

MUSIC AS A PROFESSION OR AS EDUCATION FOR ALL

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Abstract

It has long been thought that musical education should be reserved only to those who would make a living career out of their knowledge of music. Today, the general perception has partly changed, although many educators continue to bear the prejudice that musical instruction is a prerogative only to the preparation of the would-be-musicians. The teachers' mentality, alongside with that of the parents, has to be changed. We have to consider that musical education is beneficial to everyone's quality of life. Music is one of the components of global culture that belongs not only to the gifted individuals, or the ones who want to become music professionals. The difference between "education through music" versus "education for music" is false and unrealistic. Musical education means, in fact, not only the development of instrumental skills and understanding of musical events, but also the improvement of the creative skills, learning to respect the rules, and to listen to the music of others. Thus, musical education embraces a whole series of transverse elements as well as specific ones. Music teachers have to bear this in their minds and to pay attention to the overall system of music education, not only to the development of individual instrumental skills. A further confusion in terms of requirements to the development of musical skills is caused by the cherishing of the illusion that there is no interrelationship between the educational practices related to the execution of an instrument and the experiences related to the study or analysis of a musical work. A true musical competence is enriched by the incorporation of the two aspects: the "making of music" and the "reflecting on music." The conceiving of music just in technical terms is already outdated and ineffective. Musical universe is a privileged tool to ensure children's active engagement in education. It has been noticed that the most successful activities are the musical activities organized by students of all school levels, the primary and secondary ones.

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