

# Lecture 6: Music and Meaning

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OCTOBER 17, 2016

Mid-term test: Saturday, November 5, 5:00–6:00 p.m.

Guest lecture: Monday, October 24

Today's agenda:

- Lecture 6 – Music and Meaning
- Discuss guest lecture
- Discuss mid-term test
- Discuss assignment



Funeral of Rev. Clementa Pinckney, June 26, 2015, Charleston

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IN05jVNBs64>

Popular music from 1910-1919



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mYOJdd3gPe4>

Bessie Smith, *Gulf Coast Blues*, 1923



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vCOKYhgd4oM&list=PL84D44D1BF1F6E120&index=5>

**blues** – an expressive, soulful style of singing that emerged from the African American spiritual and work song at the end of the nineteenth century

Amazing Grace, Independent Baptist Church,  
Virginia, 1977



Amazing Grace, deacon and congregation of  
the New Bethel Baptist Church, Detroit, 1977



**blue note** – the lowered third, seventh and sometimes fifth degrees of the otherwise major scale; the degree of inflection may vary considerably

Example 2 

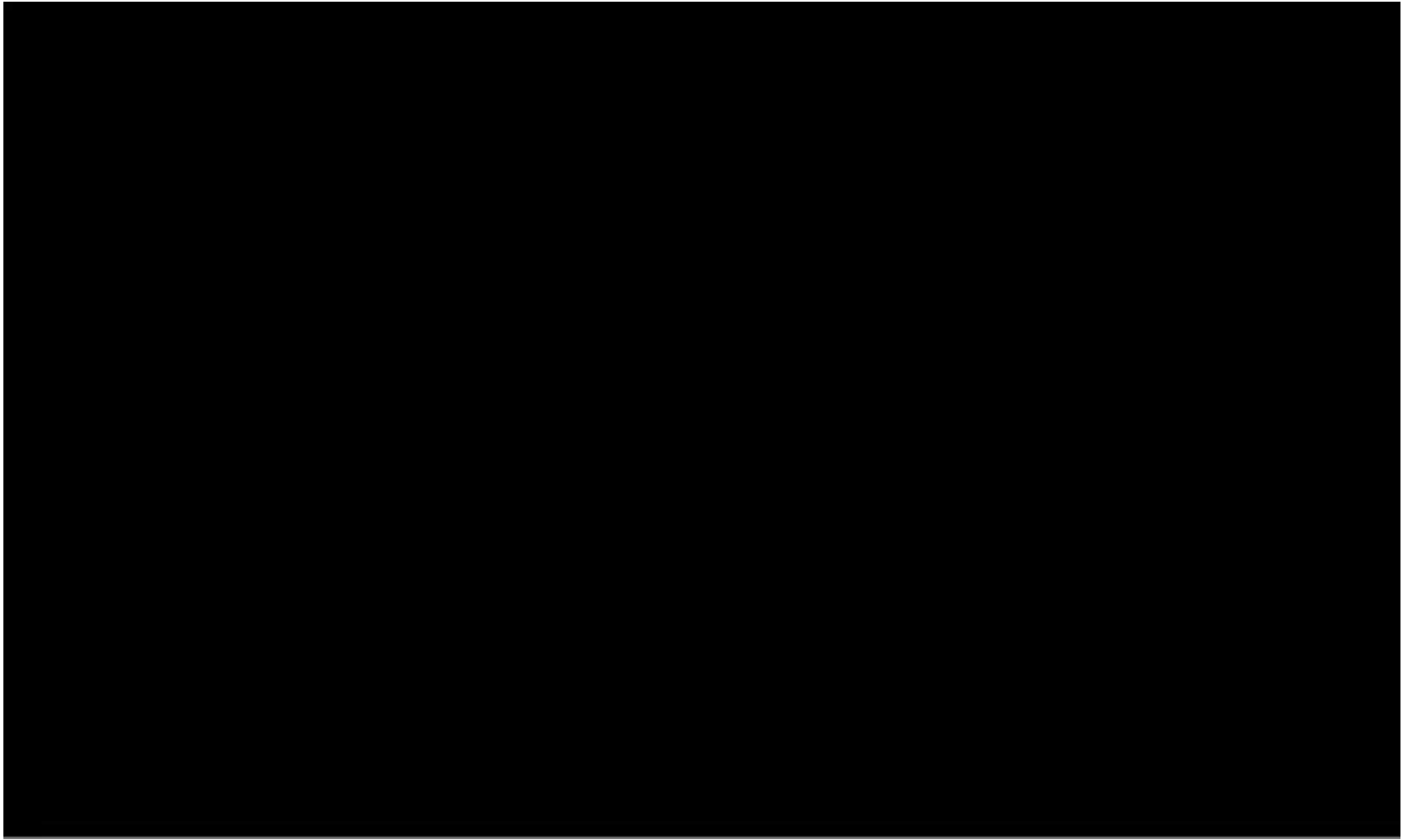


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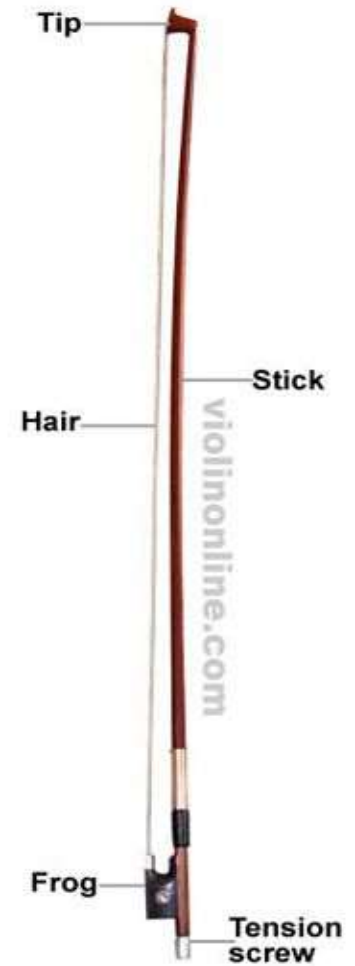
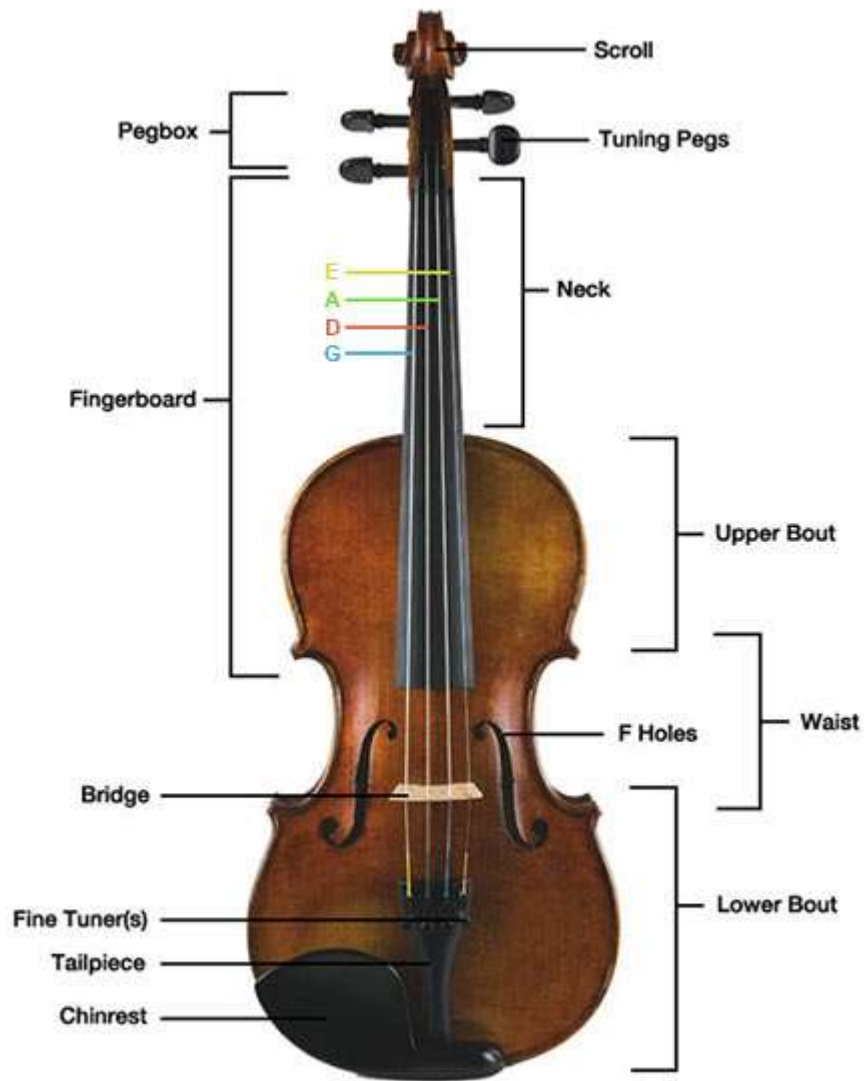
## Krzysztof Penderecki, *Threnody: To the Victims of Hiroshima*

### Sound effects:

- quarter-tone interval (half the size of a half step)
- tone clusters
- playing the highest note possible on the instrument
- playing with the bow on the bridge of the violin
- playing with the bow above the fingerboard of the violin
- playing with the wood of the bow
- playing on the tailpiece of the instrument
- striking the string with the wood of the bow
- striking the upper sounding board of the violin with the nut of the bow or the finger tips
- slow and fast vibrato







Section 1 (0:35) – high pitched dissonant clusters



Section 2 (1:58) – varied texture of multiple sound effects  
in rapid succession



Section 3 (2:51) – sustained tones and quarter-tone  
clusters linked with glissandos



Section 4 (7:13) – isolated pitches and various sound  
effects



Section 5 (8:07) – unison sound effects and clusters that  
lead to the final climactic chord



**tone cluster** – a highly dissonant, closely spaced collection of pitches  
sounding simultaneously

**glissando** – a continuous or sliding movement from one pitch to  
another

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HilGthRhWP8>

Monday, October 24

Guest lecture

Dr. Marshall Chasin, Audiologist

Material from this guest lecture will be included on the final exam.

# Mid-term test

Date: Saturday, November 5 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Format: multiple choice

Materials covered: Elements of Music, Lectures 1 – 5 (inclusive)

- A listening list will be provided
- Each listening excerpt will be played from the beginning of the piece
- Typical questions include identification of the piece, and the application of terms and concepts discussed in class

# Mid-term Test

Room assignments:

<b>AC 223</b>	<b>A – Kandiah</b>
<b>AA 112</b>	<b>Kashyap – Ng</b>
<b>SY 110</b>	<b>Ngai – Su</b>
<b>SW 309</b>	<b>Sumra – Woo</b>
<b>SW 319</b>	<b>Wu – Z</b>

*See Notes on the Mid-term Test*, found under 'Assignment and Test Instructions' on the course Blackboard page

VPMA93 written assignment

Due: November 25, 2016

View the assignment sheet under  
'Assignment and Test Instructions' on the  
course Blackboard page