

1'm what's left!

OK, OK, I'm an old piano player - and OLD musicians play OLD songs - so get over it!

Actually, most of my songs are pretty new from an historic perspective. The oldest I've done is the Christmas song *Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella* from 1553. By that point much of the essence of "modern music" had been invented. Certainly with Johann Pachebel's *Canon in D* in 1694, we can see that melody, harmony, and polyphony in general had displaced the monadic chants of the Medieval period.

I've been reading a book published in Germany in 1937 by Alfred Einstein (no relation to Albert) that takes a broad look at music since the most primitive period - music is older than speech! It's particularly interesting because he includes excerpts from some of the "old" music. There's a score of a High Mass from the 13th century that uses a whopping total of three different notes!! (They were really pushing the envelope with that - most of the time it was a single note.) There's a reason monody and monotony have the same word root.

So - even though some of the young *whippersnappers* may sneer at my "old" music, I consider it quite modern. Particularly when one of our "modern music" genres is a ridiculous regression to the one note monody chants of the Middle Ages - it's called rap.

So - to borrow a phrase, "Just take them old records off the shelf!"

Reeves

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