

Attentional Differences in Musical Recall and Improvisation

Authors : Krzysztof T. Piotrowski

Abstract : The main goal of the research was to investigate differences in attention in two kinds of musical performance - recall and improvisation. Musical recall is a sample of convergent production that requires intensively focused attention. Inversely, musical improvisation is a divergent task and probably requires a different way of attentional control. The study was designed in dual task paradigm. Participants were to remember a simple melody and then recall or improvise, simultaneously performing the spatial attentional test on computer screen. The result shows that improvising participants find spatial goals in more disperse way. The conclusion is that musical improvisation requires extensification of attention to occur.

Keywords : attention, creativity, divergent task, musical improvisation

Conference Title : ICMPC 2017 : International Conference on Music Perception and Cognition

Conference Location : Madrid, Spain

Conference Dates : March 26-27, 2017