

Technique Eng

Technique (extract from the river interview with Peter Feuchtwanger.

The book will be published soon).

K.S. (...)Basically, all about the so called technique has been said. All solutions to technical problems lie in musical content. I hope it's obvious by now. Nevertheless, we can say a bit more—especially for those readers who don't see any relation between what is hidden between the notes and *technique* in the common sense. I came across views that the things we discussed earlier are “loftier matters”, things one should deal with at a later stage in one's education. Many pedagogues are of the opinion one should first handle the craft, the technique. The tone, the phrase, the form and finally the spirit of the music become matters the student works on first during his studies. This view results in an overemphasis of the means at the cost of the goals, and it is the goals that should determine the means. Let's quote Neuhaus' maxim again: *what* defines *how*. The essence of art and science is not the method, the apparatus, the tool. Technique and brilliance are not an equivalent of creativity. Somebody who separates the technical and the musical elements reminds of the individual described by Freud who spent all his time cleaning his glasses instead of putting them on and looking at the world. (...)Heinrich Neuhaus explains the etymology of the word *technique* (saying it originates from the Greek word τέχνη, which means *art*). In my opinion it is a huge simplification. Such a literal translation does not cover the whole problem. The philosopher Martin Heidegger goes much deeper. Examining the content of the lecture, which he gave in 1953 in München, we realize that we cannot consider the word *techne* in isolation from words such as *poiesis* and *thesis*. Heidegger, after analyzing the correlations between the words *techne*, *poiesis* and *thesis*, concludes that in fact *technique* means *revealing, evoking, bringing out of concealment into unconcealment*. Heidegger once said that “art is the becoming and happening of truth”. So technique is about revealing, evoking, about poetic manifestation.