

BRIEF GLOSSARY OF MUSICAL TERMS

(In the pronunciation-key, *a* is short *ah*, never *a* as in *at*; *o* is short *oh*; *oo* and *ay* are also short, like *oo* in "foot" and *ai* in "gaily." Common abbreviations are in brackets.)

Accelerando [accel.] (*at-tchay-lay-ran'do*), accelerating.

Adagio (*a-da'djo*), leisurely, slowly.

Ad libitum (*ad lee'bee-toom*), not in strict time.

Al or Alla (*al or ala*), to, or in, as *Alla marcia* (*mar'tchee-a*), in the style of a march; *al fine*, to the end.

Allegretto (*a-lay-gray'to*), joyfully.

Allegro (*a-lay'gro*), gaily, mirthfully, rapidly.

Andante (*an-dan'tay*), rather slowly.

Andantino (*an-dan-tee'no*), diminutive of *Andante*; faster than *Andante*.

Animando (*a-nee-mahn'do*), growing more animated.

Animato (*a-nee-ma'to*), with life and spirit.

A tempo (*a taym'po*), in time, at regular speed.

Ben (*bayn*), well, very.

Cantabile (*can-ta'bee-lay*), in a song style.

Coda (*ko'da*), a concluding section.

Con, with: as *Con fuoco* (*fwo'ko*), with fire.

Crescendo, [cres. or cresc.] (*cray-shayn'do*), gradually increasing in tone-power.

Da capo, [D. C.] (*da ca'po*), return to the beginning.

Dal segno, [D. S.] (*dahl say'nyo*), return to the sign.

Diminuendo, [dim.] (*dee-mee-noo-ayn'do*), gradually diminishing in tone-power.

Dolce (*dawl'tshay*), softly, sweetly.

E (*ay*), ed (*ayd*), and.

Espressivo (*ay-spray-see'vo*), *con espressione* (*ay-spray-see-oh'nyay*), with expression.

Fermata (*fair-ma'ta*), a hold-sign.

Finale (*fee-na'lay*), last movement of a work.

Fine (*fee'nyay*), end.

Forte, [f] (*fohr'tay*), loud.

Fortissimo, [ff] (*fohr-tee'see-mo*), very loud.

Giojoso (*djo-yo'so*), joyously.

Grandioso (*gran-dee-o'so*), grandly.

Grave (*gra'vay*), gravely, very slowly.

Grazioso (*gra-tsee-o'so*), gracefully.

Largamente (*lar-ga-mayn'tay*), in broad style.

Largo (*lar'go*), broad, large.

Legato (*lay-ga'to*), connected, smoothly.

Leggiero (*lay-djay-ro*), lightly.

Lento (*layn'to*), slowly.

Ma (*ma*), but: *ma non troppo*, but not too much.

Maestoso (*ma-ays-to'so*), majestic, grand.

Marcato (*mar-ka'to*), well marked.

Meno (*may'no*), less.

Mezzo (*may'dzo*), medium, half.

Mezzo forte, [mf] (*may'dzo for'tay*), medium loud.

Mezzo piano, [mp] (*may'dzo pee-a'no*), medium soft.

Moderato (*maw-day-ra'to*), moderately.

Molto (*mohl'to*), very, much.

Mosso (*mos'so*), moved, quicker, with more life.

Moto (*moh'to*), movement, motion.

Non (*non*), not.

Opus, [Op.] (*o'poos*), work: as *Op. 25*.

Pedale (*pay-da'lay*), pedal.

Pianissimo, pp (*pee-a-nee'see-mo*), very softly.

Piano, p (*pee-a'no*), softly.

Piu (*pee-oo'*), more.

Poco (*po'ko*), un poco, a little.

Poco a poco (*po'ko a po'ko*), little by little.

Presto (*pray'sto*), quickly.

Quasi (*kwa'see*), like, somewhat.

Rallentando, [rall.] (*rah-layn-tan'do*), gradually slackening in speed.

Ritardando, [rit.] (*ree-tar-dan'do*), with gradual decrease in speed and force.

Scherzando (*skair-tzan'do*), playfully.

Semplice (*saym-plee'tchay*), simply.

Sempre (*saym'pray*), always, still, continuously.

Senza (*sayn'tza*), without.

Sforzando, [sf or sfz] (*sfor-tzan'do*), forced, strongly accented.

Sostenuto (*sos-tay-noo'to*), sustained, in a connected manner.

Sotto voce (*saw'to vo'tchay*), in an under-tone, or in subdued voice.

Staccato (*sta-ka'to*), separated, not *legato*.

Stringendo (*streen-djayn'do*), increasing in speed and intensity.

Tempo primo (*taym'po pree'mo*), time or speed as at the beginning of the piece.

Tranquillo (*tran-kwee'lo*), tranquilly, peacefully.

Troppo (*traw'po*), too much.

Un (*oon*), a, one.

Vivace (*vee-va'tchay*), vivaciously.

Voce (*vo'tchay*), voice.