

Oral presentation

Goal: Give a convincing lecture-demo on a work (movement/song) from the chamber music repertoire. You may include historical information, but the bulk of the presentation must be about formal issues (structure, thematic, motivic, key, etc.) The end result is to strengthen your performance by understanding the larger form, and the 'building blocks' that the composer uses.

Some examples of questions you might address:

What is the basic form?

What is standard about the piece?

What is unusual or unique about this piece?

Anything interesting about phrase structures?

What are the various details that create an overall effect that you find interesting? (How does the composer do what he/she does?)

What are some of the interesting compositional techniques employed?

You may make a group presentation, dividing up the work, or work as individuals. You must talk AND play. I have enough scores in the score notebooks for all the pieces you are playing.

To complete this assignment you must:

Give me a typed proposal of what your main points are, and who will be responsible for what parts of the presentation. I must okay this before you go ahead.

Hand in a typed outline with details of your presentation (points, sub-points, bar numbers for examples) OR a 2-3 page typed paper of your main points with support examples. If one person does this, any of the others should be well-versed in the points.

Give a fluid convincing oral (speaking/playing examples) presentation from 10 to 15 minutes.