## **Faculti Summary**

https://faculti.net/she-still-works-hard-for-the-money-composers-precarious-work-and-the-gender-pay-gap/

This video video is a transcript of a presentation discussing an article co-authored by Dr. Jihan Park and the speaker, published in the \*Journal of Work and Occupations\*. The article examines barriers faced by musicians, particularly women composers, in the context of music creation and circulation.

## Key points include:

- 1. \*\*Barriers to Music\*\*: The authors discuss systemic barriers that impede both musicians and audiences from engaging with music, particularly focusing on the historical underrepresentation of women composers in symphonic and film music contexts.
- 2. \*\*Pay Disparities\*\*: The article highlights the significant gender pay gap within the field, revealing that women composers earn less than their male counterparts, both in composition income and total income from all employment. Women earn about 75-76% of what men do when comparing total earnings.
- 3. \*\*Research Context\*\*: The authors draw from three sociological literatures:
- Sociology of work, focusing on the challenges and pay gaps in traditional employment.
- New Sociology of Work, which addresses nontraditional, freelance, and gig economy jobs but has overlooked pay disparities.
- Creative Careers Literature that studies those engaged in artistic professions, including composers.
- 4. \*\*Survey Insights\*\*: The presentation references a survey on composers conducted by Columbia University, revealing that most composers work non-standard jobs (only 6% are full-time composers) and that their total earnings from composing are quite low, averaging around \$7,800 per year.
- 5. \*\*Gender and Race Differences\*\*: While there were no initial gender differences observed in composing income, a pronounced gap exists when looking at total income. Racial disparities are noted in terms of benefits derived from degrees and collaborations.
- 6. \*\*Concluding Remarks\*\*: The authors call for greater awareness and efforts to address these inequalities and encourage composers to join organizations that advocate for their rights.

Overall, the presentation emphasizes the systemic issues within the music industry affecting women's representation and compensation, advocating for social change and support for marginalized composers.