

Faculty of the Arts, the Buchmann-Mehta School of Music

**Course title:** Music in the 20th Century

Annual, 2015-2016, Lesson, 4 semester hours

**Lecturer:** Dr. Ofra Yitzhaki

**Email:** ofray@hotmail.com

**Reception time:** Upon request

### Course Description

This course will provide an overview of musical styles, compositional approaches, composers and important works in western music from the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century and up to our time.

### Course Requirements

- Attendance in Class
- **Reading** of assigned relevant articles in preparation for class discussion
- **Listening** to musical works in preparation for classes
- **A few short writing and listening quizzes** about the reading and listening materials will take place during each semester.
- **A few short hand-in assignments** reviewing the material discussed in the class will be given during the year.
- **A short take-home exam** will be given at the end of each semester.
- Once a year, each student will be required to prepare a short **presentation**, preferably about a work he/ she is performing, and in consultation with the teacher.

### Final exam

The final exam will include a few short questions regarding the material studied in class.

### Grading Components

40% - Final exams at the end of each semester (each exam - 20%)

60% - Quizzes and assignments during the year + Personal Project

### Course Subjects (Subject to Change)

- Late Romanticism: Wagner and the stretching of musical limits
- Postromanticism : Mahler and Strauss
- Impressionism: Debussy and Ravel; Non-functional Harmony
- From Expressionism to Atonality: Second Viennese School and Twelve-Tone System
- Primitivism and Folklorism: Stravinsky and Bartok; Polyrythm, Polytonality
- American Music before World-War II: The Development of Blues and Jazz; Gershwin, Ives, Copland
- Post-War European Avant-Garde: Darmstadt; Total Serialism; Electronic Music; Boulez, Stockhausen
- Music in Russia: Rachmaninov, Prokofiev, Shostakovich; Soviet Avant-Garde
- New Sounds: Ligeti, Messiaen, Varese, Penderecki
- Non-Western Influences: John Cage
- Minimalism: Steve Reich, Philip Glass
- Post-Modernism: Gubaidulina, Pärt

Additionally, an effort will be made to discuss 20<sup>th</sup>-Century Works which are currently played and performed by the students. As far as possible, students will be encouraged to perform the modern works they are studying in front of the class.

### Bibliography (Subject to Change)

Griffiths, Paul. *Modern Music: A concise history*. New York: Thames and Hudson, 2004

Griffiths, Paul. *Modern Music and After*. New-York: Oxford University Press, 1995.

*Grove Music Online* ed. L. Macy <http://www.grovemusic.com>

Morgan, Robert. *Twentieth-century music: a history of musical style in modern Europe and America*. New York: W.W. Norton, 1991.

Simms, Bryan R. *Music of the twentieth century: Style and structure*. New York: Schirmer Books, 1986.

Stuckenschmidt, Hans H. *20<sup>th</sup> Century Music*. New-York: McGraw-Hill Books Company, 1970.

Whittall, Arnold. *Musical Composition in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century*. New-York: Oxford University Press, 1999.