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The article is based on self-efficacy, a relatively new term for psychological science that has emerged in scholarly literature since mid-90-s. Self-efficacy refers to selfjudgment about one's ability to successfully perform a concrete task. According to modern scientific data self-efficacy is the most accurate prediction instrument on how successful any task performance would be including music, mathematics or any other. Plus it is a separate psychological category that does not coincide neither with giftedness and talent nor with the amount of deliberate practice.

Theory and practice are combined in the article as far as they touch musical performance: theoretical outcomes of scholarly research are confirmed by music education experience — practical observations are taken from several interviews published by American pianist and journalist Zsolt Bognár on his site Living the Classical Life. Psychological constituents of self-efficacy are analyzed in the article — those that are mentioned in scholarly literature as well as those that are implicit in music educators' and families' common practice. Preliminary list of psychological and behavioral properties included into self-efficacy is formulated in the article combined with practical advice for teachers and parents who are interested in most successful career of future music performers.

Keywords: self-efficacy, success, performance, music education, career in music, Joshua Bell, Isabel Leonard, Stephen Hough.

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