



HARTFORD HERITAGE PROJECT

“Critical Review - One Note”

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Suggested Partners: Hartford Symphony Orchestra, the Bushnell

MUS 101 Music History and Appreciation

MUS 104 World Music

MUS 150 Class Piano 1

MUS 151 Class Piano 2

After attending the orchestra performance by the Hartford Symphony, take on the role of music critic and write a 200 - 400 word review (positive or negative) using our SHMIRF outline: SOUND: the texture, use of instruments, tone color - HARMONY: how does the composer use harmony; are the chords, thick, simple, complex, traditional, dissonant - MELODY: try to put into words how the composer uses melody, describe how the melody seems, what kind of aural shapes - INTERPRETATION: comment on the performance itself, the energy, the way the orchestra interpreted the piece, how the conductor seemed, if there were soloists, how did they perform - RHYTHM: is there a steady, pulsing rhythm, or is it free and fluid - FORM: how the piece is put together, the composition, structures, did you notice any motives or themes.

Attending a concert together as a class contributes several things to the course: 1 - Experiencing live music, seeing musicians perform in-person at professional levels validates the skills and concepts we are discussing in the classroom. 2 - It reinforces the value of art music that I present in the classroom. 3 - It creates a renewed interest in the subject matter for the remainder of the course