



Interpretation and Style in Music

with Vahn Armstrong

- Music is always about something
 - Could be joy, sorrow, love, anger, or something more complex and abstract
 - Fundamentally about being human—we are not just technical machines
- Give yourself permission to be an artist
 - Being musical is about having feelings
 - You don't have to have an amazing technique to be an amazing artist
 - Don't put off being musical
- Technique and musicality are like 2 sides of a ladder—you need both to climb
 - Musicianship and the artistry are essential to the process of improving your technique
- Interpreting the music on the page
 - Manuscript is limited in what it tells us—try to do your best to do what is indicated on the page
 - Then add your own compassion, imagination, conviction
- Steal from other people (don't just copy from one)
 - Don't just listen to 1 recording and copy it, listen to 10 recordings and steal your favorite things you like from each of them—take only what you like
 - Go to live concerts every chance you get

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