

WORDS COMMONLY USED TO DESCRIBE MELODY

Interval: The distance between two musical pitches is an interval. Intervals may be sounded **simultaneously** or **successively**.

Leap/Steps: A melody moves by small intervals called steps or by larger ones called leaps.

Repetition: Besides moving up or down by step or leap, a melody may simply repeat the same note.

Range: A melody range is the distance between its lowest and highest tones.

Phrase: Many melodies are made up of shorter parts called phrases.

Climax: Often the highest tone of a melody will be the climax, the emotional focal point.

Sequence: Repetition of a melodic pattern on a higher or lower pitch is called a sequence.

Theme: A melody that serves as the starting point for a piece of music and, will go through all kinds of changes.

Scales: The pitches of which music is created may be organized in specific ascending and descending patterns called scales.

ITALIAN TERMS

Amoroso: tender and affectionate

Detache: detached

Legato: smooth and connected

Grazioso: gracefully

Morendo: dying away

Religioso: religious, solemn

Sostenuto: sustained

Con Fuoco: with energy or passion

Cantabile: in a singing style

Con Anima: with life and animation

Animato: animated; lively

Dolce: sweetly

Leggiero: lightly

Marcato: marked and stressed

Perdendosi : dying away

Semplice: simple

Soto voce: in an undertone

Grandioso: with grandeur

Espressivo: expressively

Giocoso: humorous

Calando: gradually softer and slower

Doloroso: sorrowfully

Maestoso: majestically

Marzial: in the style of a march

Pesante: heavy

Sempre: always, continuously

Tranquillo: tranquil

Furioso: furious

Con Brio: with vigor and spirit

Deciso: decisively