

A white lamb is lying down, its head and front legs visible. The lamb is positioned behind the main title text. The background is a light gray, and the floor at the bottom is made of wooden planks.

DRESSING UP A LITTLE LAMB: “INTERPRETATION” MADE SIMPLE

PRESENTED BY CHRISTOPHER OILL

Go subscribe at OillPianoUniverse.com for free pieces and more!

WHAT IS INTERPRETATION?

- Synonyms: Expression, Style, Musicality, Personality, Artistry
- **Dolmetsch.com:** The artistic communication by the performer of the music to the audience, in particular how a performer will present the material to the listeners and how emotions are communicated through the performance, applicable mainly to music that is ambiguous as to tempo, dynamics, etc.

The Screaming Lamb



0:00 / 0:15



IN OTHER WORDS...

- Do what's *not* written on the page.
- Use abstract reasons, alter concrete elements.
- What elements?
 - Tempo
 - Rhythm
 - Dynamics
 - Pedal
 - Articulation
 - Phrasing
 - Technique



WHY?



TECHNIQUE



MEMORY



UNIQUENESS



FUN!



**OKAY, BUT WHAT
ABOUT THE LAMB?**

STORYTIME, YAY!

“The piece is not boring, you are.”



POINT 1: EASY IS HARD

Give easy pieces to advanced students

- No technical barriers
- Interpretation exposed
- Highlights *importance* of interpretation
- ~~Next hardest thing~~



ANOTHER STORY, YAY!



POINT 2: BEGINNERS CAN INTERPRET

- Do one change
- Allow “mistakes”
- Give options
- Draw/write it in
- Trust their feelings
- “Normally”

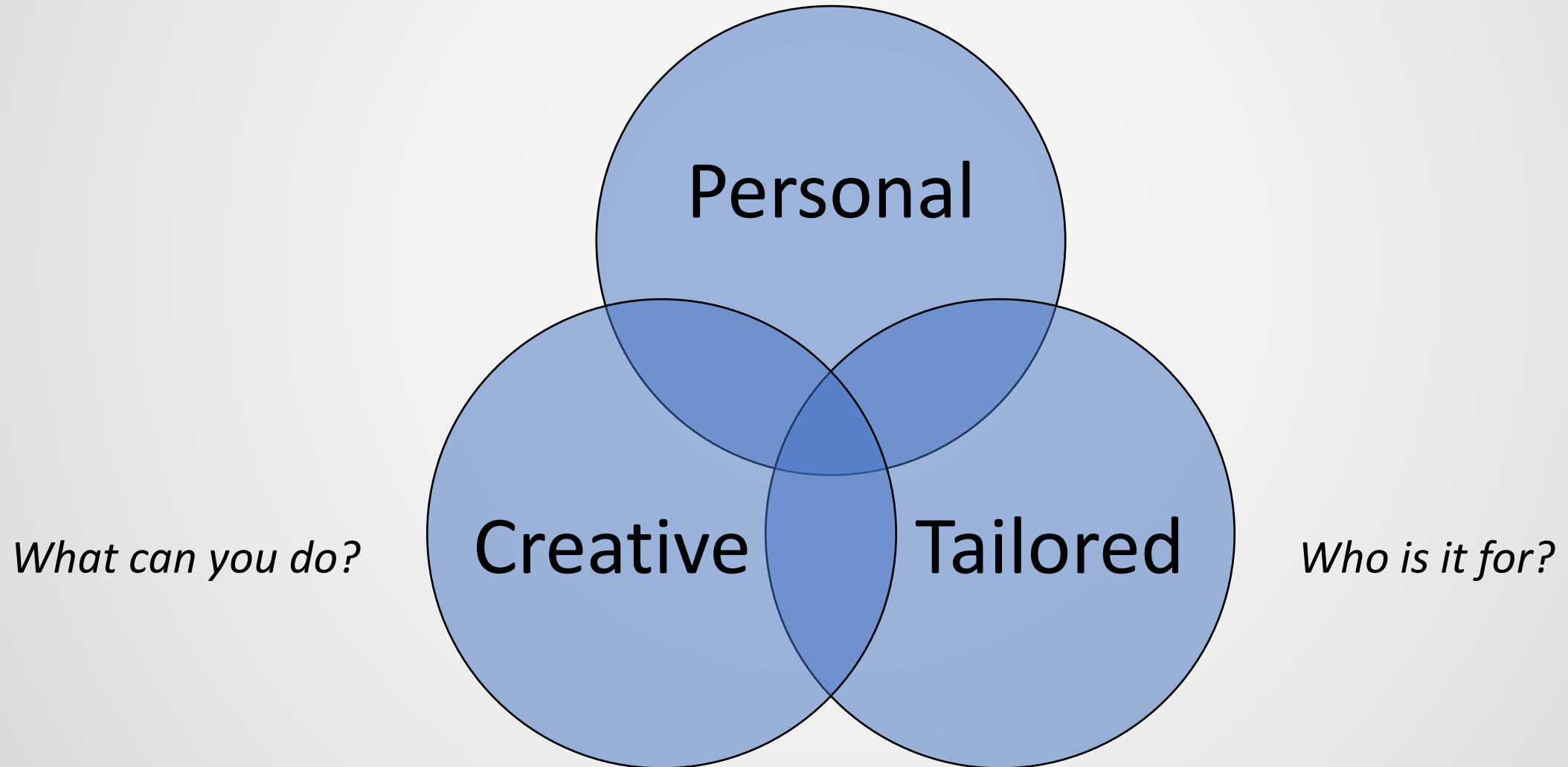


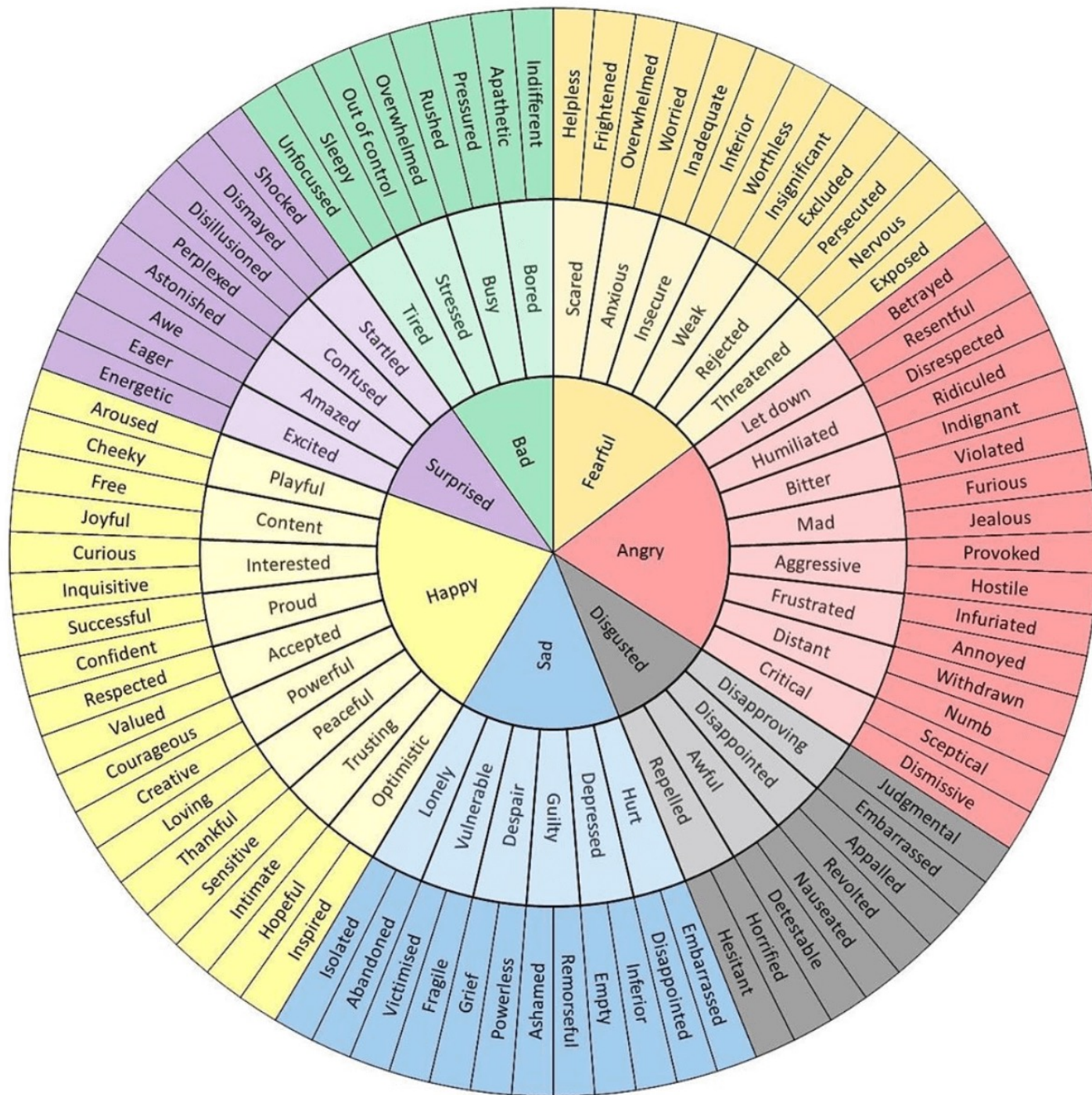
A white lamb is shown from the chest up, facing forward. It has large, upright ears and a thick, white, woolly coat. A thin red horizontal line is drawn across the middle of the image, passing behind the text. The background is a light gray, and the bottom of the image shows a wooden floor with vertical planks.

THE LAMB?!?!?!?

The Three Types of Interpretation

How does it feel?





PERSONAL INTERPRETATION

How does it feel?

Passive

- State emotional reactions
- Relate to experiences
- “Background music”

Active

- Sing
- Move
- Story tell



VICTIM NUMBER I



REPEAT AFTER ME!

Stress

Mary had a little lamb.
Mary *had* a little lamb.
Mary had *a* little lamb.
Mary had a *little* lamb.
Mary had a little *lamb*.



Timing and Mood

Mary...had a little lamb.
MARY HAD A LITTLE LAMB!
Mary had a little lamb...
Mary had a little...lamb?
Mary had a little lamb.

CREATIVE INTERPRETATION

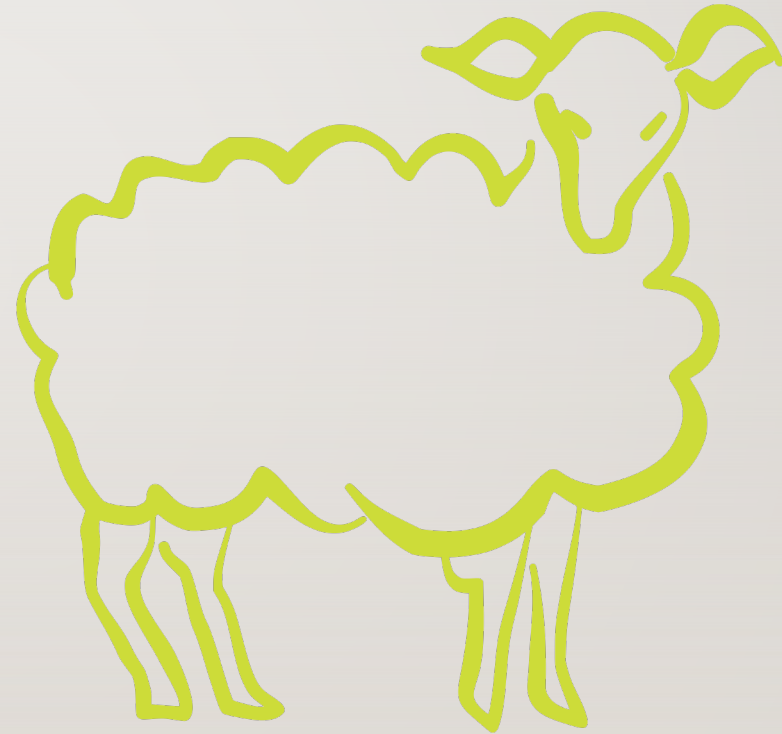
What can you do?

Passive

- Sentence play exercise
- What do you see?
- “Think outside the box”

Active

- Borrow ideas
- Be wrong (what if/experiment)
- Act

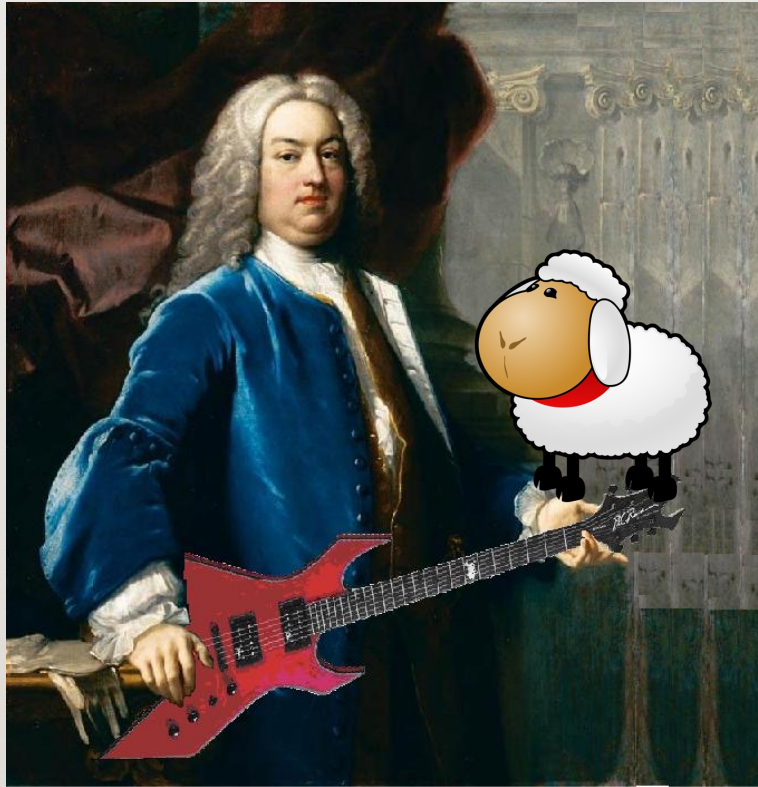


VICTIM NUMBER 2



THE BACH DEBATE

To pedal



Not to pedal

TAILORED INTERPRETATION

Who is it for?

Passive

- Research the piece
- Research your audience
- Identify intention

Active

- Preview venue
- Interact with audience
- Gather opinions



VICTIM NUMBER 3



NOW WHAT?

1. Combine 2 or 3
2. Have fun!
3. Transfer concepts



THANKS!

PRESENTED BY CHRISTOPHER OILL

Go subscribe at OillPianoUniverse.com for free pieces and more!

QUESTIONS?

