

While there is moonlight...

Cognitive Foundations of Musical Pitch

CAROL L. KRUMHANSL

NEW YORK: OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2001; Pb £24.95 (ISBN 0 195 14836 3)

Music and Emotion: Theory and Research

PATRIK N. JUSLIN & JOHN A. SLOBODA (Eds)

NEW YORK: OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2001; Pb £25.95 (ISBN 0 192 63188 8)

REVIEWED BY Fiona Lyddy

MUSIC can be described in terms of manipulations of pitch and rhythm, but it is experienced as so much more than the sum of its parts. It is not the passive registration of auditory events that makes such an impact on the listener; listeners play an active role in constructing the experience of music. This point is argued, from rather different perspectives, in *Cognitive Foundations of Musical Pitch* and *Music and Emotion*.

In *Cognitive Foundations* Carol Krumhansl examines the processes involved in the perception and organisation of musical knowledge. A cognitive approach is taken to review how listeners encode, organise and remember pitch patterns in music, enabling musical sequences to become 'coherent, memorable and meaningful'. Sounds are not heard as isolated but are integrated in patterns and are dependent on the context provided by neighbouring sounds.

Focusing on the pitch structures in Western music, Krumhansl examines the perceived relationships in tonal-harmonic

music between elements of three types: tones, chords and keys. A chapter also considers atonal and non-Western tonal music.

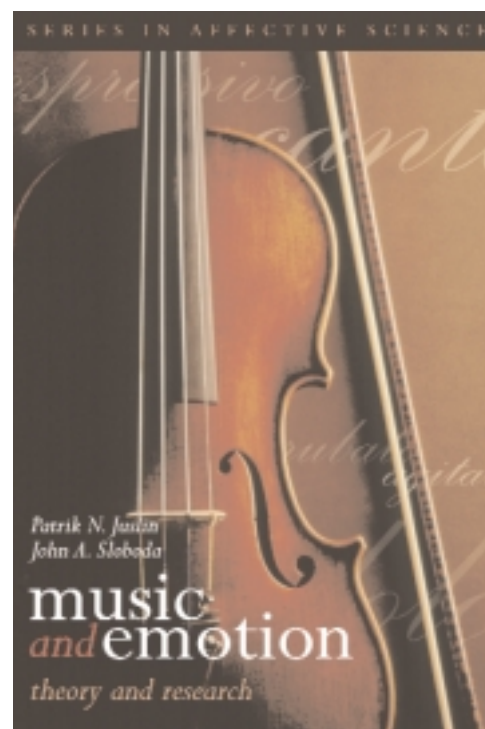
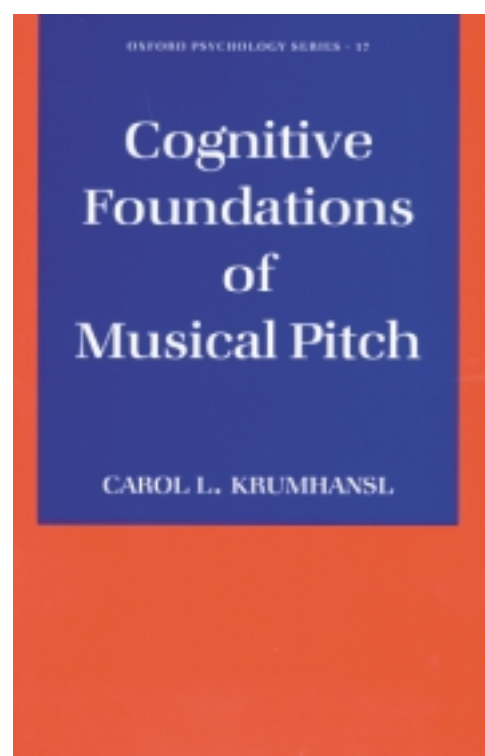
The book's major strength lies in the support provided by the cognitive approach and the use of experimental method. First published in 1990, this new paperback edition is still a valuable text for those interested in the more technical aspects of the psychology of music.

By contrast, *Music and Emotion* focuses on the emotional value of music, but similarly advocates an active role for the listener, and goes beyond this to examine the implications of emotion for the composers and performers of music.

Skilfully edited by Patrik Juslin and John Sloboda, the book is organised into four sections, providing an overview of the relationship between music and emotion from several perspectives before considering in turn the composer, the performer, and the listener.

In the first section, chapters review the music-emotion relationship from philosophical, musicological, psychological, biological, sociological and therapeutic perspectives. The second section looks at the role of emotion in musical composition and at the way music can be used to communicate emotion. The third section examines performers, considering how they communicate emotion and the effect of their emotions on performance. The final section deals with the listeners and the way they perceive and are moved by emotion in music.

This is a comprehensive and enlightening text that will appeal to many. The diversity in contributions and scope of



treatment of the topic makes it an essential read for anyone interested in music and emotion.

■ Dr Fiona Lyddy is a lecturer in psychology at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth.

CORRECTION

In November's issue we published a review of a book by Julius R. Ruff. Unfortunately the title of the book was wrongly given. It should have been simply *Violence in Early Modern Europe 1500-1800*. The editors apologise for this error, which was not the fault of the review author.

Understanding bedfellows

YOU don't have to have spend much time in the field of long-term mental health problems to realise that 'psychotic' and 'spiritual' experiences, whatever definition you give them, are common bedfellows. But what exactly is their relationship? Do they share a common origin? Could they be said to be on a continuum? And as Western psychologists, can we claim much expertise in understanding *either* of them?

This book is an exciting addition to the small but growing library of British books on the interface between psychology and spirituality, a field that has been mushrooming in America for well over two decades. Clarke begins with the premise that psychosis and spirituality could be said to share a mode of perceiving reality that is different from that familiar to

Psychosis and Spirituality: Exploring the New Frontier

ISABEL CLARKE (ED)

LONDON: WHURR; 2001; Pb £19.50 (ISBN 1 861 56202 0)

REVIEWED BY Tom Smiley

the conventional paradigm of modernist science, within which we have all been trained and outside of which we struggle to see. She then invites a wonderfully eclectic mix of experienced authors to show how their respective fields of expertise illuminate the

relationship between these two types of experience.

There follows a fascinating array of perspectives, from neuropsychological to anthropological, from social constructionist to Eastern philosophical, with a strong attempt by the editor to tie them

all together within a broadly cognitive model of psychology. But this is not an overcomplicated book. Each chapter is very accessible and there is much consensus between authors, despite their widely varying backgrounds, along with a small but healthy measure of disagreement.

I would have liked to see some representation of modern psychodynamic perspectives, and some comment from a more traditional religious authority, such as one of the many priests in this country who are also psychologists. But such things would require another book. No matter – I expect this volume will inspire many more on this fascinating theme.

■ *Dr Tom Smiley is a clinical psychologist whose recent doctoral research examined the impact of religion on the clinical setting.*



Exactly what it says on the cover

LIKE in the TV advert 'Does exactly what it says on the tin', this book lives up to its description as 'an excellent, account of attachment-based psychodynamic psychotherapy: clearly written, engaging well-informed, full of good and apposite clinical examples, up to date, accessible and scholarly'.

Attachment theory has gained widespread interest and acceptance through scientific research, in the clinical practice of most psychotherapies, and in the contemporary evolving understanding of neuroscience research of emotions. The author, Jeremy Holmes, has previously written an authoritative book on John Bowlby, the main founder of

The Search for the Secure Base: Attachment Theory and Psychotherapy

JEREMY HOLMES

HOVE: BRUNNER-ROUTLEDGE; 2001; Pb £13.99 (ISBN 1 58391152 9)

REVIEWED BY Frank Sharp

attachment theory, and has also written many contemporary and stimulating papers on attachment theory. This book appears to bring these papers together to answer his own argument for rapprochement between attachment theory and psychoanalysis.

Holmes takes this approach further, however, by touching on its utility in other therapeutic modalities, and most readers will gain some understanding of the

relationship dynamics that exist between patient and therapist. The links made between attachment theory and personality disorder are clear: one can see the insecure-avoidant/dismissing pattern in the narcissist and the insecure-ambivalent/preoccupation in the borderline. My one criticism would be that the insecure-disorganised pattern is often prevalent but is not examined in great depth by the author. Nevertheless, it is



a good read as an informative, integrative, introduction to attachment theory and practice.

■ *Frank Sharp works as a psychotherapist in the Psychological Services, Ashworth Hospital.*

