

MUTH 301

Rite of Spring Assignment

This assignment draws on the sheet of brief readings by Taruskin and van den Toorn, and on the article by Tymoczko.

This assignment focuses on the first two movements of the *Rite*, the Introduction to Part 1 and the Augurs of Spring. For each movement, answer the following two questions.

1) Which of van den Toorn's two types of rhythmic design best fits this movement? What features of the movement support this conclusion? What features, if any, would support the opposite conclusion?

2) Analyze one chunk from each movement to see whether its pitch content derives from any of the collections discussed by Tymoczko, or from a superimposition of two of those collections. Make a simple short score to assist your analysis. For the Introduction to Part 1, look at the three measures preceding rehearsal 9. For the Augurs of Spring, look at the first two measures after rehearsal 17 (you don't need to deal with each note in the chromatic runs, but you should deal with the starting and ending points).

Note: take care with transpositions. Some are labeled in the score, and some are standard transpositions that you are expected to know. Those that are labeled use German names for pitch classes, so be careful to review these. Some transposing instruments use transposed key signatures and some use no signature, but where transposed signatures are used, they reflect the actual transposition.