

### Music Performer : Development of Personality & Character

The learning and eventual regular playing and singing performance of western classical music allows a personality and character development and improvement that is especially positive in children starting at a young age. These include and are not limited to ...

1. Performing
  - a. Playing an Instrument  
Once you have reached a level of individual capability – either in a group and mores so if an individual - you are expected to perform.
  - b. Singing  
Singing in a group may help cover some in-adequacies and is easier done. Singing alone has the same implications as above.
2. Going up along  
While easy for some, standing up, going forward and the very thought of facing an audience could be a no-no.
3. Public Speaking  
Playing an instrument or Singing may have more scary implications for a person than even Public Speaking. You could make a mistake. Hitting a wrong note. Not starting together. Many just don't play / sing at all or sing/play too softly.
4. Dress Code  
Unlike most music, classical music requires a dress code, demeanour, body-language, posture and conduct befitting a classical musician. Be aware of what is expected of you. Look smart – dress well, it gives you self-confidence to stand-alone, stand-in-front, stand-apart and perform.
5. Entertain  
You are a part of the Entertainment Industry. Audience may have paid top-dollar OR take time-out, travelled to come and 'hear' you. Entertain them. Give them what they came for. Be a part of their 'feel-good' for the evening.
6. Audience-Acceptance  
You can't perform and make everyone happy. There are critics and critiques out there. Bricks & Bouquest may come your way. The flute players in the audience will be critical of the flutists. The classical-

guitar players in the audience hate the sound of strings. The organ players don't care much for the piano. Some men think the cello should be played only by women.

7. **Repertoire**  
The repertoire or play-list for the evening is the key to why you have that audience at that point in time. Selecting, being part of and performing what you are and your audience expectation of this is the key to success.
8. **The Classical Artiste**  
Essential and inherent in western classical music is that you are playing some one else's creation. If you were in a Shakespearean play playing Macbeth – it's not Vivek or Roger or Xi Liao ... you are into the character, reciting the same lines and playing out Macbeth to the audience as Shakespeare wrote it and may have approved of. Similarly you play Bach on instruments of the time, in a manner and heard the way he would have. You embody and enter the character / performer as an Artiste. You can-not and do-not and should-not do your own thing. There are other art-forms available for that – pop music, folk music, jazz, fusion ... et al.
9. **Audience Behaviour**  
A knowledgeable western classical music audience would arrive before time; won't bring children to the hall; will not make any sound (even chair creaks) through a performance. They will applaud only at the end of a performance and would usually be quite knowledgeable and have heard most of what is being played or sung.
10. **Group Playing & Team-work**  
The Group can be a duet, trio, quartet, chamber, ensemble or orchestra ... you are only as good as the WEAKEST member of the team. You may have a choice before the performance – not after you start. Working together is essential. It's a group activity. One can't be louder than another or as required. You can't be too soft – you have to do your part at the right time. Don't play when you are not supposed to.
11. **Uniformity**  
Music is an art-form. It's the roots and basis for choreography. Everyone dresses the SAME in the orchestra – the ladies and the gents may be different. All the violin bows go up and down in the same arc, the same distance. A marching military band is about music. Calisthenics, Ballroom Dancing ... much of the arts is about

diversity in uniformity and uniformity in diversity. Music is the crux for all of this.

12. Tuning  
Your instrument and voice has to be in-tune with any and everyone else before you start. Concert pitch at 440 Hz is the basis for all music instruments and learning. Be in tune and intonation always.
13. No amplification : No electronics  
There may be subtle amplification; hall acoustics are usually extremely good ... HOWEVER classical music does not have any amplification. If more volume is required more singers or more violins may be added. To balance the volume of an organ we may have to have more clarinet players or cellos. Musicians can play or sing extremely SOFTLY or LOUDLY (piano-forte). Allowing a solo-instrument or solo-performer complete control where required.
14. Time  
The time discipline at a performance is usually remarkable. Will start on time and finish at the communicated time. Western Classical Music and Performance does work like clockwork. Being late even if you are a paid-ticket-holder means standing outside till the interval.

## Contact :

Casper Abraham  
[casper@themusicinternational.com](mailto:casper@themusicinternational.com)  
+91 98450-61870

Music International  
62-B Modi Residency  
Millers Road, Benson Town  
Bangalore 560 046 INDIA  
Website at <http://themusicinternational.com>  
Email : [thedeane@themusicinternational.com](mailto:thedeane@themusicinternational.com)