

melody and harmony form as definite a language and means of communication as visible signs and the words of ordinary speech are able to do.

It is true that this independent world of musical sound with its peculiar language is not serviceable for the same purposes as common speech is. But the elementary experiences or sensations which form its structure are just as real as those other sensations which are distributed in space. The latter we call things, and the former feelings and emotions.

Music forms a direct and independent means of communicating them to our fellow-creatures, as language forms the means of communication about its external occurrences. And in both cases the means of communication, that is, the respective languages, were not fully developed before they were represented by visual signs or symbols, that is, in the form of writing.

Now there is one attribute common to all those experiences which we desire and are able to communicate to others, be they properties of external things, or relations, or musical sounds. This attribute is what we may term a certain amount of permanency or stability. The primordial sensations or experiences which constitute them must repeat themselves in the stream of thought, leaving their traces behind them in the form of memory, and repeating themselves in the same or similar sensations.

The recognition of this important attribute obliges us to discard as inadequate the analogy of a stream, in which no individual wave, eddy, or whirl repeats itself, or is possessed of more than momentary existence.