

to me

Dear Dr. Jackson,

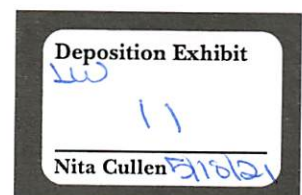
I attached the requested files. Ah, yes, I remember from my first semester at UNT that you were working on the late quartets (op. 131, to be specific). That was back when I barely knew what Schenkerian analysis was. Hard to believe it was only 4 years ago! Let's hope I come just as far in another 4 years.

I'd be interested in seeing your Beethoven work, as with anything. Studying Beethoven will always be important, even if I don't ever plan on presenting/publishing work on him. I always feel a little apprehension at doing Beethoven research. He's been done so much over the years (for good reason, to be sure, as he is without a doubt one of the greatest composers that ever lived). But still, I inwardly groan a little when I see paper after paper on Beethoven at conferences. I think you know what I mean, since you were sitting right next to me when I heard you say something to a similar effect in response to a Beethoven paper at TSMT 2018. But, I'm glad to see what you have to say since, as I said, it's very important to continue studying Beethoven. Something new and valuable might come out of it, and it would be an awful shame if Beethoven research stopped *entirely*.

For my own part, I have a few projects going for the next conference season. I once wrote a paper about finding a musical analogue to Transatlantic Modernism (the Imagist poets, plus the likes of T.S. Eliot and Gertrude Stein). I had noticed that documentaries on these figures used a mixture of classical-romantic era music and Coplandesque Americana, but I argued that it was the music of the second Viennese school that really mirrors the Transatlantic Modernist aesthetic/philosophical views. And it should be the job of a documentary to choose music that represents their subject's aesthetic/philosophical views, when that documentary is on an artist. So I'm reworking that paper for a few American literature conferences. Then, I've recently

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started thinking about writing a proposal for upcoming theory/musicology conferences that compares formalism in music vs. formalism in literary theory. Confusingly, the two ideologies are complete opposites when it comes to matters of interpretation. One of our main formalist representatives is Peter Kivy, whose perspective is almost semiotically barren. On the other hand, the main representatives of formalism in literary theory are the New Critics and the Russian Formalists, who are extremely flexible in regards to semiotics. In part, the New Critics pushed Barthes' idea of the "death of the author," which I find indispensable to interpretation (and Kivy found distasteful). I think that the underlying reasons for this disparity between formalism in music and in literary theory will say something important about the ideological differences between the two fields. But that project is in it's infancy, so we'll see what happens with it.

Ophelia is okay. She's getting so much smarter and her hand-eye coordination is improving a lot. If I put her on my lap at the piano, she hits the keys with interest, which is very good for a four-month-old! A surprising lack of change in the sleep department, though. But, at least I don't have to take care of her alone at night anymore (at least, for the foreseeable future) because my wife's work schedule changed to daytime shifts.

Regards,

Levi Walls

From: Timothy Jackson <shermanzelechin@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 23, 2020 9:53 AM
To: Walls, Levi <LeviWalls@my.unt.edu>
Subject: [EXT] Re: Updates on articles, websites, and printing.

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[Message clipped] [View entire message](#)

3 Attachments

Timothy Jackson <shermanzelechin@gmail.com>

Thu, Jul 23,
6:49 PM

to Levi

Dear Levi,