

Lecture Five: Stages in the Evolution of Music

In this article I do two things. Firstly, I analyze musical devices in terms commensurate with those in lectures three and four. The analysis focuses on how various properties of sound are “abstracted” from the gestalt and subject to interdependent regimes of structure. Secondly, taking jazz as an example, I consider how musical forms from different evolutionary strata, as it were, can co-exist in the same historical period. In a sense, the evolution of jazz through roughly the first half of the twentieth century recapitulates the evolution of music from its origins up into the twentieth century.

Stages in the Evolution of Music

http://asweknowit.ca/evcult/Music_Evol.shtml