



## EXAMINING THE USE OF EXOTICISM AS PEDAGOGY IN SCHUMANN'S ALBUM FOR THE YOUNG OPUS 68

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Musical scholars have often studied exoticism—the evocation and representation of cultures outside of one's own culture—through racial, national, gender, class, and other identities. These studies have often led to the taxonomical classification of musical gestures and further questions on the purpose and lasting effects of exoticism. While exoticism in the Western musical canon has been studied in various genres and time periods, there has been very little research conducted on the topic of exoticism in music pedagogy materials. The influence of childhood education on the development of identity has been studied both inside and outside the field of music. Studying exoticism in materials used to teach children could lead to interesting implications on how musical stereotypes have been used or abused in the formation of identity.

Robert Schumann's *Album for the Young* has been examined both as an influential nationalist project and pedagogical text for youth. This study attempts to make the connection between the role of nationalism and the use of exoticism to teach children about other cultures. By comparing the compositional techniques Schumann uses to evoke German culture versus non-German culture, it might be possible to learn about how stereotypical sound characteristics are developed and promulgated. Schumann's *Album for the Young* served as a model for other composers who wrote teaching materials. Part of this research also examines the treatment of exoticism in pedagogical materials directly modeled after Schumann's *Album for the Young*. Overall, the study attempts to analyze the lingering impact of exoticism inspired by *Album for the Young* in pedagogical materials and the development of cultural stereotypes in musical expression.

