

JC Music – Glossary

A capella

REVISE
WISE

Vocal music that is performed without an instrumental accompaniment.

Accent

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Extra stress given to a note in a piece of music, indicated by the '>' symbol.

Block chord

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A chord in which the notes are played simultaneously.

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Classical era

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Generally considered as 1750 to 1830.

Concerto

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A piece of music for solo instrument with orchestra.

Dissonance

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An interval or chord which creates tension or a discordant sound.

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Dynamics

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The relative musical loudness or quietness of a performance.

Found sounds

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Sounds created from everyday objects.

Fusion

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The blending of contrasting musical styles or genres.

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Interval

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The distance in pitch between notes.

Key signature

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Sharps and flats indicated at the beginning of each stave to identify the key.

Libretto

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The text of an opera.

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Open string

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A string that is not stopped or pressed while being played.

Panning

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Processing effect where the sound is split between speakers.

Pitch

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How high or low a sound or note is.

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Processing
effects

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Audio effects which artificially create or enhance sounds.

Renaissance era

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In music, generally considered to be 1450 to 1600.

Rests

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Musical symbols indicating the absence of sound.

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Score

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Printed music which communicates a composition to performers.

Sonata

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Multi-movement instrumental work.

Tempo

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The speed or pace of a piece of music.

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Timbre

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The unique tone, colour or quality of any sound or instrument.

Transpose

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To rewrite a piece of music at a higher or lower pitch.

Variation

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Changing a main theme or melody, developing it rhythmically, melodically or harmonically.