

SOUND

Music, Speech and Voice - Eloquence and Song

1. ESSENCE

- 4581 The voice is nothing but beaten air.
Seneca (B.C. 3-65 A.D.)
- 4582 Music is nothing else but wild sounds civilized into time
and tune.
Thomas Fuller (1608-1661)
- 4583 Eloquence is a painting of the thoughts.
Pascal (1623-1662)
- 4584 Music is the poetry of the air.
Richter (1763-1825)
- 4585 Eloquence is the poetry of prose.
William Cullen Bryant (1794-1878)
- 4586 Music is well said to be the speech of angels.
Carlyle (1795-1881)
- 4587 Music is the harmonious voice of creation;
an echo of the invisible world...
Giuseppe Mazzini (1805-1872)
- 4588 Music is the universal language of mankind.
Longfellow (1807-1882)
- 4589 Music is the shorthand of emotion.
Leo Tolstoy (1828-1910)

2. OPPOSITES

- 4590 As empty vessels make the loudest sound,
so they that have the least wit are the greatest babblers.
Plato (B.C. 427?-347?)
- 4591 As a vessel is known by the sound, whether it be cracked or
not; so men are proved, by their speeches, whether they be
wise or foolish.
Demosthenes (B.C. 384-322)
- 4592 Talking and eloquence are not the same:
to speak and to speak well are two things.
A fool may talk, but a wise man speaks.
Ben Jonson (1572-1637)

- 4593 As it is the characteristic of great wits to say much in few words, so it is of small wits to talk much and say nothing.
La Rochefoucauld (1613-1680)
- 4594 Speech was given to the ordinary sort of men,
whereby to communicate their mind;
but to wise men, whereby to conceal it.
Robert South (1634-1716)
- 4595 In oratory, the greatest art is to conceal art.
Swift (1667-1745)
- 4596 What the orators lack in depth, they give you in length.
Montesquieu (1689-1755)
- 4597 Music should strike fire from the heart of man,
and bring tears from the eyes of woman.
Beethoven (1770-1827)
- 4598 When you talk, you repeat what you already know;
when you listen, you often learn something.
Jared Sparks (1789-1866)
- 4599 Our sweetest songs are those which tell of saddest thought.
Shelley (1792-1822)
- 4600 Where painting is weakest, namely, in the expression of the highest moral and spiritual ideas, there music is sublimely strong.
Harriet Beecher Stowe (1811-1896)
- 4601 Speech is but broken light upon the depth
Of the unspoken.
George Eliot (1819-1880)
- 4602 Speech is silvern, silence is golden;
speech is human, silence is divine.
German Proverb

3. INSIGHT

- 4603 Each time a new soul descends in the ocean of the manifested realm...it generates a vibration which is communicated to the entire cosmic ocean...Each creature and every so-called thing (one should say being) is a crystallization of a part of this symphony of vibrations. Thus we are like a sound petrified in solid matter and which continues indefinitely to resound in this matter...and the word became flesh.
Kabbalah (B.C. 1200?-700? A.D.)

- 4604 The wise ones fashioned speech with their thought,
sifting it as grain is sifted through a sieve.
Rig Veda (B.C. 1200-900?)
- 4605 Speech was divided into four parts that the inspired
priests know. Three parts, hidden in deep secret, humans
do not stir into action; the fourth part of Speech is what
men speak.
Rig Veda (B.C. 1200-900?)
- 4606 Austerity of speech consists in speaking truthfully and
beneficially and in avoiding speech that offends.
Bhagavad Gita (c. B.C. 400)
- 4607 He is an eloquent man who can treat humble subjects with
delicacy, lofty things impressively, and moderate things
temperately.
Cicero (B.C. 106-43)
- 4608 Abstruse questions must have abstruse answers.
Plutarch (46-120 A.D.)
- 4609 It is of eloquence as of a flame; it requires matter to
feed it, motion to excite it, and it brightens as it burns.
Tacitus (55-117 A.D.)
- 4610 There is music wherever there is harmony, order, or
proportion.
Thomas Browne (1605-1682)
- 4611 True eloquence consists in saying all that is necessary,
and nothing but what is necessary.
La Rochefoucauld (1613-1680)
- 4612 Eloquence is to the sublime
what the part is to the whole.
La Bruyere (1645-1696)
- 4613 Music resembles poetry:
In each are nameless graces which no methods teach
And which a master-hand alone can reach.
Pope (1688-1744)
- 4614 Music - The one incorporeal entrance into the higher world
of knowledge which comprehends mankind but which mankind
cannot comprehend.
Beethoven (1770-1827)
- 4615 The object of oratory is not truth but persuasion.
Macaulay (1800-1859)

- 4616 Speech is power: speech is to persuade, to convert,
to compel.
Emerson (1803-1882)
- 4617 There is no index of character so sure as the voice.
Disraeli (1804-1881)
- 4618 Talking is like playing on the harp; there is as much in
laying the hands on the strings to stop their vibrations
as in twanging them to bring out their music.
Oliver Wendell Holmes (1809-1894)
- 4619 All the intelligence and talent in the world can't make a
singer. The voice is a wild thing. It can't be bred in
captivity.
Willa Cather (1876-1947)
- 4620 Eloquence consists in making the speech comprehensible to
the multitude and agreeable to the learned.
Chinese Proverb

4. POSITIVE

- 4621 When thunder comes it relieves the tension and promotes
positive action. Music can do the same by making people
enthusiastic and united together. When used to promote good
it brings them closer to heaven.
I Ching (B.C. 1150?)
- 4622 When the sun and the moon are set and the fire has sunk
down, what is then the light of man? Voice then becomes his
light; and by the voice as his light he rests, goes forth,
does his work and returns. Therefore in truth when a man
cannot see even his own hand, if he hears a voice after that
he wends his way.
Upanishads (c. B.C. 800)
- 4623 Music produces a kind of pleasure which human nature cannot
do without.
Confucius (B.C. 551-479)
- 4624 The voice is the flower of beauty.
Zeno (B.C. 335?-264)
- 4625 Music is the art of the prophets, the only art that can calm
the agitations of the soul...
Martin Luther (1483-1546)
- 4626 He who sings frightens away his ills.
Cervantes (1547-1616)

- 4627 Eloquence - The art of saying things in such a way that those to whom we speak may listen to them with pleasure.
Pascal (1623-1662)
- 4628 The sweetest of all sounds is that of the voice of the woman we love.
La Bruyere (1645-1696)
- 4629 Music, the greatest good that mortals know,
And all of heaven we have below.
Addison (1672-1719)
- 4630 Music is the only sensual gratification which mankind may indulge in to excess without injury to their moral or religious feelings.
Addison (1672-1719)
- 4631 The music that can deepest reach,
And cure all ill, is cordial speech.
Emerson (1803-1882)
- 4632 Music washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life.
Berthold Auerbach (1812-1882)
- 4633 There is no feeling, except the extremes of fear and grief,
that does not find relief in music.
George Eliot (1819-1880)
- 4634 There is however, a true music of Nature - the song of the birds, the whisper of leaves, the ripple of waters upon a sandy shore, the wail of wind or sea.
Lubbock (1834-1913)
- 4635 After silence, that which comes nearest to expressing the inexpressible is music.
Aldous Huxley (1894-1963)
- 4636 All the sounds of the earth are like music.
Oscar Hammerstein (1895-1960)

5. NEGATIVE

- 4637 A dog is not considered a good dog
because he is a good barker.
A man is not considered a good man
because he is a good talker.
Chuang-tzu (fl. B.C. 350)
- 4638 Orators are most vehement when they have the weakest cause,
as men get on horseback when they cannot walk.
Cicero (B.C. 106-43)

- 4639 In labouring to be concise, I become obscure. 6 of 10
Horace (B.C. 65-8)
- 4640 Talkative people who wish to be loved are hated; when they
desire to please, they bore; when they think they are
admired, they are laughed at; they injure their friends,
benefit their enemies, and ruin themselves.
Plutarch (46-120 A.D.)
- 4641 The talkative listen to no one, for they are ever speaking.-
And the first evil that attends those who know not how to be
silent, is, that they hear nothing.
Plutarch (46-120 A.D.)
- 4642 Much talking is the cause of danger.
Silence is the means of avoiding misfortune.
The talkative parrot is shut up in a cage.
Other birds, without speech, fly freely about.
Saskya Pandita (1182-1251)
- 4643 Man has great power of speech, but the greater part thereof
is empty and deceitful. The animals have little, but that
little is useful and true; and better is a small and certain
thing than a great falsehood.
Leonardo Da Vinci (1452-1519)
- 4644 The man that hath no music in himself,
Nor is not moved with concord of sweet sounds,
Is fit for treasons, stratagems and spoils.
Shakespeare (1564-1616)
- 4645 Talking is a disease of age.
Ben Jonson (1572-1637)
- 4646 It is never so difficult to speak as when we are ashamed
of our silence.
La Rochefoucauld (1613-1680)
- 4647 It is a sad thing when men have neither the wit to speak
well, nor judgment to hold their tongues.
La Bruyere (1645-1696)
- 4648 They never taste who always drink;
They always talk who never think.
Matthew Prior (1664-1721)
- 4649 The secret of being tiresome is in telling everything.
Voltaire (1694-1778)

- 4650 The spoken discourse may roll on strongly as the great tidal wave; but, like the wave, it dies at last feebly on the sands. It is heard by few, remembered by still fewer, and fades away, like an echo in the mountains, leaving no token of power. It is the written human speech, that gave power and permanence to human thought.
Albert Pike (1809-1891)
- 4651 In general those who have nothing to say
Contrive to spend the longest time in doing it.
James Lowell (1819-1891)
- 4652 Without music life would be a mistake.
Nietzsche (1844-1900)
- 4653 The tongue is but three inches long,
yet it can kill a man six feet high.
Japanese Proverb
- 4654 The tongue like a sharp knife...
Kills without drawing blood.
Chinese Proverb

6. ADVICE

- 4655 Put a bridle on thy tongue; set a guard before thy lips,
lest the words of thine own mouth destroy thy peace...On
much speaking cometh repentance, but in silence is safety.
Akhenaton? (c. B.C. 1375)
- 4656 Hear much; speak little.
Bias (fl B.C. 600)
- 4657 Whatever words we utter should be chosen with care for
people will hear them and be influenced by them for good
or ill.
Buddha (B.C. 568-488)
- 4658 A superior man is modest in his speech,
but exceeds in his actions.
Confucius (B.C. 551-479)
- 4659 Speak briefly and to the point.
Cato the Elder (B.C. 234-149)
- 4660 We have two ears and only one tongue in order that we may
hear more and speak less.
Diogenes Laertius (c. 250 A.D.)

- 4661 Speak only at the proper place and time,
After having given due consideration.
If you utter elegant sayings too often,
Even they lose their value.
Saskya Pandita (1182-1251)
- 4662 Speak clearly if you speak at all;
carve every word before you let it fall.
Oliver Wendell Holmes (1809-1894)
- 4663 He who wants to persuade should put his trust, not in the
right argument, but in the right word. The power of sound
has always been greater than the power of sense.
Joseph Conrad (1857-1934)
- 4664 One of the best ways to persuade others is with your ears-
by listening to them.
Dean Rusk (born 1909)

7. POTPOURRI

- 4665 Thou, man, alone canst speak. Wonder at thy glorious
prerogative; and pay to Him who gave it to thee a rational
and welcome praise, teaching thy children wisdom,
instructing the offspring of thy loins in piety.
Akhenaton? (c. B.C. 1375)
- 4666 How sour sweet music is
When time is broke and no proportion kept!
So is it in the music of men's lives.
Shakespeare (1564-1616)
- 4667 The voice so sweet, the words so fair,
As some soft chime had stroke the air;
And though the sound had parted thence,
Still left an echo in the sense.
Ben Jonson (1572-1637)
- 4668 When he spoke, what tender words he used!
So softly, that like flakes of feathered snow,
They melted as they fell.
Dryden (1631-1700)
- 4669 Music hath charms to soothe a savage beast,
To soften rocks, or bend a knotted oak.
I've read that things inanimate have moved,
And as with living souls have been informed
By magic numbers and persuasive sound.
William Congreve (1670-1729)

- 4670 Music can noble hints impart, engender fury, kindle love,
with unsuspected eloquence can move and manage all the man
with secret art.
Addison (1672-1719)
- 4671 Tones that sound, and roar and storm about me until I have
set them down in notes.
Beethoven (1770-1827)
- 4672 The music in my heart I bore,
Long after it was heard no more.
Wordsworth (1770-1850)
- 4673 There's music in the sighing of a reed;
There's music in the gushing of a rill;
There's music in all things, if men had ears:
Their earth is but an echo of the spheres.
Byron (1788-1824)
- 4674 The tenor's voice is spoilt by affectation,
And for the bass, the beast can only bellow;
In fact, he had no singing education,
An ignorant, noteless, timeless, tuneless fellow.
Byron (1788-1824)
- 4675 And music lifted up the listening spirit
Until it walked, exempt from mortal care,
Godlike, o'er the clear billows of sweet sound.
Shelley (1792-1822)
- 4676 Music once admitted to the soul becomes a sort of spirit,
and never dies; it wanders perturbedly thorough the halls
and galleries of the memory, and is often heard again,
distinct and living as when it first displaced the wavelets
of the air.
Bulwer-Lytton (1803-1873)
- 4677 So she poured out the liquid music of her voice
to quench the thirst of his spirit.
Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804-1864)
- 4678 The flowering moments of the mind
Drop half their petals in our speech.
Oliver Wendell Holmes (1809-1894)
- 4679 Music was a thing of the soul -
a rose-lipped shell that murmured the eternal sea -
a strange bird singing the songs of another shore.
Josiah Holland (1819-1881)

- 4680 And the night shall be filled with music
And the cares, that infest the day,
Shall fold their tents, like the Arabs,
And as silently steal away.
Longfellow (1807-1882)
- 4681 God sent his Singers upon earth
With songs of sadness and of mirth,
That they might touch the hearts of men,
And bring them back to heaven again.
Longfellow (1807-1882)
- 4682 That rich celestial music thrilled the air
From hosts on hosts of shining ones, who thronged
Eastward and westward, making bright the night.
Edwin Arnold (1832-1904)
- 4683 Her ivory hands on the ivory keys
Strayed in a fitful fantasy
Like the silver gleam when the poplar trees
Rustle their pale leaves listlessly
Or the drifting foam of a restless sea
When the waves show their teeth on the flying breeze.
Oscar Wilde (1854-1900)
- 4684 One dog barks at a shadow...
A hundred bark at his sound.
Chinese Proverb