



per la Ricerca e la Formazione sull'Apprendimento Musicale secondo la
Music Learning Theory di Edwin E. Gordon - Via Bergamo, 8 20135 Milano
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www.audiation.org



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Introduction to E.E.Gordon's Music Learning Theory

A workshop-conference for musicians, music teachers and trainers in music education

Duration: 6-8 hours

Language: italian (with translation); english; music

Introduction

Developed by Edwin E. Gordon (USA, 1927) on the basis of more than 50 years of research and observations, the MLT, Music Learning Theory, describes the processes by which the human being learns the music, from birth to adulthood, assuming as such learning processes are performed in a manner similar to that of learning their mother tongue.

It plays a central role, therefore, in Mlt, the syntactic organization of the sounds that make up what is recognized as music. The meeting between the musical aptitude of each individual and the experience of listening and musical interaction, activate sensory and mental processes, called by Gordon, on the whole, "audiation", which allow the knowledge and informal, then formal, understanding of sounds organized in musical syntaxes.

The development of Audiation allows the acquisition of musical skills informal, such as the ability to express themselves musically with accurate intonation and sense of rhythm consistent, or to feel the movement of the chords that harmonize a melody, to listen only the melody itself, or improvising on a given chord structure or rhythm, or to feel inwardly (with audiation, in fact) an arrangement or a counterpoint to a melody or a rhythm that you are listening to, reading or writing.

Mlt is, therefore, a theoretical model, as well as explaining how the human being learns the music and develops audiation skills, it provides the teacher, he is a musician or not, important elements and suggestions from which he can create musical experiences that promote effectively the musical learning of the child, in respect of its development stage and attitudes

MLT has become and continuously becomes, a reference point for the development of diverse and innovative educational and teaching practices in music education and also for the development of various proposals in the artistic musical fields and otherwise, and in the global development of the human being.



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Audiation Institute organizes research and training on music learning, based on the Music Learning Theory: MLT is, therefore, the main theoretical basis of our training proposals. Audiation Institute's teachers teach courses for children following teaching practices built on the principles of the theory of Gordon.

Contents

- Introduction to E.E.Gordon and Music Learning Theory: history and context;
- Audiation and musical syntaxes: knowledge and understanding of musical sound in music syntaxes;
- Formal and Informal knowledge: Audiation and Preparatory Audiation;
- Preparatory Audiation: the basic set of processes and skills that allow the informal and substantive understanding of musical syntax;
- Music Aptitude: the potential to achieve in music;
- Music Aptitude and Audiation;
- From the subjective to the objective musical syntaxes:
 - Preparatory Audiation types:
 - Acculturation
 - Imitation
 - Assimilation
 - Preparatory Audiation stages:
 - Absorption
 - Random Response
 - Purposeful Response
 - Shedding Egocentricity
 - Breaking the Code
 - Introspection
 - Coordination
- Informal Guidance: a way to promote the development of Preparatory Audiation skills and processes
- Body knows before brain understands: the role of the free and perceptual movement in developing Preparatory Audiation
- Audiation and Formal Instruction:
 - Skill Learning Sequence
 - Discriminatory Learning
 - Inferential Learning
 - Tonal and Rhythm Contents Sequence



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Topics will be exposed by means of example, experiential activities and videos.

Basic Bibliography

- Edwin Gordon, Learning Sequences in Music: A Contemporary Learning Theory (Chicago: GIA Publications, Inc, 2007) 3. [ISBN 978-1-57999-688-8](#)
- Edwin Gordon, Rhythm: Contrasting the Implications of Audiation and Notation (Chicago: GIA Publications, 2000): 111. [ISBN 1579990983](#).
- Edwin Gordon, A Music Learning Theory for newborn and very young children