

Neurology & Pain Management

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Music and the Messiah

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Our souls are strung out on a musical stave
Each a musical note and its harmonics
Some crotchets, some minims, some quavering in the fleeting wind
Each a distinct sound in time and space and comforted by the rest between them
That allows each to breathe and exist.

Our lives are devoted to searching for the ultimate musical sequence that mirrors our inner soul architecture like a resonating drum.
And when some exalted piece approaches us, our hearts quicken, the pulse races and we feel faint. I remember well the first time I heard the Marche Funebre of the Eroica at the memorial to the Israeli Athletes at the Munich Olympic games; or the Brandenburg Fifth while my friend's mother lay dying on her white silken bed. Or Mahler's fifth which awakened me to post-classical music. I can literally correlate events in my life with each of these moments of awakening. My biography littered with a list of musical sequences I stumbled upon; that arrested me in my tracks, phrases and harmonies that melted me. Each musical piece feels like I am coming closer, ever so slowly, to the ultimate musical sequence I will not be able to bear and my soul will finally expire to its glorious melody.

So too with the Tzaddik whose soul. We are told, is a "general transpersonal soul" whose life is a pursuit of the ultimate *niggun* the perfect Levitical music that encompasses the sequences and harmonies of the spheres and the secret of creation itself, whose musicality will herald the Messianic era precisely because his tune will melt all hearts.

Reb Nachman was seeking this melody and his *ten psalms* reflected the complex character of the genres of literary characters each mirrored. He realized the power of music to transform and heal and spoke of music of primordial archetypal tones that resonated with my senses as I feel when such melodies pass me by.

In the final days that score will be revealed and we shall discover that it turned out to be the very key by which the letters of Torah could actually be played on musically.