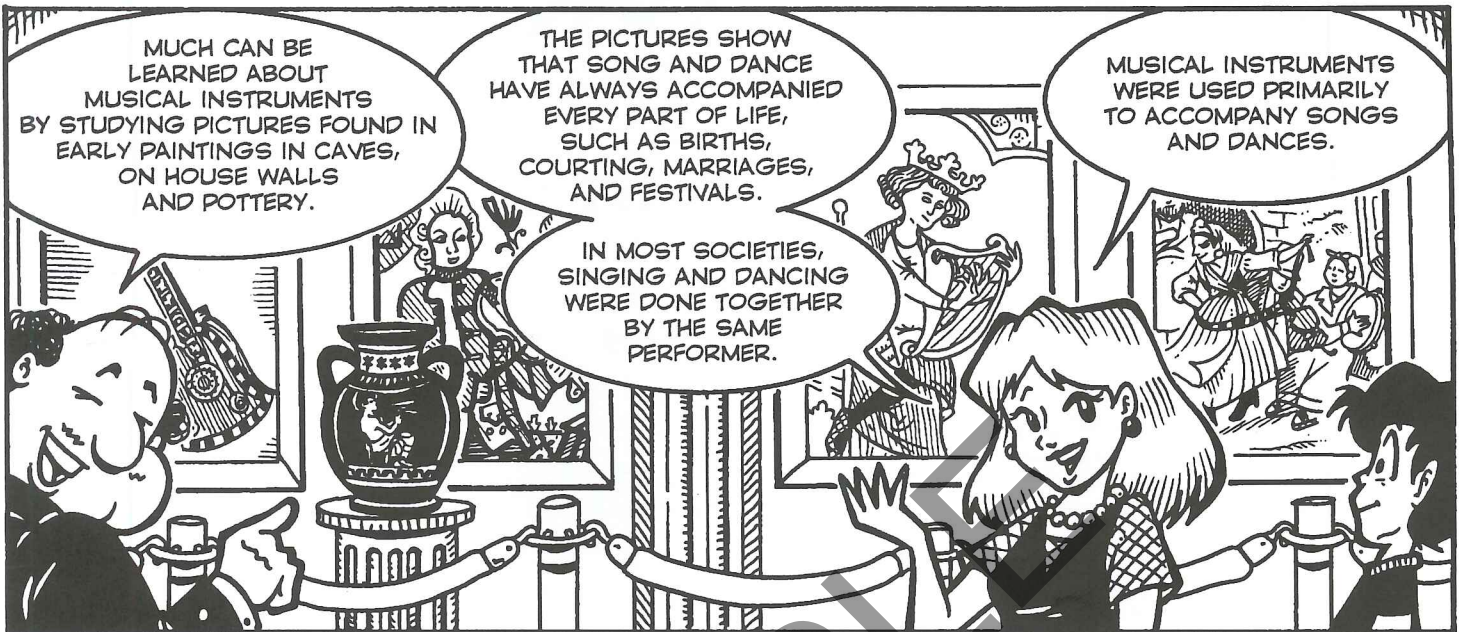
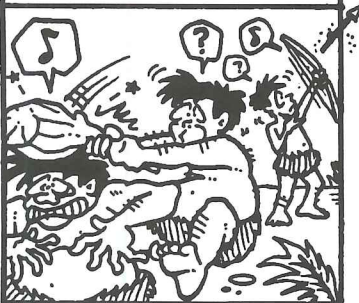


Introduction to Music Style



AS THE EARLY CIVILIZATIONS PASSED, MOST OF THEIR MUSICAL TRADITIONS AND PRACTICES WERE LOST.



THE FIRST WRITTEN DESCRIPTIONS OF MUSIC BEGAN IN THE ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS OF EGYPT, CHINA, INDIA, PERSIA, GREECE AND ROME.



THE SURVIVING ARTWORK AND WRITINGS OF THESE GREAT CULTURES SHOW THAT STRINGED INSTRUMENTS, PLAYED BY PLUCKING OR BOWING, HAVE EXISTED FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS.



HOWEVER, STRINGED INSTRUMENTS WITH KEYBOARDS ONLY APPEARED ABOUT SIX HUNDRED YEARS AGO.



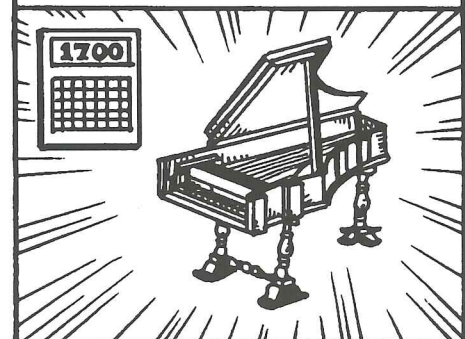
THEY WERE VERY SMALL, COULD PLAY ONLY A FEW NOTES, AND WERE FIRST USED TO HELP SINGERS FIND THEIR STARTING NOTES.



BY ABOUT 1600 THE INSTRUMENTS WERE LARGER AND VERSATILE ENOUGH TO PLAY MUSIC THAT COULD RIVAL THE SKILLS AND AGILITY OF SINGERS. THIS LED TO AN INTEREST IN WRITING MUSIC FOR THE KEYBOARD ALONE (SOLO MUSIC).



THE PIANO, A FAIRLY MODERN INVENTION, WAS INVENTED AROUND 1700. TODAY'S PIANISTS SELDOM PLAY MUSIC THAT WAS WRITTEN BEFORE THAT TIME.



Playing the Music of the Past

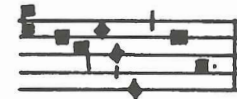
FROM THE EARLIEST TIMES, A STUDENT COULD ONLY LEARN MUSIC BY COPYING A MASTER.



COMPOSERS ALWAYS LONGED FOR A METHOD THAT WOULD ALLOW THEIR MUSIC TO BE PLAYED AND ENJOYED BY A LARGER NUMBER OF PERFORMERS.



WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF WRITTEN LANGUAGE, COMPOSERS BEGAN TO DEVISE WAYS TO NOTATE MUSIC WITH SYMBOLS, CALLED "SCORES."



THE FEW WRITTEN INSTRUCTIONS ON THE EARLIEST MUSICAL SCORES INDICATED ONLY WHICH TONES TO PLAY OR SING AND ABOUT HOW LONG TO HOLD THEM.

ONLY A FEW SYMBOLS WERE NEEDED SINCE THE MUSIC WAS PERFORMED BY THE COMPOSER OR BY MUSICIANS WHO PLAYED IN THE STYLE OF THE TIME- THEY KNEW HOW TO PLAY THE MUSIC.



LATER, COMPOSERS ADDED WORDS AND SIGNS SHOWING LOUDNESS, SPEED, STRESSES, AND VARIOUS WAYS TO PLAY THE NOTES TO MORE PRECISELY EXPRESS THEIR MUSIC. THIS ENABLED OTHERS, EVEN IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES, TO PLAY THEIR WORKS.



THE EARLIEST MUSICAL SCORES HAD TO BE COPIED BY HAND, BUT THE PRINTING PRESSES INVENTED IN 1457 MADE MUSIC AVAILABLE TO ALMOST EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE.



AS MUSICAL SCORES BECAME EASIER TO DUPLICATE, COMPOSERS WERE THEN ABLE TO EXPRESS THEIR COMPOSITIONS WITH MORE COMPLEX NOTATION.

BUT NO MATTER HOW DETAILED THE SCORE, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO DESCRIBE IN NOTATION EXACTLY THE EXPRESSION AND GESTURES OF A WORK THAT ARE NECESSARY TO PERFORM IT.



Scriabin Sonata, No.8, Op.66



THIS BASIC INFORMATION IS USUALLY ADEQUATE FOR AN EXPERIENCED PERFORMER, SENSITIVE TO THE RANGE OF POSSIBILITIES INTENDED BY THE COMPOSER.

BOOKS AND LETTERS WRITTEN BY COMPOSERS OR BY THEIR STUDENTS HELP US UNDERSTAND THEIR NOTATION AND HOW THEY THOUGHT AND PLAYED.

WE CAN ALSO READ MUSICAL STUDIES MADE BY SCHOLARS, OBSERVATIONS BY THOSE WHO HEARD THE COMPOSERS PLAY, AND IMPRESSIONS OF THE COMPOSER'S FRIENDS.

MUSICAL TRADITIONS ARE ALSO HANDED DOWN FROM TEACHER TO STUDENT IN SUCCESSION.

THE CLOSER THE COMPOSER IS TO OUR TIME, THE MORE DIRECT AND ACCURATE IS THE TRANSFER OF INFORMATION.

THIS IS CALLED "INTERPRETATION."

IF THE SCORES DON'T GIVE US ENOUGH INFORMATION, HOW CAN WE KNOW WHAT TO DO?

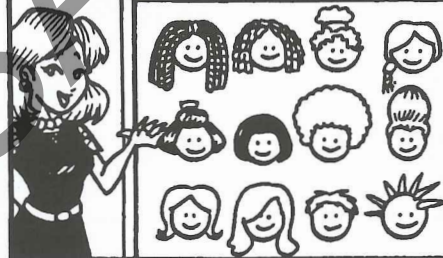


Fashion and Style

THE MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE IN A COMMUNITY AT ANY ONE TIME OR IN ANY ONE PLACE CREATE A STANDARD OF TASTE THAT IS CALLED ITS "FASHION."



FASHION AFFECTS EVERYTHING IN A SOCIETY, FROM ITS LANGUAGE, GOVERNMENT, TECHNOLOGY, AND PHILOSOPHY TO ITS ARCHITECTURE, FURNITURE, CLOTHING, AND EVEN MAKEUP AND HAIR DESIGN.



FASHION IS ALSO EXPRESSED IN THE VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS INCLUDING DANCE, DRAMA, AND MUSIC.



ALL COMPOSERS OF THE PAST WERE ONCE "CONTEMPORARY" COMPOSERS WHO SHARED IDEALS THEY BELIEVED TO BE "REVOLUTIONARY" WITH OTHER ARTISTS OF THEIR TIME.



HOWEVER, WHILE WORKING WITHIN THE FASHION OF THEIR TIME, THE GREAT COMPOSERS USUALLY ADDED SOMETHING NEW THAT GAVE EACH ONE A PERSONAL IDENTITY OR "STYLE".

