

# LARGE STRUCTURE OF ORFEO ED EURIDICE

bustling, festive

OVERTURE

grief, mourning (slow, soft)      New hope/determination to act (fast, energetic)

Act I

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| <p style="text-align: center;">SCENE I</p> <p>Orpheus + chorus of shepherds + Nymphs</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">SCENE II</p> <p>Cupid + Orpheus</p> |
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(Not New acting)

"Hell" (Polarity)

Orpheus vs. Furies (wild + Furies vs. mild + steady)

"Heaven" (Unity)

Otherworldly peace

Act II

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| <p style="text-align: center;">SCENE I</p> <p>Orpheus + chorus of Furies</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">SCENE II</p> <p>Chorus of Heroes + Heroines, Eurydice + Orph.</p> |
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Crisis —————> resolution  
dramatic struggle, distress of lovers

Celebration, triumph (harks back to Overture)  
happy, festive - much dancing

Act III

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| <p style="text-align: center;">SCENE I</p> <p>Orpheus + Eurydice</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">SCENE II</p> <p>Orpheus + Eurydice, Cupid, chorus</p> |
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much free recitative w/o strong beat  
(only scene w/o chorus or dancing)

steady beat of dance

- Each act breaks neatly into two contrasting scenes.
- Each scene has one dominant mood/atmosphere that is different from every other scene.
- Each act progresses from a darker scene I to a lighter, more upbeat scene II.