

Meeting 1

Intro to World Music

- Michael Bakan's Five Propositions for Exploring World Music
 - The basic property of all music is sound
 - The sounds (and silences) that comprise a musical work are organized in some way
 - Sounds are organized into music by people; thus, music is a form of humanly organized sound
 - Music is a product of human intention and perception
 - HIP (human intention and perception) approach
 - The term "music" is inescapably tied to Western culture and its assumptions
 - Ethnocentrism
- Overcoming Ethnocentrism
 - Method 1: Avoid using musical terms when dealing with the phenomena of organized sound
 - Method 2: Impose Western musical concepts on organized sound, "converting" it into music on our terms
 - Method 3: Find a way to integrate and balance our perceptions of what we hear as "music" with the indigenous terms and concepts used by others when describing the same phenomena
- World Music Cultures: An Introduction
 - Culture "...that complex whole which includes knowledge, belief, art, law, morals, custom, and any other capabilities and habits acquired by man [humankind] as a member of society" - Edward Tylor (1832-1917), anthropologist
 - Functions of Music
 - What are some functions of music other than entertainment?
 - Traditional Division of Musical Participants in Western Music
 - Composer > Performer > Audience
 - Can these roles overlap?
 - Classifications of Musical Traditions
 - Folk Music
 - Popular Music
 - Art Music
- "World Music"
 - Origin of term
 - "Worldbeat" vs. "Non- Western"
 - *Graceland* (1986) controversy

Intro to World Music

- David Byrne quote: [The term 'world music' is a] "none too subtle way of reasserting the hegemony of Western pop culture."
- Course goal: avoiding the Western world's historical view of "Exoticism" and tradition of appropriation
- Becoming a Critical Listener