

Please discuss two or more aspects of the role, which gesture play in contemporary thought about meaning formation in musical contexts.

For the last years the discussion about communication and expression has been quite interesting. When thinking about how a person expresses his or her feelings. The first thing almost everyone would mention is language; you express your feelings with words. The second thing people would perhaps mention is facial expression. We emphasize your feelings and opinion with the look of your face by lowering your eyebrows in sadness or opening your mouth when we are surprised.

We are constantly giving signals on how we feel or even think, and most of the time we do not realize it. Body language is a behavior that has been studied for some time as the data shows us that there is a clear connection between our feelings and how we use our body. The most used sample about body language is when a person in a conversation with a another person, crosses her arms in front of her chest. Studies show that by doing that the person is subconsciously closing her self in that conversation making it harder for the other person to connect to her. Although I think this is debatable and does not apply to every case where a person crosses her arms, I find it very interesting how the human still uses body language to that extent when the man has developed a complex form of sound that we use to communicate with other persons and we call language.

The thing is that words and facial expressions can be deceiving and does not tell us if the person that is speaking is true to his words. Therefore the study of a body language has come more relevant for example in investigations of crime. Because it is harder for the human being to fake his bodily expressions and it can give important leads in search for the truth. I think people need to train themselves more to notice what signals other people are giving and use them to understand the true meaning of the words used in a conversation.

This is also helpful in understanding the meaning of a play or a musical performance. Actors, before performing on stage, have learn the role the personality they are portraying and the use of body language is very important to make that character come to life and be credible towards the audience. The same can be said about musical performance. There is nothing worse in musical performance than an instrument player or a singer that has no connection to the song or the lyrics he is portraying. A singer that stands still on both feet, using only his voice will quickly become boring to watch. This brings me to the opinion on popular music today where pop-idols are practically manufactured on an assembly line like the T-model by Henry Ford. Most of them have little or no talent to express the meaning of music and on top of that it can be argued that much of the popular music today has no meaning at all other than to sell. The feelings people have begun to experience today from pop music are perhaps based on factors that have nothing to do with the meaning of music in general. When a performer needs to have a million dollar light show, 10-20 dancers on the stage, and playback of digital recordings the true meaning of music becomes lost in smoke and noise. The development in musical experience has become dreadful when the only thing you can say about a musical performance “well at least there was a killer laser-show”

A true real talented musical performer, singer or an instrument player” is capable of portray the meaning of the music he play by using his talent, discipline, feelings, and body language to deliver the true meaning of the music straight to the senses of the audience. A real musical performer is much like an actor in a drama play in front of a live audience. Just like the actor the musician needs to make his performance believable and authentic so the audience will believe and experience the performance in the most clearest and best way. If the musician is not capable of doing that his credibility as a talent will not rise in the minds of the audience.