

THE EMOTIONS IN SCHUBERT'S LIED "FRÜHLINGSTRAUM" AND THEIR RELATION TO MUSICAL ELEMENTS

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Background

The expressive qualities of music are a classical theme of musico-philosophical thought. One of its most studied aspects is how music expresses emotions by means of musical factors such as melody, rhythm, harmony, tempo, dynamics, and others.

Aims

This paper presents the relationship between each of the parts of Schubert's *Frühlingstraum* Lied, the text of which reveals a certain emotion. It also explores how changes in the emotions described in the text reflect changes in musical factors. A comparison of three interpretive versions is also included.

Main Contribution

Basically, the text of the poem "*Frühlingstraum*" presents three contrasting emotions: the joy of the character who dreams of spring (compasses 1-14 and 44-58), fear upon awakening to the sound of cocks crowing in a dark and cold atmosphere (compasses 15-26 and 59-70), and finally, the melancholy of finding himself in winter, longing both for spring and for his beloved (compasses 27-43 and 71-86).

The relationship between the music and the emotions described in the text is explained through the changes that occur within the three parts of the Lied: in tempo, *etwas bewegt*, *schnell-langsam*; in harmony, consonant – dissonant – consonant; in melodic line, with recurring sounds in the second part, as well as in dynamics: *pp-mf*, *f*, *ff-pp*.

This paper works towards a more precise definition of the musical characteristics of the different parts of the Lied.

Implications

There is an evident relationship between the changes in the text, emotions and musical factors. The versions of the three singers coincide in atmospheric changes with different emphases.

Understanding the emotions implied by the texts is a great aid towards the correct musical interpretation of similar works.