

Seminar on

Classical Music Appreciation For Engineers: An Introduction By An Engineering Educator

by

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Venue : LT-12, 4/F, Academic 1, City University of Hong Kong

Abstract

The purpose of this talk is to introduce the wonderful world of classical music from a personal perspective. The talk begins with three questions: What has music to do with engineering education? What is classical music? Is classical music boring? After addressing these questions, the speaker's first encounter with classical music is described, followed by a summary of the various types of compositions and brief comments on some major composers. The various human emotions evoked in classical music, such as joyful, melancholy, patriotic, longing/homesick, heroic, religious, romantic love, etc. are illustrated, using excerpts from various compositions, which are played either directly from You Tube or from files in mp3 format. After demonstrating the contrast between folk songs and operatic arias, the talk proceeds with suggestions for beginners, and ends with some concluding remarks. Homework assignments are offered for those interested, as well as reference materials for further exploration.

Biography

Kai Fong Lee received his Ph.D. degree in electrical engineering from Cornell University. He is Dean Emeritus, School of Engineering and Professor Emeritus, Electrical Engineering at the University of Mississippi, where he served from 2001 to 2011. He is also Professor Emeritus of Electrical Engineering at the University of Missouri-Columbia. His prior academic positions included the founding Head of the Department of Electronic Engineering at the City University of Hong Kong, Chair and LaPierre Professor of Electrical Engineering at the University of Missouri-Columbia, Chair and Professor of Electrical Engineering at the University of Toledo, Ohio, and Reader in Electronics at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. He also held research positions at NASA, UCLA, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Center for Atmospheric Research, University of California, San Diego, and National Radio Astronomy Observatory. Dr. Lee is a Life Fellow of IEEE. He received the 2009 John Kraus Antenna Award of the IEEE Antennas and Propagation Society for exceptional contributions to the field of antennas. One of his interests in retirement is taking online courses in non-engineering subjects such as music, history, cosmology and economics.

*** ALL ARE WELCOME ***

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