

Intro to World Music

- Texture
 - How a melody is presented in the musical “fabric”
 - Is the melodic line...
 - heard alone with no accompaniment?
 - supported by a subordinate accompaniment?
 - heard in conjunction with other equally-important melodic lines?
- Musical Texture Types
 - Single-Line Textures
 - Monophony
 - Meaning "one sound"
 - A single melodic line (or “voice”)
 - Can be a solo instrumental or solo vocal performance
 - Can also be a number of performers playing and/ or singing in unison or parallel octaves
 - Heterophony
 - A single melodic line is played in a slightly varied manner by different musicians, typically by using ornamentation
 - Common in many world cultures, but rare in the West
 - Example: Traditional Irish folk music
 - Multi-Part Textures
 - Homophony
 - A single melodic line with supportive accompaniment
 - The most common texture in popular styles & much Western classical
 - Polyphony
 - more than one independent melodic line
 - Simple example: a round like “Row, Row, Row Your Boat”
 - Complex examples: African elephant hunting song; “Kyrie” by Palestrina (imitative polyphony)
- Gray Areas of Texture
 - Hybrids of the above types
 - Drones
 - Purely rhythmic music (e.g. polyrhythmic African drum music)
- The Critical Listener
 - Critical listening skills foster musical appreciation, understanding, and enjoyment
 - Critical listening of non- Western musics facilitates:
 - enjoyment of the music as music
 - deeper perspective of one’s own music and culture