ana Crusis, 35
And Ask Ye Why These
 Sad Tears Stream?, 75
Cursory Rhyme, 113
Mississippi Mudcake, 112
Miss T, 26
The Moon, 43
The Newt and the Firefly, 113
Nightingale, 34
Two Limericks, 25

❧ Index of Composers ❧

Bach, Johann Sebastian, 122-125
Beethoven, Ludwig van, 52-56
Brahms, Johannes, 146
DeWitt, Patti, iv
Gruber, Edmund L., Brigadier General, 110
Humperdinck, Engelbert, 170, 171
Leininger, Jim, iv, 104, 110, 130
Mahler, Gustav, 70-71
Yates, Ronald, iv, 165

❧ Index of Songs ❧

An die Freude (Ode to Joy), 57
And We Went A-Riding, 116
Bumblebee, 122
Circus Clown, 52
Dawn, 80
Frere Jacques, 76
Gooseberry, Spruceberry, 40
Guten Abend, Gut' Nacht, 156
Hänsel und Gretel:
 Suzy, Little Suzy, 180
 Brother, Come and Dance with Me, 181
 Little Man in the Woods, 182
 Children's Prayer, 184
I Love Jazz!, 173
Japan, 22
Jesus, bleibet meine Freude, 130
Kangaroo, The, 64
Listen to the Autumn Wind, 72
Little Snowflake, 92
Merry Have We Met, 110
Old MacDonald, 134
Ol' Texas, 99
Parlor Clock, The, 23
Popinjay, 15
Rose's Cup, The, 168
Sea Jubilee, 68
Soldier, Soldier, Will You Marry Me?, 104
Taps, 97
Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star, 43
Ut queant laxis (Hymn to St. John), 25
Waltzing Giraffe, The, 31
Welcome the Spring!, 138
Whenever a Little Child is Born, 169
When the Robbers Came to Rob Him, 149
Yo, Ho, Mexico!, 13



❖ IPA * Chart ❖

Common English Vowels

IPA Symbol	<i>as in</i>	English Word	IPA Spelling
i	<i>as in</i>	meet	(mit)
e	<i>as in</i>	ate	(et)
a	<i>as in</i>	lock	(lak)
o	<i>as in</i>	home	(hom)
u	<i>as in</i>	food	(fud)
ɪ	<i>as in</i>	sit	(sɪt)
ɛ	<i>as in</i>	red	(rɛd)
æ	<i>as in</i>	hat	(hæʔ)
ə	<i>as in</i>	alone	(əlon)
ʌ	<i>as in</i>	cup	(kʌp)
ʊ	<i>as in</i>	should	(ʃʊd)
ɔ	<i>as in</i>	draw	(drɔ)

Diphthongs (double vowel sounds)

aɪ	<i>as in</i>	sign	(saɪn)
eɪ	<i>as in</i>	play	(pleɪ)
ɔɪ	<i>as in</i>	voice	(vɔɪs)
aʊ	<i>as in</i>	mouth	(maʊθ)
ɪə	<i>as in</i>	hear	(hɪə)
ɛə	<i>as in</i>	where	(hwɛə)
ɔə	<i>as in</i>	for	(fɔə)
ʊə	<i>as in</i>	sure	(ʃʊə)

Triphthongs (triple vowel sounds)

aɪə	<i>as in</i>	fire	(faɪə)
aʊə	<i>as in</i>	hour	(aʊə)

* The **International Phonetic Alphabet**, developed by the International Phonetic Association
Department of Theoretical and Applied Linguistics, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece.



❖❖❖ General Index ❖❖❖

- A cappella*, 14, 16
 Accompaniment, 41-44, 119, 190
 Alto, 82
 Anacrusis, 37-39
 Antiphonal, 189
 Aria, 186
 Arrangements, 41-44, 49, 105
 Audiation, 24, 109, 115, 138
 Barline 3, 5, 7
 Double 4, 5
 Borduns, 41-44
 Canon 3, 5, 82
 Chords, 94
 I Chord , 94, 95, 98
 Clefs
 Bass, 11
 Treble, 11
 Coda, 73
 Common meter, 8
 Composition, 35, 36, 41, 49, 77, 105, 119,
 171, 186-190
 Conducting patterns, 27
 4/4 time, 9
 3/4 time, 27
 Counter-melody, 42-44
 Cristofori, Bartolommeo, 17
DC al fine, 96, 98
 Dynamics, 16
 Eighth notes, 45-49
 Ensemble, 189
 Finale, 190
 Flat, 18, 21
 Form, 16
 Gruber, Edmund L., Brigadier General, 110
 Guido D'Arezzo, 25-26
 Half notes, 3, 5
 Handsigns, vii
 Do, 18, 60
 Re, 18
 Mi, 6
 Fa, 50
 So, 6, 8, 48
 La, 10
 Ti, 60
 Half step, 95-97, 98
Hänsel und Gretel, 178-185
 Harmony, 3, 5, 78
 Improvise, 105, 170-177
 Interlude, 183, 189, 190
 Intervals, 101-103, 104, 112, 134
 IPA, 57, 76, 160, 197
 Jazz, 170-177
 Key Signature, 18, 21
 Key of C Major, 74
 Key of D minor, 68
 Key of E minor, 68
 Key of F Major, 18, 19, 20, 50
 Key of G Major, 18, 19, 20, 50
 Kirkpatrick, Lewis, Lt Colonel (Ret), 97
 Leger line, 78
 Libretto, 186
 Major scale, 18, 21
 C Major scale, 80
 F Major scale, 18
 G Major scale, 18
 Thirds, 90, 94
 Major third, 104
 Minor third, 112
 Measure 7, 8
 Melody, 8
 Minor keys, 70
 Minor scale, 70, 73
 "Movable" *Do*, 19, 21
 Obbligato, 43-45
 Opera, 178-185
 Orff accompaniment, 15, 23, 40, 48, 73
 Ostinato, 41, 44, 49
 Overture, 190
 Patsch, 5
 Perfect fourth, 134
 Pianoforte, 17
 Pick-up note, 39
 Quarter notes, 3, 5
 "Question" and "Answer," 35
 Recitative, 179, 186-188
 Recorder, 14, 35, 71, 73, 94, 98, 138, 158
 Relative minor, 70, 73
 Repeat Sign 3, 5

Rests, 7, 8
Retrograde 4, 5
Rubato, 97, 98
Scat, 170-177
Sharp, 18, 21
Sixteenth notes, 118, 119
Solfege, 25, 26
Soprano, 82
Staff, 5
Stevenson, Robert Louis, 45
Time Signature, 7
Triads, 94, 95
Wagner, Richard, 177, 186
Waltz time, 36
Whole notes, 11
Whole rests, 11
Whole step, 101-103, 104, 112



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