

WHAT IS YOUR HEART MUSIC?

Why not try this musical experiment?

Recently, a friend returned from two years in Brazil. She had been learning Portuguese, working with Brazilians and worshipping in Brazilian churches. She has found part of her destiny in that nation and loves the people. This Sunday she was at church in England. Her comment was, 'It is so lovely to be able to worship in English. I can be so much more free!' The reason for this is that her mother tongue is English and her heart music British or European.

Each of us has a heart music – in the same way we have a heart language (our mother tongue). When we want to share our deepest needs and when we are pouring out our innermost needs to God we use our heart language. Similarly we all have preferences for different types of music that resonate with a deep part of our being. The following is an experimental test and asks the question, 'What is your heart music?' It is partly based on general musical tastes and partly on Christian worship music.

This experiment is entirely for your personal benefit.

- I am hoping that you will find it illuminating.
- It could help you identify worship styles that suit you or others better.
- It might assist when choosing a suitable CD for your wife or husband.
- You might find music that helps you de-stress or focus better.

Please note:

This is **not** an exam or an IQ Test!! There are no right and wrong answers! So don't get bogged down in anything you're unsure of. If you don't know the name of something, just ask a friend who does (or leave it).

It will probably take you 20-30 minutes to complete the questionnaire.

We would like feedback!

If you find this questionnaire beneficial, please tell us.

Alternatively, if we have completely missed vital questions, please let us know.

Write an email to ethnomusicology@wec-international.org, or write a letter to Communications Directors (Ethnomusicology), WEC International, Bulstrode, Gerrards Cross, Bucks, SL9 8SZ, UK.

THE HEART MUSIC TEST (Western-Based Music Tastes)

1. WHAT ARE YOUR GENERAL MUSICAL TASTES?

HMV (UK) stores classify their music sales according to the 9 categories listed in the left column below. We have added 'Worship', referring to all Christian worship music.

Mark a score of 0-10 for the following questions (0 = never, 10 = always, and I never listen to or perform anything else). We will look at 3 musical situations:

- a) MUSIC WE TUNE IN TO: e.g. Radio, Television or Internet
- b) MUSIC WE CHOOSE TO LISTEN TO, e.g. mp3, CD, cassette, LP
- c) MUSIC WE PLAY OR SING, e.g. at church or in a musical group

For example: "Soundtracks" – Tune in = 0; Listen = 6; Play/Sing = 1. Total = 7.

	<i>TUNE IN</i>	<i>LISTEN</i>	<i>PLAY/SING</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>TOP 3 SCORES</i>
Classical					
Rock & Pop					
Soul & Dance					
Soundtracks					
Jazz & Blues					
Country					
Easy Listening					
Folk					
World					
Worship					
Other (specify)					

2. FAVOURITE ARTISTS

(Write your answers below)

Name three of your favourite artists.

What types of music do they perform?

What is your favourite musical instrument?

What types of music do you like to listen to or play?

Does this match your top 3 scores in the above table?

3. YOU KNOW MORE ABOUT THE MUSIC YOU LIKE

You probably know a bit more about types of music you like. This is another indicator of your personal heart music. List as many sub-categories as you can think of (from memory only). For example, under Classical, some may write musical eras (e.g. baroque) or types (e.g. oratorio).

After that, mark your favourite three styles (in the right column) and make them total 10. For example: "classical" = 3; country = 6; jazz & blues = 1. Total = 10.

	<i>List Sub-categories of music you know most about</i>	<i>Score Favourite 3 (totals 10)</i>
Classical		
Rock & Pop		
Soul & Dance		
Soundtracks		
Jazz & Blues		
Country		
Easy Listening		
Folk		
World		
Worship		
Other (specify)		
TOTAL		10

Which are your Favourite Three?

1. _____ your special sub-category: _____
2. _____ your special sub-category: _____
3. _____ your special sub-category: _____

N.B. Only put a special sub-category if one is clearly special to you.

4. YOU CHOOSE MUSIC YOU FEEL COMFORTABLE WITH

Many people prefer different types of music for different moods and circumstances. This is an especially clear indication of heart music.

What styles do you listen to, play or sing when you are waking up, energetic, working, tired, sad, or praying?

For each downward column make your scores add up to 10, by marking 0-10 for styles of music you prefer (0 = never, 10 = always and nothing else).

For example: under "Sad" – jazz = 6; easy listening = 3; worship = 1 (Total = 10).

	<i>Waking up</i>	<i>Energetic</i>	<i>Working</i>	<i>Tired</i>	<i>Sad</i>	<i>Praying</i>	TOTAL	TOP 3 SCORES
Classical								
Rock & Pop								
Soul & Dance								
Sound - tracks								
Jazz & Blues								
Country								
Easy Listening								
Folk								
World								
Worship								
Other (specify)								
TOTAL	10	10	10	10	10	10		

Which are your Top Three?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

What types of music have ever touched you so deeply that they made you want to cry or laugh?

YOU SHOULD NOW HAVE A GOOD IDEA ABOUT YOUR GENERAL MUSICAL PREFERENCES. Write down any further relevant observations here:

5. WHAT ARE YOUR PERSONAL WORSHIP PREFERENCES?

Think about your personal prayer life and not just your experience in church. Consider what music helps you the MOST to really enter into these areas of worship and prayer. (Think outside your current 'church' box!)

For each downward column make your scores add up to 10, by marking 0-10 for styles of music you prefer (0 = never, 10 = always and nothing else). If you do not often use music for a particular column consider what you prefer.

For example: under "Exaltation of God" – contemporary songs = 5; hymns = 3; worship from other nations = 2. Total = 10.

	<i>Exaltation of God & Passion for God</i>	<i>Drawing close to God</i>	<i>Pondering God's truths</i>	<i>Prayer, Confession, Healing & Intercession</i>	<i>Declaring Bible Truth</i>	<i>Telling the stories of faith</i>	TOTAL
Contemporary worship songs							
Gospel Choir							
Christian Youth							
Hymns							
Choral & anthems							
Reflective instrumental							
Folk-based (spirituals, celtic, etc)							
Chant (various)							
Worship from other nations							
SILENCE!							
Other (specify)							
TOTALS	10	10	10	10	10	10	

6 PERSONAL FAVOURITES

- a) List some of your personal favourite Christian artists (if you can)

- b) What general music styles do they play/sing? (if you know)

- c) How does their music appeal to you or help you?

6.WHAT DO YOU LEARN FROM YOUR ANSWERS TO 5 & 6?

Which are your Top Three preferred styles?

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

Are there any sub-categories that are especially significant to you?

How do these answers match with Questions 1, 3 and 4?

Approximately: 100% 75% 50% 25% 0%

(ring an appropriate answer)

Which of these music styles are used in your church?

Which of these do you regularly use in your own spiritual life?

Does this suggest ways you could enrich your prayer life?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

7.NOW DREAM A LITTLE.....

If you had an unlimited gift of song writing (perhaps you have!) or could commission the composition of instrumental or vocal music from a professional:

1. What music would free you the most to pray, sing or cry out:

'Praise the LORD, O my soul! All my inmost being praise His Holy Name!'

2. What music would best express the most wonderful natural scenery:

Try thinking of the most spectacular view of the mountains or oceans you have ever seen. What music would help you pray, sing, cry or shout out at this moment?

This is very probably your heart music!