# The Phenomenology of Music and Training Guide



## The Orchestra Player: The Phenomenology of Music and Training Guide by Kevin Snelgrove

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Music is a powerful form of art that can evoke a wide range of emotions and experiences. It can be used to communicate, to heal, to inspire, and to entertain. But what is music, really? And how can we understand its effects on our minds and bodies?

The phenomenology of music is the study of the subjective experience of music. It seeks to understand how music is perceived, interpreted, and experienced by listeners. Phenomenologists argue that music is not simply a collection of sounds, but rather a complex and meaningful phenomenon that can have a profound impact on our lives.

In this article, we will explore the phenomenology of music and provide a training guide for musicians. We will discuss the different ways that music can be experienced, and we will offer practical tips for musicians on how to improve their performance and connection with their audience.

#### The Phenomenological Experience of Music

The phenomenological experience of music is unique to each individual. However, there are some commonalities that can be found across listeners. For example, music often evokes emotions such as happiness, sadness, anger, and fear. It can also be used to create a sense of place or time, or to tell a story.

Music can be experienced in a variety of ways. Some people prefer to listen to music passively, while others prefer to actively engage with it by singing, dancing, or playing an instrument. The way that we experience music can also be influenced by our culture, our personal history, and our current mood.

#### The Training Guide for Musicians

The following training guide is designed to help musicians improve their performance and connection with their audience. The guide is based on the phenomenology of music, and it offers practical tips for musicians on how to use their understanding of the subjective experience of music to their advantage.

#### 1. Understand your audience

The first step to improving your performance is to understand your audience. What are their expectations? What kind of music do they enjoy? What are their cultural backgrounds? Once you have a good understanding of your audience, you can tailor your performance to their specific needs.

#### 2. Be present in the moment

When you are performing, it is important to be present in the moment. This means focusing on your music and your audience, and letting go of any distractions. The more present you are, the more your audience will be able to connect with your performance.

#### 3. Use your emotions

Music is a powerful way to express emotions. Don't be afraid to use your emotions to connect with your audience. If you are feeling happy, let your music reflect that. If you are feeling sad, let your music convey that emotion. The more genuine you are, the more your audience will be able to relate to your performance.

#### 4. Tell a story

Music can be used to tell a story. When you are performing, try to create a narrative arc with your music. Start with a beginning, develop a middle, and end with a resolution. This will help your audience to stay engaged with your performance and to understand the emotional journey that you are trying to convey.

#### 5. Be yourself

The most important thing is to be yourself. Don't try to be someone that you are not. Your audience will be able to tell if you are being fake, and they will not be as responsive to your performance. Be confident in who you are and in your music, and your audience will be sure to follow you.

Music is a powerful form of art that can have a profound impact on our lives. By understanding the phenomenology of music, we can gain a

deeper appreciation for its effects and use it to our advantage. The training guide provided in this article can help musicians improve their performance and connection with their audience. By following these tips, musicians can create a truly unforgettable experience for their listeners.



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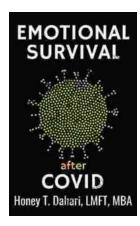
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