

C210651 : MAJOR PHILOSOPHY

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This thesis is concerned with beauty in music, especially with the problem "How can one describe beauty in music?" In general, when we say that this object is beautiful, our explanation about it is simply that we're pleased by it. But my argument is that, while "being able to cause the feeling of pleasantness" is a necessary condition for things to be beautiful, this explanation does not make one really know how things can be beautiful, and how one thing can be more or less beautiful than another. Moreover, sometimes this same explanation turns a judgment of beauty to be misguided as to the real nature of beauty, which, as I shall argue, is an objective property of a beautiful object. So the plausible explanation about beauty should also be concerned with the objects in question themselves. More specifically, I shall examine beauty in music in one of its essential aspects : that of the relation between the various components of a particular piece of music. We should ask, "What is it in the object that pleases me or enables me to say that it is beautiful?" The answers to this question will serve to be a justification of explanation about beauty in our study.