

# Peripetie - Schoenberg. Composed in 1909, first performed in 1912.

## The Elements of Music

Melody



Rhythm



Texture



Instruments



Genre



Harmony & Tonality



Structure



### MELODY

Made up of short, fragmented motifs that are combined in different ways.  
Disjunct, angular, octave displacement (suddenly uses a note in a different octave)  
Varied through imitation, inversion (upside down) and augmentation (notes longer)

Here are examples of three motifs.  
Opening motif. Angular, triplets, built on a hexachord.



Angular, dissonant interval of a 7<sup>th</sup>.  
#  
Woodwind, dissonant chord.



### INSTRUMENTS

Written for a large orchestra.  
Instrumentation changes rapidly throughout - contrasts in **timbre** (sound)  
Extremes of pitch range.  
Unusual effects (e.g. double bass **tremolo** close to the bridge)  
Piccolo, Cor anglais, Bass clarinet, Contrabassoon, Tam-tam.

### GENRE

**Expressionism.** Early 20<sup>th</sup> century movement. Intense emotion is expressed.  
Full use of **pitch range** and wide leaps in the melody.  
Huge **dynamic range**  
Shorter pieces  
**Timbre** is as important as melody. The sound contributes as much as pitch.

### STRUCTURE

**Free rondo form.**  
ABACA  
Sections are different lengths.  
A section is not exactly the same.

### RHYTHM

Metre (beats in a bar) changes between 3/4, 2/4 and 4/4.  
Tempo is *sehr rasch* (very quick)  
Rhythms are complex, varied and change very quickly. #

### TEXTURE

Constantly changing.  
Contrast between the dramatic effect of full orchestra and sparser textures with fewer instruments.  
Complex and polyphonic, with moments of homophonic and monophonic (you need to listen carefully to whichever section is played)  
Ideas developed through imitation and inversion.  
Frequent and sudden dynamic changes.

### HARMONY AND TONALITY

Atonal - isn't in a key.  
Dissonant harmony (clashes)  
Chords and melodies built up from Hexachords. (6 notes)  
**C - B $\flat$  - E - F - C $\sharp$  - A**