



# The Conductor's Challenge: Finding Expressive Meaning in the Score

*Frank Battisti*

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## **The Conductor's Challenge: Finding Expressive Meaning in the Score** Frank Battisti

(Meredith Music Resource). This extension and expansion of *Guide to Score Study*, co-authored with Robert Garofalo, examines the various stages conductors traverse in arriving at an interpretation. Battisti emphasizes the importance of the conductor's imagination, personality and ongoing study weeks/months/years in developing an interpretation that is personal, well-informed and faithful to the composer's expressive intent. He examines the score analysis process including the role and function of a work's musical elements; the need to balance intellectual understanding and intuitive feelings about a piece and the challenges faced by conductors when transforming an interpretation into a performance. As examples, he traces the procedures he used in forming interpretations of "Lisbon" and "Horkstow Grange" from Grainger's *Lincolnshire Posy*, Copland's *Down a Country Lane* and "Sinfonia" from Stravinsky's *Octet for Wind Instruments*.

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