

### Music's Symbols and Messages

*Clinician: Eugene Corporon* 

*Sponsor: The University of North Texas* 

### *Texas Bandmasters Association* 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention/Clinic

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### WIND STUDIES



### **Mission Statement**

The Wind Studies area, as part of the Division of Ensembles & Conducting of the College of Music, has as its primary mission the preparation of instrumentalists and conductors for professional careers in performance and education. It is our goal to provide a program that will develop well-rounded musicians who are prepared to face the challenges of an ever-changing musical world. In addition, we are directed toward maintaining a leadership role locally, nationally, and internationally. At both the undergraduate and graduate levels, we seek to:

**Expand** the technical, intellectual, psychological, and spiritual horizons of musicians.

**Promote** the highest performance standards that result in soul-to-soul music-making.

**Prepare** for the music of the future by exploring the music of the present while preserving the music of the past.

**Increase** the awareness of the artistic and historical significance of music for winds and percussion.

**Create** a positive music-making environment that allows the knowledge gained in the studio to be applied to the ensemble performance.

**Provide** a balanced experience that promotes creativity, flexibility and versatility in each musician.

**Preserve** the repertoire of the medium that has become a uniquely American art form.

**Broaden** the concept of performance and teaching skills by encouraging creative thought and artistic interaction.

The Wind Studies area has an important secondary mission, which is to provide University students, staff, and faculty with an avenue to continue their involvement in the performing arts. The department is committed to the concept of maintaining groups that encourage those who do not have career plans in music to develop the aesthetic self in addition to the academic self. We are dedicated to the education of the whole human through our involvement in the University community at large.





### **Ensemble Goals**

**This Ensemble** is a listening-focused, process-oriented group that provides an opportunity for the student to emphasize interactive musical skills in a large ensemble setting. While promoting the advancement of wind music of artistic and historical significance, it reinforces the musical skills taught in the studio and develops the application of those skills. This course advances the growth of the students' overall musicianship and promotes lifelong activity in music.

### SKILLS

- •Tuning horizontal and vertical
- •Tone appropriate and characteristic
- •Rhythm accuracy and clarity
- •Pulse internal and external
- •Breathing quality and control
- •Style range and appropriateness
- •Articulation variety and consistency
- •Phrasing shape and note grouping
- •Awareness (see-feel-hear-know-imagine)
- •Audiation develop the "inner" ear
- •Technique in the service of music
- •Sight reading building good habits

### CONCEPTS

•Understanding the *Inner Game* - "Awareness, Will, Trust"
•Increasing musical imagery and creativity
•Developing sensitivity to non-verbal communication
•Cultivating an understanding of verbal communication
•Promoting confidence in performance (P = P-I)
•Recognizing note morphology (the lifespan of a note)
•Achieving clarity in performance
•What to listen for in music (the function of one's part)

### **ENSEMBLE PLAYING**

Developing sensitivity to the whole
Recognizing primary and secondary roles
Silent communication through breath
Physical communication through movement
Visual communication through eye contact
Encouraging flexibility
Working as a team
Being prepared and dependable
Interpretive elements
Compositional elements

### MUSICAL LITERACY

- Explore performance practice
  Increase knowledge of repertoire
  Develop comprehensive musicianship
  Expand perception of the music
  Create a historical perspective
  Expose notational concepts
  Refine rehearsal skills
  Formal Elements
- Structural Elements



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### **EVALUATIONS**

### **Eugene Migliaro Corporon**

I often find myself asked to evaluate our graduates as they continue their education or seek employment. These opportunities come in the form of phone calls or written requests. I have noticed definite similarities in the questions asked about our students. Assuming the musical qualifications are verified, the most important issue seems to be "getting along" with others.

I thought you might be interested in knowing these questions, and I hope that you will find this information helpful in some way. By the time a prospective employer or graduate school inquires about you they have probably determined, from sources other than references, that you are musically qualified. Is not being an incredible talent enough? . . . apparently not! In light of the fact that we spend so many hours developing our skills, I found the following statistic most revealing:

"Eighty-five percent of the people fired in America are let go because of attitude problems, not because they are not able to do the job."

### **Questions from Written Requests**

- 1. What kind of integrity does the candidate have? Are they honest, truthful and reliable?
- 2. Does the candidate demonstrate discretion and commitment?
- 3. Does the candidate show good judgment, common sense, clear thinking, and the ability to draw sound conclusions?
- 4. Does the candidate demonstrate initiative, self-reliance, perseverance, interest in their work, and do they use time wisely, taking advantage of opportunity when it is presented?
- 5. How would you describe the candidate's personality? Do they get along well with others? Do they demonstrate a sense of humor? Are they courteous, neat in appearance, and cooperative?
- 6. How well does the candidate concentrate, comprehend, and make decisions?
- 7. Evaluate the candidate's talent in comparison to their application and achievement. Do they work hard?
- 8. Evaluate the candidate's motivation and perseverance toward their goals.



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- 9. How is the candidate regarded by their colleagues and faculty?
- 10. Is the candidate intellectually and musically curious?

### **Questions Asked During Discussions**

- 1. What kind of colleague will the candidate be?
- 2. How does the candidate get along with peers?
- 3. How does the candidate get along with you? Is the candidate loyal?
- 4. Would you hire this candidate? Would you want this candidate teaching your children?
- 5. Does the candidate know how to disagree in a professional manner?
- 6. Is the candidate a team player?
- 7. How does the candidate deal with frustration or anger? Does the candidate take it out on others?
- 8. Is the candidate prompt and responsibly organized?
- 9. Does the candidate project a positive attitude? Does the candidate enjoy life?
- 10. Does the candidate need extra supervision?
- 11. Will the candidate be willing to get involved outside the classroom?
- 12. Is the candidate accountable?
- 13. Will the candidate be willing to do more than the minimum that is required?
- 14. What kind of attitude will the candidate have about doing their work?
- 15. What is the candidate's motivation for applying for this job? Are they really interested in this job?
- 16. On a scale of 1 to 10, rank the candidate with other people you have worked with at their level of qualifications.
- 17. How committed is the candidate to students and the educational process?
- 18. What are the candidate's strengths and weaknesses?



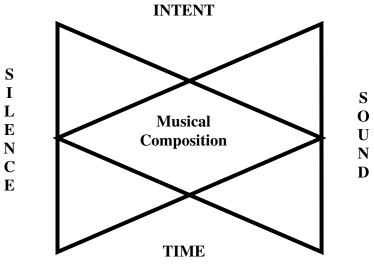


### **Directed Listening Skills**

Eugene Migliaro Corporon

### **Core Elements**

Music: The interaction of sound and silence in time with intent. The four basic materials of any musical composition.



### **Listening Components**

-Unity

**II. Formal Elements** 

### I. Compositional Elements

-Pulse -Melody -Harmony -Timbre -Texture -Form

-Contrast -Digression

-Statement

-Return

III. Structural Elements -Work -Movement -Section -Sub-section -Double Period -Period -Phrase -Sub-phrase -Motive -Note

### IV. Expressive Elements Sound

Silence -Energy -Energy -Volume -Impact -Speed -Effect -Length -Length -Timbre -Quality -Texture -Clarity -Morphology -Morphology -Growth -Purpose -Note Grouping -Rests -Resonance -Resonance -Direction/Repose -Direction/Repose -Tension/Release -Tension/Release -Anticipation/Preparation -Anticipation/Preparation -Resolution/Complete -Resolution/Complete -Goals/Arrivals -Goals/Arrivals

-New

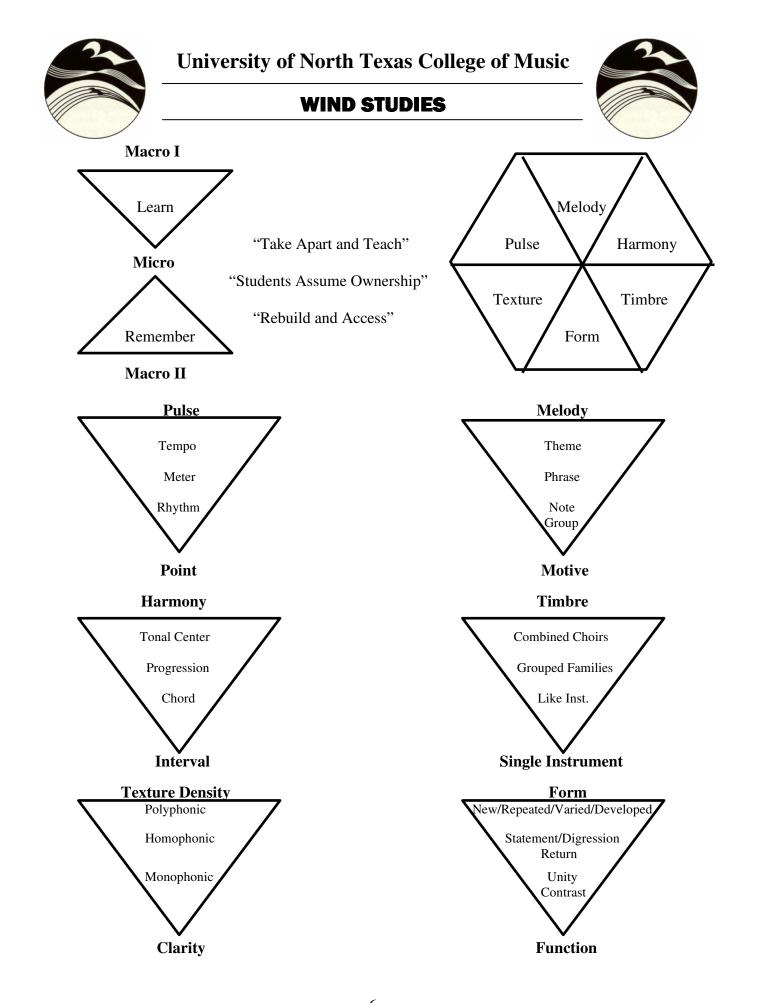
-Repeated

-Developed

-Varied

### **Teaching Process**

### **Listening Process**







### **Investigative Rehearsing**

### Isolate the time frame

• sub-phrase, phrase, section, page

### **Disassemble the structures**

• dissect complex events

### Inventory the component parts

• number of events

### **Catalog the timbral groups**

• scoring of events

### **Prioritize the texture**

• order of importance of events

### **Communicate the decisions**

• make the relationships clear

### Facilitate the encounter

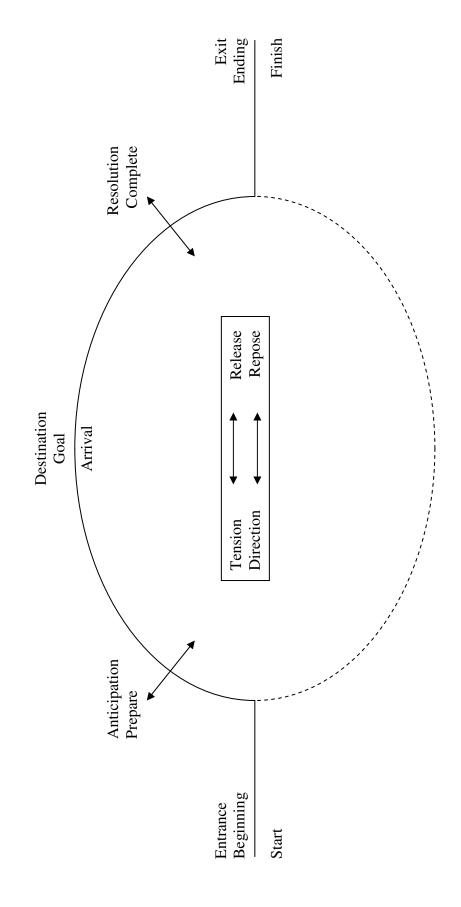
- give clear listening instructions
- establish listening priorities
- make astute listening observations
- create an understanding of the listening goals



# WIND STUDIES



### The Phrase



### **Playing Smart**

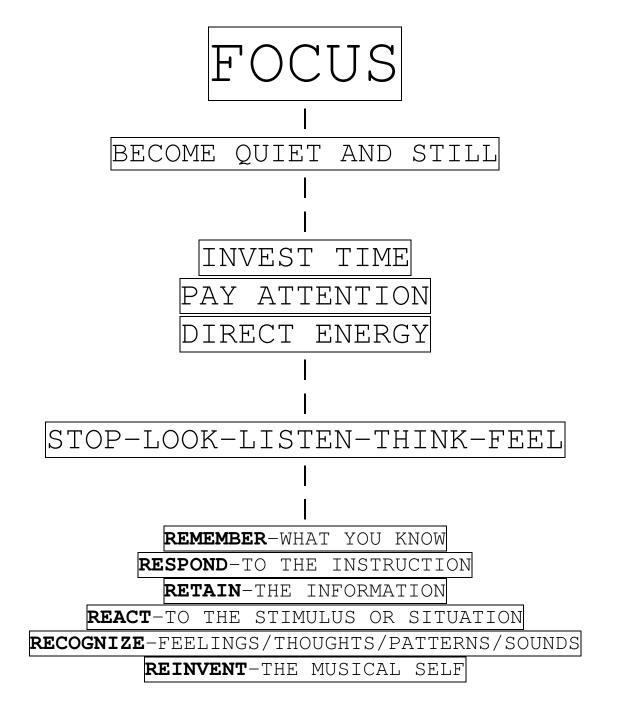
<ul> <li>Plan - Method - With Mentors</li> <li>-Wanting to be successful</li> <li>-Mental organization</li> <li>-Set short and long term goals</li> <li>-Keep a journal to chronicle progress</li> <li>-Continuously revise and redesign</li> <li>-Determine what needs work, now and next</li> <li>-Budget time to achieve goals</li> <li>-Map musical topography</li> </ul>	Time Continuum (Space represents time invested) Develop a flexible plan which establishes priorities and helps you act thoughtfully and knowingly.
Practice- Part - On Own-Taking action to be successful-Physical activity-Develop craft-Build muscle and musical memory-Repetition slow and controlled-Time intensive-Work on what you can not play-Target attention on problem solving-Use a metronome and tuner-Solve individual problems-Develop consistency	Nobody knows what you can not play better than you. The doing that qualifies you to attend rehearsals. A well prepared part is something you bring to rehearsal, not something you develop in rehearsal.
Rehearse       - Piece - With Others         -Interrupted process         -Broken energy flow         -Learning more formal         -Verbal and visual         -Informal environment, ensemble is the audience         -Directed listening and adjusting         -Discover composers intent         -Multiple zooms in and out         -Critical listening         -Search for the implied meaning         -Solve group problems         -Evaluate during the process         -Apply consistency	Doing things together that can not be done alone. You do not come to rehearsal to learn your part, you come to learn everyone else's. Coming to rehearsal without practicing is like coming to a drama or dance run- through without knowing your lines or steps. Preparation allows us to take musical direction, not just technical instruction.
Perform       - Work - For Others         -Continuous process       -Non-stop energy flow         -Learning more intuitive       -Nonverbal and visual         -Self monitored listening and adjusting         -Formal environment with outside audience         -Suspend Time and achieve ethereal plane         -Culmination of study and experience         -Spontaneous creation         -Focus and target attention         -Transcend Problems         -Evaluate following the process         -Access consistency	A collaboration between conductor and player which represents the collective musical understanding. Unlike dance or drama, the teacher is on stage with the player throughout the creative process. "Present a gift that comes from the heart and inspires the soul" (Space represents the amount of accountability to others) <b>Responsibility Continuum</b>



### WIND STUDIES



### **Receiving the Message**





## WIND STUDIES



# How to Become Musically Convincing and Artistically Viable

Be Honest (Prepare, devote time, energy, and attention to the work.)

Be Forgiving (Have empathy for yourself and others, because humans do not always succeed.) **Be Demanding** (Standards are important. Progress, no matter how slow the pace, is essential.) Be Accountable (Live your word. Uphold your beliefs by turning intentions into actions.) Be Patient (It takes time to achieve success. Mistakes are a sign of learning in progress.) Be Persistent (Stick to your purpose, but remain flexible enough to make adjustments.) Be Positive (Negativity interferes and diverts you away from your personal best.) Be Passionate (Have a plan. Accomplished Goals are Fulfilled Dreams.)

 ${\mathscr K}$  key to a vital life is an eagerness to learn

and a withingness to change.

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Sound Designs in the Nowhere Sound Sculpting Through Space Forming Showing How Sound Looks and Feels Swimming in the Sound [third draft, 4/11/06]

I. Determining Size

Energy (from Point to Point) Time (from Point to Point) Distance (from Point to Point) Resistance (from Point to Point) Speed (from Point to Point)

**II. Determining Placement (Focal Point / Focal Plane)** 

Horizontal Plane Vertical Plane Diagonal Plane Sagittal Plane (Proximity to Body) Height – Low (Waist), Medium (Chest), High (Shoulders) Point (Focal Point)

III. Determining Expression and Style (Think and Feel)

Character Direction / Motion Agogic Stress Weight Rubato (the Honorable Theft of Time) Elasticity of Bar Lines Phrase / Rise and Fall Note Grouping Note Morphology Descriptive Words Use of Silence Harmonic Implications Taking Away Gesture to Slow the Speed of the Process





