

# A LIST OF THE PRINCIPAL WORDS USED IN MODERN MUSIC.

WITH THEIR ABBREVIATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS.

<i>A</i> .....	to, in, or at; <i>A tempo</i> , in time.
<i>Accelerando</i> ( <i>accel.</i> ).....	Gradually increasing the speed.
<i>Accent</i> .....	Emphasis on certain parts of the measure.
<i>Adagio</i> .....	Slow; leisurely.
<i>Ad libitum</i> ( <i>ad lib.</i> ).....	At pleasure; not in strict time.
<i>A due</i> ( <i>a 2</i> ).....	To be played by both instruments.
<i>Agitato</i> .....	Restless, with agitation.
<i>Al</i> or <i>Alla</i> .....	In the style of.
<i>Alla Marcia</i> .....	In the style of a March.
<i>Allegretto</i> .....	Moderately quick.
<i>Allegro</i> .....	Quick and lively.
<i>Allegro assai</i> .....	Very rapidly.
<i>Amore</i> .....	Love. <i>Con amore</i> , Fondly; tenderly.
<i>Amoroso</i> .....	Affectionately.
<i>Andante</i> .....	In moderately-slow time.
<i>Andantino</i> .....	A little less slow than Andante.
<i>Anima, con</i> }.....	With animation.
<i>Animato</i> }	
<i>A piacere</i> .....	At pleasure.
<i>Appassionato</i> .....	Impassioned.
<i>Arpeggio</i> .....	A broken chord.
<i>Assai</i> .....	Very: <i>Allegro assai</i> , very rapidly.
<i>A tempo</i> .....	In the original movement.
<i>Attaca</i> .....	Commence the next movement at once.
<i>Barcarolle</i> .....	A Venetian boatman's song.
<i>Ben</i> .....	Well; <i>Ben marcato</i> , well marked.
<i>Bis</i> .....	Twice; repeat the passage.
<i>Bravura</i> .....	Brilliant, bold, spirited.
<i>Brillante</i> .....	Showy, sparkling, brilliant.
<i>Brio, con</i> .....	With much spirit.
<i>Cadenza</i> .....	A passage introduced as an embellishment.
<i>Calando</i> .....	Decreasing in power and speed.
<i>Cantabile</i> .....	In a singing style.
<i>Caprice</i> .....	A composition of irregular construction.
<i>Capriccio, a</i> .....	At pleasure.
<i>Cavatina</i> .....	A movement in vocal style. [sounds.
<i>Chord</i> .....	A combination of three or more musical
<i>Coda</i> .....	A finishing movement.
<i>Col</i> or <i>con</i> .....	With.
<i>Crescendo</i> ( <i>cres.</i> ).....	Gradually louder.
<i>Da</i> or <i>dal</i> .....	From.
<i>Da Capo</i> ( <i>D. C.</i> ).....	From the beginning.
<i>Dal Segno</i> ( <i>D. S.</i> ).....	From the sign.
<i>Decrescendo</i> ( <i>decresc.</i> ).....	Decreasing in strength.
<i>Delicatezza, con</i> .....	Delicately; refined in style.
<i>Diminuendo</i> ( <i>dim.</i> ).....	Gradually softer.
<i>Divisi</i> .....	Divided. Each part to be played by a sepa-
<i>Dolce</i> .....	Softly, sweetly. [rate instrument.
<i>Dolcissimo</i> .....	Very sweetly and softly.
<i>Dominant</i> .....	The fifth tone in the major or minor scale.
<i>Duet</i> or <i>duo</i> .....	A composition for two performers.
<i>E</i> .....	And.
<i>Elegante</i> .....	Elegant; graceful.
<i>Embouchure</i> .....	The mouthpiece of a wind instrument.
<i>Enharmonic</i> .....	Alike in pitch but different in notation.
<i>Energico</i> .....	With energy, vigorously.
<i>Espressione, con</i> .....	Expressively, with expression.
<i>Finale</i> .....	The concluding movement.
<i>Fine</i> .....	The end.
<i>Forse</i> ( <i>f</i> ).....	Loud.
<i>Fortissimo</i> ( <i>ff</i> ).....	Loud and instantly soft again.
<i>Fortissimo</i> ( <i>ff</i> ).....	Very loud.
<i>Forza</i> .....	Force of tone.
<i>Forzando</i> ( <i>fz</i> ).....	Accentuate the sound.
<i>Fuoco, con</i> .....	With fire; with spirit.
<i>Furioso</i> .....	Furiously; passionately.
<i>Giocoso</i> .....	Joyously; playfully.
<i>Giusto</i> .....	Exact; in strict time.
<i>Grandioso</i> .....	Grand; pompous; majestic.
<i>Grave</i> .....	Very slow and solemn.
<i>Grazioso</i> .....	Gracefully.
<i>Gusto</i> .....	Taste.
<i>Harmony</i> .....	A combination of musical sounds.
<i>Key-note</i> .....	The first degree of the Scale.
<i>Largamente</i> .....	Very broad in style.
<i>Larghetto</i> .....	Slow, but not so slow as Largo.
<i>Largo</i> .....	Broad and slow.
<i>Legato</i> .....	Smoothly, the reverse of Staccato.
<i>Leger-line</i> .....	A small added line above or below the staff.
<i>Leggiero</i> .....	Lightly.
<i>Lento</i> .....	Slow, but not as slow as Largo.
<i>L'istesso tempo</i> .....	In the same time.
<i>Loco</i> .....	Play as written, no longer <i>8va</i> .
<i>Ma</i> .....	But. <i>Ma non troppo</i> , But not too much.
<i>Maestoso</i> .....	Majestically, dignified.
<i>Maggiore</i> .....	Major Key.
<i>Marcato</i> .....	Marked. With distinctness and emphasis.
<i>Meno</i> .....	Less. <i>Meno mosso</i> , Less quickly.
<i>Mezzo</i> .....	Moderately.
<i>Mezzo piano</i> ( <i>mp</i> ).....	Moderately soft.
<i>Minore</i> .....	Minor Key.
<i>Moderato</i> .....	Moderately. <i>Allegro moderato</i> , moderately
<i>Molto</i> .....	Much; very. [fast.
<i>Morendo</i> .....	Gradually softer.
<i>Mosso</i> .....	Moved. <i>Piu mosso</i> , quicker.
<i>Moto</i> .....	Motion. <i>Con moto</i> , with animation.
<i>Non</i> .....	Not.
<i>Notation</i> .....	{ The art of representing inusual sounds by characters visible to the eye.
<i>Obligato</i> .....	An indispensable part.
<i>Octave</i> .....	A series of 8 consecutive diatonic tones.
<i>Opus</i> ( <i>Op.</i> ).....	A work.
<i>Ossia</i> .....	Or; or else. Generally indicating an easier
<i>Ottava</i> ( <i>8va</i> ).....	To be played an octave higher. [method.
<i>Pause</i> (°).....	The sign indicating pause or finish.
<i>Perdendosi</i> .....	Dying away gradually.
<i>Pesante</i> .....	Heavily; with firm and vigorous execution.
<i>Piacere, a</i> .....	At pleasure.
<i>Pianissimo</i> ( <i>pp</i> ).....	Very soft.
<i>Piano</i> ( <i>p</i> ).....	Soft.
<i>Piu</i> .....	More. <i>Piu Allegro</i> , More quickly.
<i>Poco</i> or <i>un poco</i> .....	A little.
<i>Poco a poco</i> .....	Gradually, by degrees.
<i>Poco piu mosso</i> .....	A little faster.
<i>Poco meno</i> .....	A little slower.
<i>Poco piu</i> .....	A little faster.
<i>Foi</i> .....	Then; afterwards.
<i>Pomposo</i> .....	Pompous; grand.
<i>Prestissimo</i> .....	As fast as possible.
<i>Presto</i> .....	Very quick; faster than Allegro.
<i>Primo</i> ( <i>1mo</i> ).....	The first.
<i>Quartet</i> .....	A piece of music for four performers.
<i>Quasi</i> .....	As if; similar to; in the style of.
<i>Quintet</i> .....	A piece of music for five performers.
<i>Rallentando</i> ( <i>rall.</i> ).....	Gradually slower.
<i>Rinforzando</i> .....	With special emphasis.
<i>Ritardando</i> ( <i>rit.</i> ).....	Slackening speed.
<i>Risoluto</i> .....	Resolutely; bold; energetic.
<i>Ritenuito</i> .....	Retarding the time.
<i>Scherzando</i> .....	Playfully; sportively.
<i>Secondo</i> ( <i>2do</i> ).....	The second time (or part.)
<i>Seconda volta</i> .....	The second time.
<i>Segue</i> .....	Follow on in similar style.
<i>Semplice</i> .....	Simply; unaffectedly.
<i>Sempre</i> .....	Always; continually.
<i>Senza</i> .....	Without. <i>Senza sordino</i> , Without mute.
<i>Sforzando</i> ( <i>sf</i> ).....	Forcibly; with sudden emphasis.
<i>Simile</i> .....	In like manner.
<i>Smorzando</i> ( <i>smorz.</i> ).....	Diminishing the sound.
<i>Solo</i> .....	For one performer only.
<i>Sordino</i> .....	A Mute. <i>Con Sordino</i> , With the Mute.
<i>Sostenuto</i> .....	Sustained, prolonged.
<i>Sotto</i> .....	Under. <i>Sotto voce</i> , In a subdued tone.
<i>Spirito</i> .....	Spirit. <i>Con Spirito</i> , Forcefully.
<i>Staccato</i> .....	Detached, separated.
<i>Stentando</i> .....	Dragging or retarding the tempo.
<i>Stretto</i> .....	An increase of speed. <i>Piu Stretto</i> , Faster.
<i>Subdominant</i> .....	The 4th tone in the diatonic scale.
<i>Syncopation</i> .....	Change of accent from a strong beat to a
<i>Tacet</i> .....	Be silent. [weak one.
<i>Tempo</i> .....	Movement.
<i>Tempo primo</i> .....	As at first.
<i>Tenuto</i> ( <i>ten.</i> ).....	Held for the full value.
<i>Theme</i> .....	The subject or melody.
<i>Timbre</i> .....	Quality of tone.
<i>Tonic</i> .....	The key-note of any scale.
<i>Tremolo</i> .....	A trembling, fluttering movement.
<i>Trio</i> .....	A piece of music for three performers.
<i>Triplet</i> .....	{ A group of 3 notes to be performed in the time of two of equal value.
<i>Troppo</i> .....	Too much. <i>Allegro ma non troppo</i> , not too
<i>Tutti</i> .....	All; all the instruments. [quick.
<i>Un</i> .....	A; one; an.
<i>Unison</i> .....	Alike in pitch.
<i>Una corda</i> .....	On one string.
<i>Variation</i> .....	The transformation and embellishment of a
<i>Veloce</i> .....	Rapid; swift; quick. [melody.
<i>Vibrato</i> .....	A wavy tone-effect which should be sparing-
<i>Vivace</i> .....	With vivacity; bright; spirited. [ly used.
<i>Vivo</i> .....	Lively.
<i>Voce</i> .....	The voice; a certain part.
<i>Volkslied</i> .....	A national or folk song.
<i>Volti subito</i> ( <i>V. S.</i> ).....	Turn over quickly.