

# To Lift or Not To Lift?

## Baroque Articulation for Pre-College Students

### RULES OF THUMB --- NOT ACTUAL RULES!

- Articulation is an expressive choice!
- Default articulation in Baroque and Classical eras is detached.
- Smallest note values often end up being played legato, or relatively connected.
- Leaps (intervals of more than a third) should be detached.
- Detach before a syncopated note to give a natural accent.
- Detach and breathe after a long note.
- Two-note slurs are appropriate as an expressive choice in moderation, especially to highlight an important beat.
- All articulation choices should have the goal of creating a dance-like lilt.
- Articulation is an expressive choice!

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