



May 16, 1967

To Members of the Faculty:

I am happy to announce the appointment of Mr. Allen Forte, a foremost music theorist now on the Faculty at Yale University, as Professor of Music in the Department of Humanities.

While holding a fellowship from the American Council of Learned Societies last year, Professor Forte was a guest in the Artificial Intelligence Group at Project MAC, where he developed a new computer program, believed to be the first of its kind, for use in the analysis of musical structure.

Starting next fall Professor Forte will teach a subject titled "Problems and Techniques of Music Research" which will include studies in the structure and theories of music, representation of music notation for computer input, programming languages and data-structures, and the development of relevant models. He will also teach subjects in theory of music and introduction to music. He will continue his research, seeking to develop computer tools particularly for the analysis of atonal music, the structure of which tends to be of such complexity that it resists the conventional theoretical approach.

For the past seven years Professor Forte has been editor of Journal of Music Theory and he has published a number of scholarly papers and four books. The M.I.T. Press will publish two other books, The Study of Musical Structure and Snobol Primer, an introduction to a programming language for music analysis. He translated the libretto of Schoenberg's Moses und Aron, his translation being used in the Boston Opera production last year and by Columbia Records.

Born in Portland, Oregon, in 1926, Professor Forte was graduated from Columbia University in 1950 and received the M. A. degree in 1952. He taught at Columbia University Teachers College, Manhattan School of Music and Mannes School of Music before going to Yale as an instructor in 1959. He became an assistant professor in 1961 and associate professor in 1964. His wife is the well-known photographer, Sharland.

During the past decade the music curriculum, under the leadership of Professor Klaus Liepmann, Director of Music, has been greatly strengthened, and the appointment of Professor Forte will enrich it further. An undergraduate at M.I.T. may engage in extensive study in music while working for a Bachelor of Science degree in the Department of Humanities.

ROBERT L. BISHOP, Dean
School of Humanities and Social Science