

BAR-ILAN UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

CURRICULUM VITAE

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PERSONAL DATA

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Place of Birth: Israel

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EDUCATION

1984-1988 B.A Mus Tel Aviv University Music Academy

2005-2008 M.Ed Levinsky College

THESIS

Falling in Love with Music

Looking at the Listening Experience:

A Qualitative Study.

SUPERVISOR:

Dr. Lia Laor

ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS/APPOINTMENTS

2012 to date Lecturer

COURSES TAUGHT/TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate: elementary and high school: Yuvalim and Maayan, Emek Hefer

B.A music teaching program

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Head of Educational Music Listening Program: Paama

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ACADEMIC PROFILE

Abstract

"Falling in Love with Music" is a qualitative study that focused on the stories of sixteen participants aged 9 to 93 years old that live in kibbutz Ein Hahores. The research centered on the experience of listening to music of its participants and its meaning to their life. The participants were asked to choose a musical piece that is special to them.

The research question that directed this study was: what can we learn from different listening experiences, described by the subjective listener, that can highlight the meaning and importance of listening to music, as a peak experience in people's lives, and what do they feel during and after listening to music.

In this study, an open ended interview has been conducted with each participant. The interviews were written and taped, and the findings were interpreted by a grounded theory, searching carefully for meeting points.

The findings of this study show that listening to music has a very important part in the lives of the participants. They describe it as a deep experience, personal and private, a qualitative moment in which the listener is totally involved with the music he loves, with himself and with his real and imaginative world, with art and beauty, with his memories, his longings, his loves and pains.

From the stories of the participants we can learn about the power of music to bring moments of joy and spirituality to their lives as well as peaceful and stormy moments. Music evokes good feelings and sad ones. Music offers an escape from difficulty and a struggle with it and creates a sense of intimacy which connects people together. Music facilitates coping with loneliness and other problematic situations.

The findings of this research show that the knowledge and information about the music are important to the listeners, but are not a necessary condition to their enjoyment and their positive experience. It shows the importance of the merging point between the listener and the music, in place, time, circumstances and people involved, as all these take place in the listener's experience.

The conclusions of the research strengthens the understanding of the meaning of the experience of listening to music in a person's life, and emphasizes its importance and advantages. Listening to music should be in the heart of the educational and cultural programs, in our society and community. Our role as music educators is to actualize, to expose, to teach, to educate our pupils and our environment to listen to music, to be sensitive and conscious listeners, experiencing a rich cultural world, through the esthetic and personal experience, that will bring them joy, love, positive feelings, along with a cognitive development, knowledge and understanding, developing their personal taste and identity and getting closer to themselves, as whole and happy people, at every age, place and time.

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