

THE QUANTUM THEORY OF MUSIC

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Quantum theory is based on the idea that energy is radiated discontinuously in quanta; and a quantum is defined as a fixed, elemental unit of energy (Webster's 1977:488). Last year, in a keynote address given at UCLA, I stressed the importance of recognizing the limitation of classical, linear methods of research used in traditional studies of music and sited examples beginning more than 20 years ago in which I tried to approach the study of music with assumptions based on quantum theory.