

MUSIC+

Integrating multimedia and electroacoustic elements in student's repertoire

What is multimedia and electroacoustic music?

Multimedia music is any musical piece that uses other media disciplines – visual arts, film, poetry, literature – in combination with music. Electroacoustic music combines music with electronically generated sounds, such as *musique concrete*, tape music, computer music, and synthesizers.

Benefits:

Adding new elements to existing repertoire can have many benefits for the students.

- Fostering creativity
- Increasing understanding of the music
- Encourage exploration of different musical genres and technology
- Increase relevance to the 21st century
- Highlight and showcase students other talents and interests

Equipment and Software:

Equipment

- Computer
- Projector and screen
- Microphone
- Speaker and amplifiers
- USB/MIDI Pedal
- Headphones or monitor
- Numerous adapters (Mac users)
- Recording Device
- iPad/Apps

Software

- Audio/video player
- Audio/video editor
- Powerpoint/Keynote
- Photo editor
- Garageband/Audacity
- Skype/Livestream/Youtube
- G-Force Visualizer
- Download Helper
- MaxMSP/Ableton/Logic

Project Ideas:

The possibilities with this music are practically endless. Ideas include: fixed video, interactive slideshow, 'reactive' visuals, EA accompaniments, original compositions, improvisations on video/text/photographs, or 'long-distance' concerts.

Performance Considerations:

When planning multimedia concerts, there are a number of things to keep in mind:

- Venues must be able to support the technology requirements
- Knowledge of how to work audio mixers
- Support staff – you will need people to help run the technology
- Many students will be comfortable with the technology, but overwhelmed by the possibilities.
- Experiment with technology yourself, so you can explore the possibilities with your students
- Dress rehearsals are a must! Nothing ever goes the way you think it will.