

Beethoven's Symphony No. 3 "Eroica" SENSORY GUIDE

Overview

Beethoven varies dynamics (how loud or soft the music is) throughout his "Eroica" Symphony. The moments listed below are the most likely to feel sudden or jarring, but this is not an exhaustive list. Timings are approximate and can vary during a live performance of the work.

Sensory Category Symbols



Auditory - Loud



Visual Attention



Hearing Pitch - High/Low



Vibration Increased



Fast-paced



Slow-paced

Beethoven's Symphony No. 3 "Eroica"	Sensory Category	Description
Movement 1 "Allegro con brio" Exposition only (3 minutes)		Very beginning of movement starts with two loud chords Quick pace – lyrical
Movement 1 "Allegro con brio" Full movement (14 minutes)	 	Very beginning of the movement starts with two loud chords Quick pace – lyrical Lower pitch with increased vibration Loud section at middle and at the end Emotionally: bold, full of struggle and effort.
Movement 2 "Marcia Funebre; Adagio Assai" (16 minutes)	 	Slower beat, rhythmic; Deeper sounds, lower tones, increased vibration; Alternating fast-paced with woodwind parts Short, loud moment at the 5-minute mark and fairly intense section thereafter Emotionally: a mix of sadness and anger with moments of lightness
Movement 3 "Scherzo; Allegro Vivace" (6 minutes)	 	Faster paced, lighter sounds, higher pitch Fairly loud sections at beginning and during last minute Look at quick moving bows and fingers on instruments Emotionally: light and full of propulsive energy and excitement
Movement 4 "Finale: Allegro molto" (12 minutes)		Variations in sound; Bold sounds of bass line and melody Increased vibration with bold sounds; Loudest movement of all, especially from the middle of the movement to the end. Emotionally: Grandiose, glorifying the human spirit and celebrating the indomitable power of the human will