

THE DANCE OF CONDUCTING: THE ART AND MEANING OF GESTURE

GESTURE: THE INTERPRETIVE DANCE OF CONDUCTING

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The Physicality of Conducting

- *Stance*
- *Feet*
- *Body*
- *Hands*
- *“Embrace Me...”*
- *“Swirling Dervish” water*
- *“Figure 8”*

The Mechanics of Conducting

- *Demonstrate appropriate body posture, arms, hands, and wrist movements necessary for clear and expressive conducting. (3 major levers/hinges)*
- *Conduct patterns for four, three, two, one, and six beats, clearly exhibiting the ictus for each beat and the rebound after each beat.*
- *Execute a preparatory beat, indicating various tempos, dynamic levels, and styles (legato, marcato, and staccato).*
- *Conduct sub-divided beat patterns.*
- *Conduct fermata patterns. (3 types)*
- *Conduct various meters using articulations such as legato, marcato, and staccato.*
- *Develop independence with the left hand and demonstrate effective use of the left hand in cueing, phrasing, and dynamics.*
- *Conduct gradual changes in tempo, ritardando, and accelerando.*
- *Execute preparatory beats for music starting on pick-ups and uneven beats utilizing a ‘dead beat’ with various tempos, dynamic levels, and styles of legato, marcato, and staccato.*
- *Conduct asymmetrical meters, uneven and compound meters, such as five, seven, nine, and twelve in various tempos and articulations.*

The Artistry of Conducting

Form and Function

- *Technique*
- *Balance*
- *Line*
- *Form*

Focus

- *Space*
- *Time*
- *Force (Dynamic/Energy)*

Finesse

- *Artistic Success*
- *Level of artistry, MASTERING the skills vs. demonstrating*
- *Intellect and Intuition*
- *IMAGINATION is the key*
- *Transcending the Page*
- *Teach the music completely, give it time to “set, develop, and evolve”*
- *“IT” Factor*
- *Magical (Musical) Moments (M&M's)*
- *Interpreting the Dance of Conducting through movement*
- *Be both pro-active and re-active*
- *You (the conductor) are the music!*