

Forum: Music Theory at the Turn of the Millennium

To commemorate the special date of this double issue, *Intégral* presents “Music Theory at the Turn of the Millennium,” a collection of essays wherein practicing theorists, analysts, and teachers offer their thoughts about the status of our scholarly endeavor.

Two questions sparked this forum: What concerns music theorists today? And where might music theory go next? We asked our contributors to ponder specific issues such as pedagogy, history of theory, and the effect of technology on the field; to describe an area they consider promising, problematic, or provocative; or to express whatever ideas they were entertaining personally. Our essayists responded with a wide array of topics, addressing our place amongst other academic disciplines, the “canon,” post-modernism and beyond, formalism, composition, and dinosaurs.

We hope that readers find these essays informative and engaging. We do not intend to offer a complete survey of the topics that comprise our field; this forum reviews only some of the many issues that we confront as we enter the third millennium. Nevertheless, we find one viewpoint common to many of the essays: the conviction that dialogue most effectively propels our own enterprise. And ultimately, the dialogue these contributions create—whether they give rise to delight, dismay, dispute, or more—will no doubt play some part in the future direction of music theory.

We also hope that this forum will not only offer perspectives on current trends to present-day scholars, but also that future music theorists might learn something about our collective state of mind at this moment in history.

The Editors

