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Set Works A

aims

- To gain a deeper understanding of the Set Works in group A, so that you can approach Set Works questions with confidence.

exam focus










TO BE EXAMINED IN 2011–2013

- J. S. Bach, Cantata BWV 78, 'Jesu, der du meine Seele' (1724)
- P. I. Tchaikovsky, *Romeo and Juliet* Fantasy Overture (1880)
- Queen, 'Bohemian Rhapsody' (1975)
- Gerald Barry, Piano Quartet No. 1 (1992)

Quick revision – Set Works A

Work	Movement/ Section	Time Signature	Key Signature	Style	Tempo	
J.S. Bach (1685–1750) Cantata BWV 78 'Jesu, der du meine Seele'	Chorus SATB	3/4	g minor	Baroque sacred cantata for the fourteenth Sunday after Trinity, based on text by Johann Rist	No tempo markings	
	Aria (Duet) Soprano and Alto	C	B \flat major			
	Recitativo Tenor	C	g minor/C			
	Aria Tenor	6/8	g minor			
	Recitativo Bass	C	E \flat major/ f minor			Vivace Adagio Andante
	Aria Bass	C	c minor			No tempo markings
	Chorale Chorus SATB	C	g minor; ends in G major			

Work	Movement/ Section	Time Signature	Key Signature	Style	Tempo
P.I. Tchaikovsky (1840–93) <i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	Introduction	C	f# minor f minor e minor b minor	Romantic symphonic fantasy overture	Andante non tasto quasi moderato
	Exposition		b minor D \flat major		Allegro guisto
	Development		f# minor g minor b minor		Allegro guisto
	Recapitulation		b minor D major b minor		Allegro guisto
	Coda		B major		Moderato assai
Queen <i>'Bohemian Rhapsody'</i>	Intro	4/4 5/4	B \flat major	Pop close-harmony style	Slowly
	Song	4/4 2/4	B \flat major E \flat major	Rock ballad	Slowly
	Opera	4/4 2/4	A major A \flat major E \flat major	Pastiche – popular operatic section	Twice as fast
	Song	4/4 2/4	E \flat major	Rock style	Twice as fast
	Coda	4/4	Ends in F	Rock style	Tempo 1
Gerald Barry <i>Piano Quartet No. 1</i> <i>Sí Bheag, Sí Mhór</i>	A	3/4 4/4		Contemporary classical piano quartet with some trad Irish influences	 = 108
	B	3/4, 3/8, 4/4, 3/16		2/4, 2/8, 5/8,	 = 72  = 80 (B2)
	C	3/4, 3/8, 2/8, 3/16, 2/4, 4/4			From  = 58 to  = 168

Work	Movement/ Section	Time Signature	Key Signature	Style	Tempo
Gerald Barry Piano Quartet No. 1	D	1/8, 3/16, 2/8, 3/8, 5/16, 3/4, 4/4, 2/4			 = 126 wild!
	E	3/4, 3/8, 2/8, 3/16, 4/4, 2/4, 2/8			 = 138 (E2)
	F	3/2, 3/4, 4/2, 3/8, 2/2			 = 138
	G	2/8, 3/16, 3/8, 2/4, 1/4,			 = 126
	H <i>Lord Mayo's Delight</i>	2/2, 3/4, 3/2, 3/8			 = 104

Instruments used in Set Works A

Composer	Vocal	Strings	Woodwind Brass	Brass	Percussion	Keyboard/ Other
Bach	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Tchaikovsky		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Queen	✓				✓	✓
Barry		✓				✓

J. S. Bach: 'Jesu, der du meine Seele'

You should be able to:

- identify themes and movements from a listening or written extract
- identify instruments and voices in each movement from a listening or written extract
- understand the compositional and instrumental/vocal techniques used by Bach in this cantata
- understand the form, textures and harmonies used in each movement
- understand how Bach sets the text musically and what the text means
- understand the word setting (syllabic/melismatic).



OVERVIEW

- This cantata is a product of Bach's **Leipzig period**. It was written for the fourteenth Sunday after Trinity.
- It was at Leipzig, between 1723 and 1744, that Bach developed and perfected this form of the chorale cantata.
- The spirit of this form is that the entire chorale (hymn tune) becomes the basis of the cantata.
- The theme of this cantata is **consolation**.
- It is one of the best-known Bach cantatas and was one of Felix Mendelssohn's favourite cantatas.

Glossary

Aria: A song for soloist or duet.

Binary form: A B.

Canon: Strict imitation.

Cantata: A sacred or secular work composed for soloists, chorus and orchestra.

Chaconne theme: Where the theme begins in the bass and it continues in other instruments/voices.

Chorale: Choral or instrumental music based on a hymn tune.

Continuo: More than one instrument playing the accompaniment or bass line.

Da capo: An instruction to go back to the start and finish at *Fine*.

Figured bass: Notes underneath the bass line which indicate which notes the organ/harpichord player plays. For example, if G is in the bass and 5/3 is written underneath the third and fifth notes over G will be played and so the chord will be G,B, D.

Homophonic: One line of melody with accompaniment.

Monophonic: One line of melody without accompaniment.

Polyphonic: Two or more lines of melody together.

Recitative: Speech-like song (narrating a story through song). There are two types of recitative: *recitative secco*, in which the accompaniment is sparse and chordal; and

recitative accompagnata, in which the accompaniment is more complex and there is a thicker texture (more instruments).

Ritornello form: A theme is repeated over and over e.g. **A B A C A D A B A**.

Sequence: An idea repeated up or down a note.

Ternary form: A B A.

Word-painting: Something is described through music.



VOICE PARTS

- Soprano: high female voice.
- Tenor: high male voice.
- Alto: low female voice.
- Bass: low male voice.

Bach Cantata BWV 78 Movement/Voices	Instruments
Chorus SATB	2 violins, viola, cello (as part of continuo), flute, 2 oboes, continuo (harpsichord), horn (doubling soprano line)
Aria Duet Soprano and alto soloists	continuo (organ and cello) with double bass
Recitativo Tenor solo	continuo (organ or harpsichord and cello)
Aria Tenor solo	flute and continuo
Recitativo Bass solo	(accompanied recitative) 2 violins, viola and continuo
Aria Bass solo	oboe, 2 violins, viola and continuo
Chorale SATB chorus	Tutti doubling the vocal lines: S — flute, oboe I, violin I, horn A — oboe II, violin II T — viola B — continuo

Analysis of Cantata BWV 78

Movement 1

Text

'Jesus, you are my soul. Through your bitter death you powerfully saved me from the devil's wicked hell and the serious misery of my soul. And through your pleasant word you let me know this. You are now, oh Lord, my redemption.'

- **Form:** Ritornello form.
- **Key:** G minor. However, based on modulations in the Chorale: g minor – D – F – B flat – g minor.
- **Three ideas/themes: 1a, 1b and 1c.**

Theme 1a



Theme 1b



Theme 1c



FEATURES

- Polyphonic/**contrapuntal** texture
- **Melisma** on 'heraus' (away)
- Sequences
- Ornamentation
- Chromaticism
- Inversion (1b)
- **Word-painting** (heraus), 1b downward chromatic scale suggesting suffering and descent into hell.