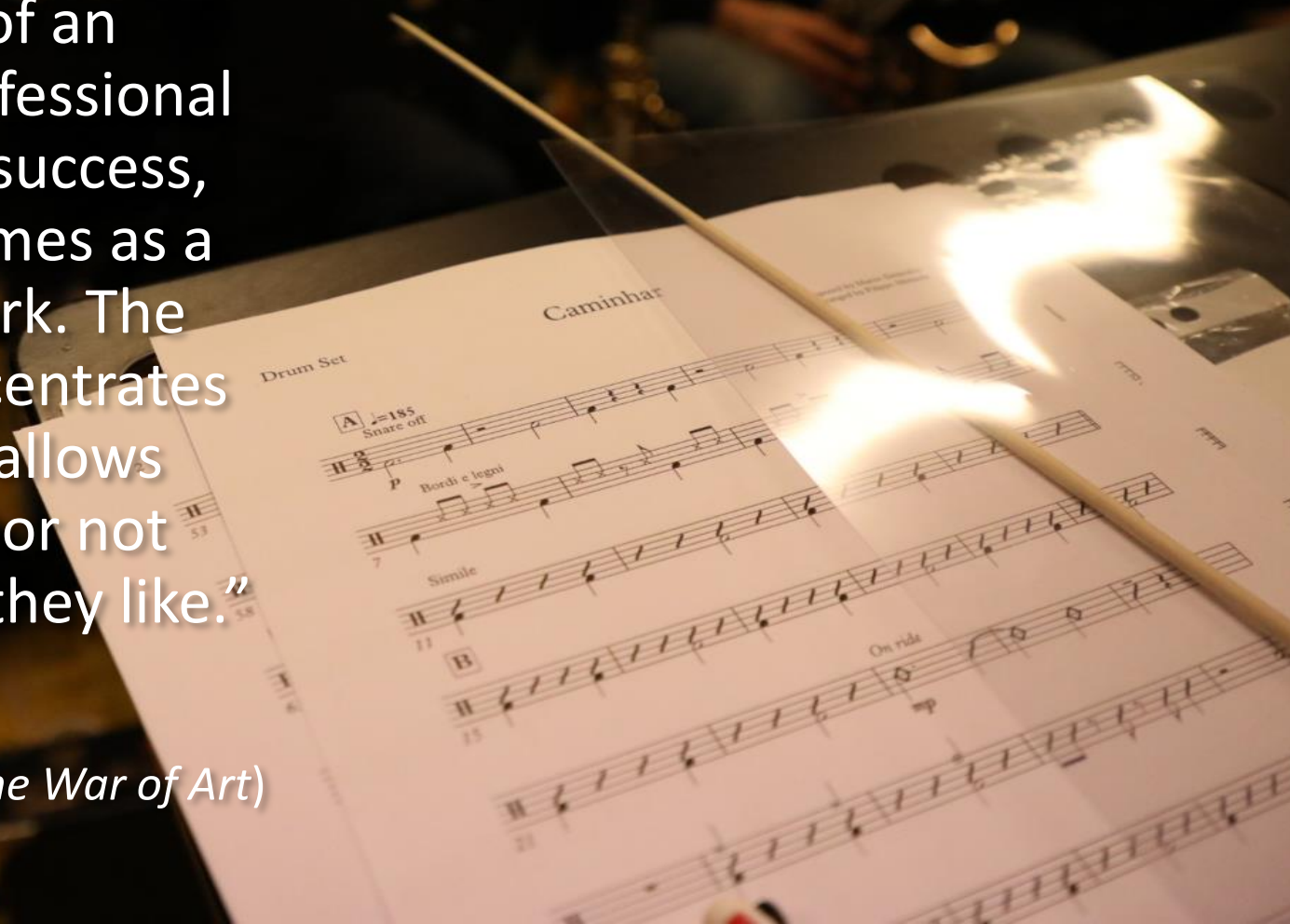
A close-up photograph of a hand holding an open music book. The book is open to a page of sheet music for the piece 'Un Monde Perfecto'. The music is written on a grand staff with a treble clef and a 3/4 time signature. The notes are mostly eighth and sixteenth notes, with some rests. Chord symbols like 'Em7', 'D', and 'Gm9' are visible below the staff. The title 'Un Monde Perfecto' is printed at the top right of the page. Below the title, it says 'composed by Alex Chikvashvili' and 'arranged by Gabriel Casanovi'. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be a classroom or rehearsal space with other people and lights.

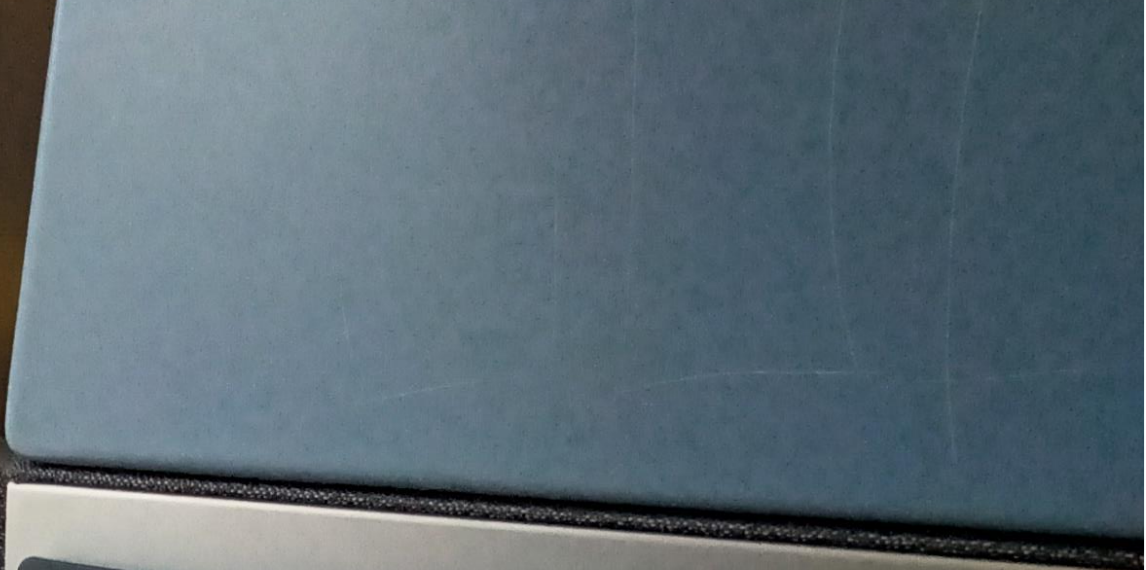
**A quantity-over-quality approach
to composition didactics**

Resistance and being a star

“Grandiose fantasies are a symptom of Resistance. They’re the sign of an amateur. The professional has learned that success, like happiness, comes as a by-product of work. The professional concentrates on the work and allows rewards to come or not come, whatever they like.”

(Steven Pressfield, *The War of Art*)





A laptop screen displays a presentation slide. The slide has a dark background with a photograph of a person's hands writing on a piece of paper. The text on the slide is white and reads:

Resistance and being a star

"Grandiose fantasies are a symptom of Resistance. They're the sign of an amateur. The professional has learned that success, like happiness, comes as a by-product of work. The professional concentrates on the work and allows rewards to come or not come, whatever they are."

[Steven Pressfield, *The War of Art*]

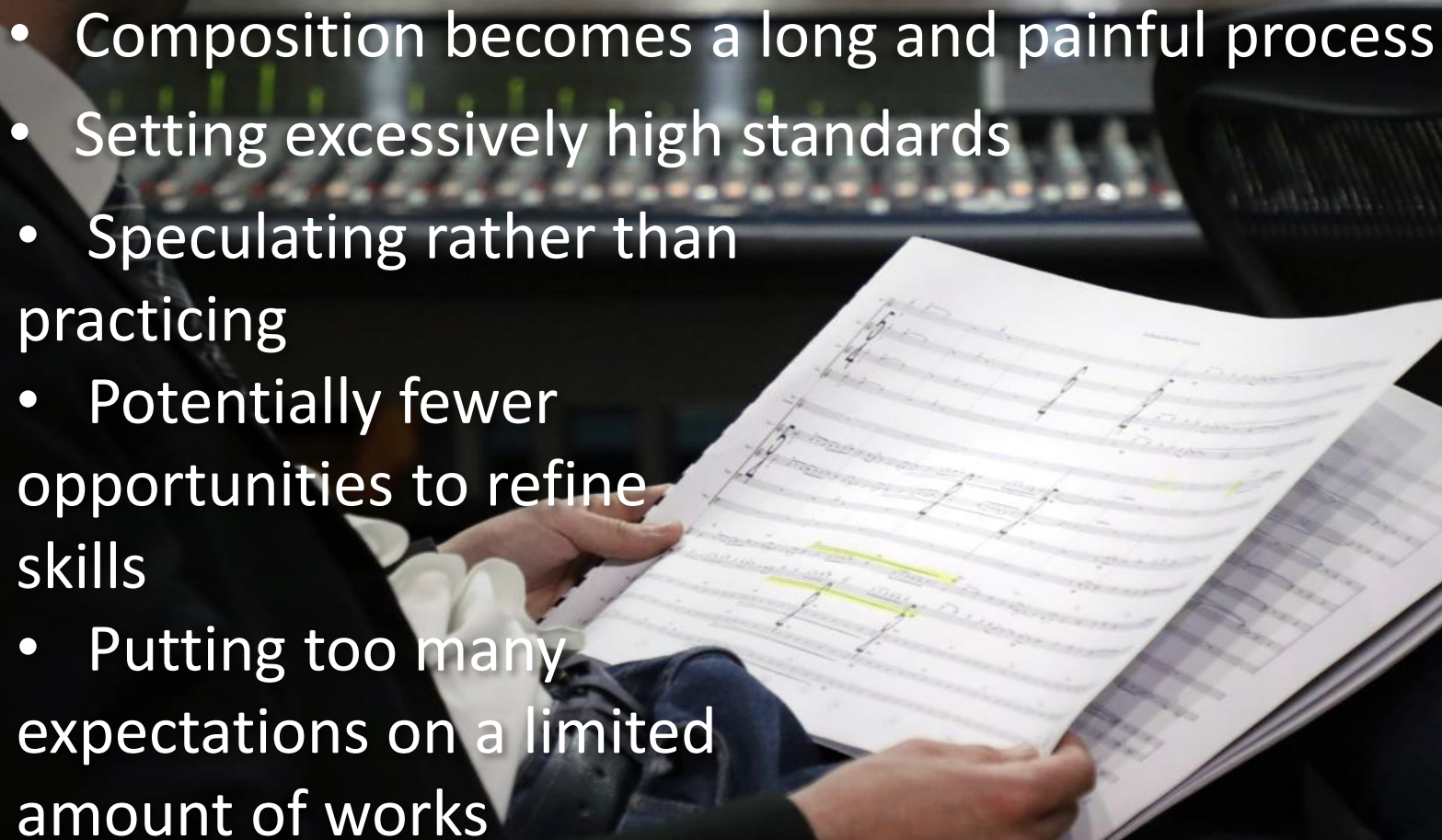
The laptop is blue and the keyboard is visible at the bottom. The background shows a window with a blurred view of a landscape.

A black and white photograph showing a close-up of a hand holding a pen, poised to write on a document. The hand is wearing a dark, textured sleeve. The background is dark and out of focus, suggesting a desk or workspace. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the contours of the hand and the texture of the sleeve.

The traditional approach (quality-
focused)

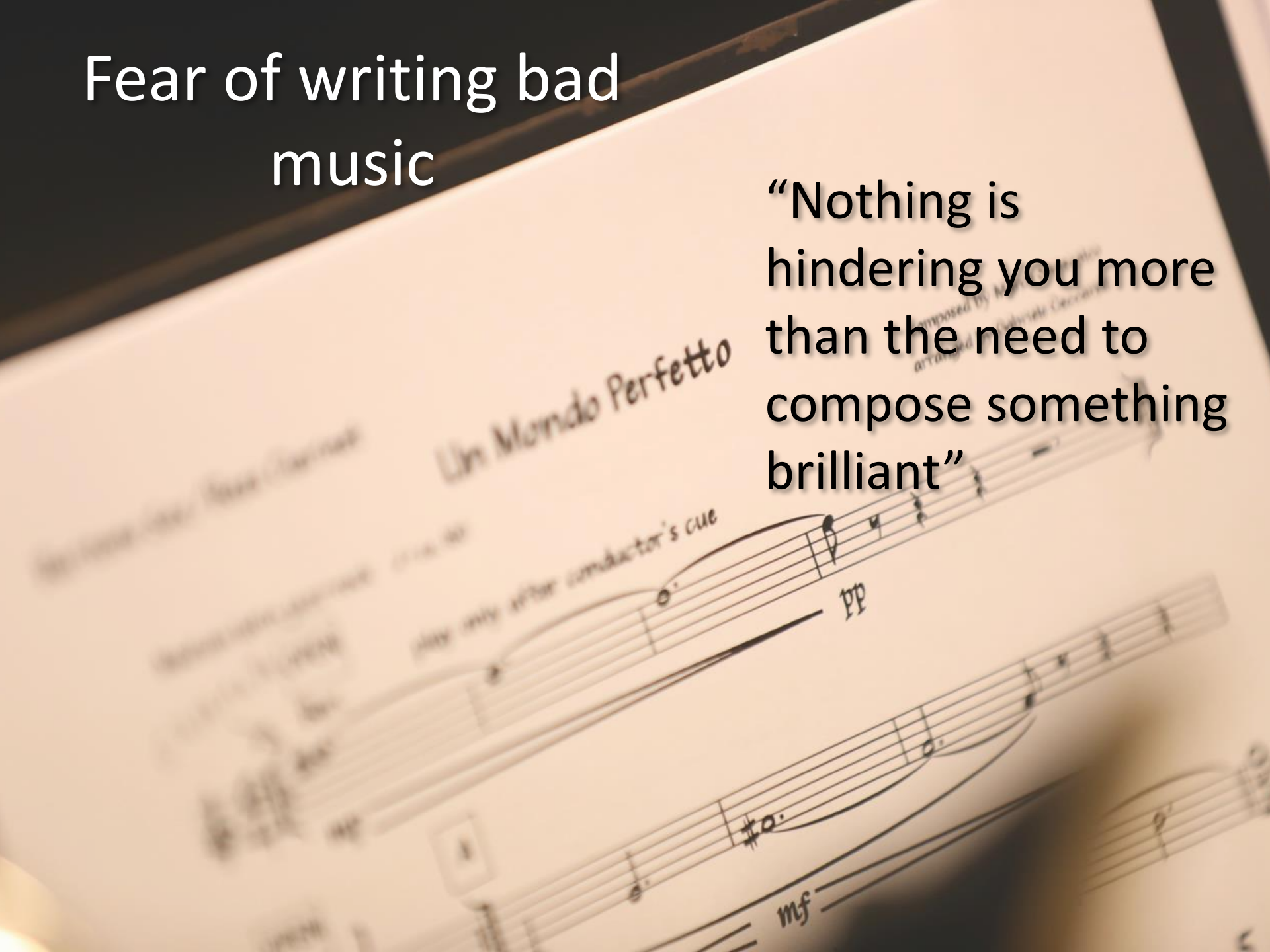
Students are being graded based on the
quality of their work

Problems of a quality-focused approach

- Composition becomes a long and painful process
 - Setting excessively high standards
 - Speculating rather than practicing
 - Potentially fewer opportunities to refine skills
 - Putting too many expectations on a limited amount of works
- 
- A person in a dark suit and white shirt is seated in a control room, looking at a large sheet of paper with a complex diagram or flowchart. The background shows a control panel with many buttons and lights, and a computer monitor displaying a blue interface. The person's hands are visible, holding the paper. The overall scene suggests a professional or technical environment.











Fear of writing bad music

“Nothing is hindering you more than the need to compose something brilliant”



A quantity-focused approach

| Grade | Number of composition required |
|-------|--------------------------------|
| 30 | >19 |
| 29 | 17-19 |
| 28 | 14-16 |
| 27 | 11-13 |
| 26 | 9-10 |
| 25 | 7-8 |
| 24 | 5-6 |
| 23 | 4 |
| 22 | 3 |
| 21 | 2 |
| 20 | 1 |

| | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W |
|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----|------------|------------------------|----|
| 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | TOT | projection | <i>projected grade</i> | |
| 2 |  |  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | 5 | 12,14285714 | 27 |
| 3 |  |  | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | 6 | 14,57142857 | 28 |
| 4 |  |  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | | | | | | | | | | | | 4 | 9,714285714 | 26 |
| 5 |  |  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | 7 | 17 | 29 |
| 6 |  |  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | 8 | 19,42857143 | 30 |
| 7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |



Some benefits of a quantity-focused approach

- Allowing mistakes to happen

- Objective and measurable
- Reducing the fear of judgment



Walk slowly, but never backward

“If you want to master a habit, the key is to start with repetition, not perfection. You don’t need to map out every feature of a new habit. You just need to practice it.”

(James Clear, *Atomic Habits*)