

21M.260: STRAVINSKY TO THE PRESENT  
Class 4: February 11

AGENDA

Warm-up: The Composer's Voice

- Assessing a document: purpose, audience, rhetoric, context
- Aesthetic theory and consistency
- The "intentional fallacy" and analysis of works
- What are your musics of the future?

What you heard in Charles Ives

- Symphonic genre
- The first movement as "thesis statement"
- Ives' layers of musical material, hierarchies of perception and attention

Deeper into the meaning of Ives and Sibelius

- Music and the "folk"
- Music and "innovation"
- Nationalism, the old and the new: how to hear things as American or Finnish

Quiz 1 is next Thursday: tips and strategies for studying

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WARM-UP

Direct your attention again to Ives' "Music and Its Future" and answer the following questions.

1. Why was this essay written? Who is the intended audience?
2. Based on those answers, what were some of Ives' purposes in writing it?
3. Characterize Ives' authorial "voice" in this essay. How objective or subjective does he seem?
4. Ives keeps mentioning "the listener." What are some of the problems with assuming a singular or universal set of ears? What are some of the advantages in this assumption?
5. If Ives had written this instead as a diary entry or as a letter to a friend, how might the expression of his ideas have been different?
6. To what extent are we obligated to use Ives' insights in the essay to filter our experience of Ives' music? What authority does the author have?

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