



Bach



Mozart



Beethoven

Musical Time Periods

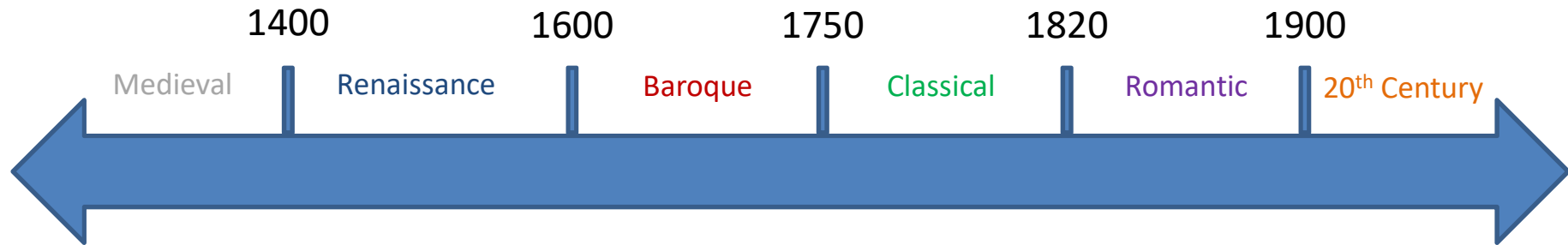


Tchaikovsky



Stravinsky

Musical Periods Timeline



Famous Renaissance Composers:

- William Byrd
- Claudio Monteverdi

Famous Romantic Composers:

- Chopin
- Liszt
- Brahms
- Schubert
- Mendelssohn
- Schumann
- Berlioz
- Verdi
- Weber

Famous Baroque Composers:

- Vivaldi
- J.S. Bach
- Handel
- Telemann
- Corelli
- Purcell
- Scarlatti

Famous Later Romantic Composers:

- Bruckner
- Mahler
- Strauss
- Tchaikovsky
- Smetana
- Grieg
- Sibelius
- Elgar
- Holst

Famous Classical Composers:

- Mozart
- Beethoven
- Paganini
- Haydn

Famous 20th Century Composers:

- Stravinsky
- Prokofiev
- Shostakovich
- Bartok
- Debussy

Medieval (1150 – 1400)

- Most manuscripts came from churches, so the music has a religious subject.
- The most known type of music was the Gregorian Chant and Byzantine Chant.
- Gregorian Chant – Deum Verum –
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kK5AohCMX0U>
- Byzantine Chant – Ioannis Koukouzelis (13th Century)
– Blessed is the Lord
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U-KDx43Y61Y>

Key Characteristics of Renaissance Music

- Music based on modes
- Richer texture in four or more layers
- Blending rather than contrasting strands in the musical texture
- Harmony with a greater concern with the flow and progression of chords

Renaissance Examples

- Byrd – Ave verum corpus
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z2ckGcpx6xI>
- Dowland – Weep You No more Sad Fountains
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7dpgM-y29L0>
- Gibbons – This is the Record of John
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a9pE5vrgBHQ>
- Palestrina – Exsultate Deo
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nRmkj19i4Yk>
- Tallis – If ye love me
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eqt005j1dB0>
- Monteverdi – Ecco mormorar l'onde
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YUgIJ212IVg>

Key Characteristics of Baroque Music

- DYNAMICS – They only had terraced dynamics; you could not *crescendo* or *diminuendo*. This meant that there was limited dynamic shaping.
- MOOD – The whole piece has the same mood or feeling.
- MELODY – Strong spirited melodic ideas in both the upper and lower parts, sometimes with the parts copying each other. They used melodic decoration and *ornamentation*, especially at the ends of phrases.
- TEXTURE – Clear *contrapuntal* texture, with *imitation* between parts.

Baroque Melody – Bach Invention No. 5

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Eya7xi4GoU>

Two
overlapping
melodies

Ornamentation

The image displays two systems of musical notation for Bach's Invention No. 5. Each system consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The first system shows the beginning of the piece with a treble staff containing a melody with ornaments and a bass staff with a rhythmic accompaniment. The second system continues the piece, featuring a triplet in the treble staff and a more complex bass line. The notation is in G minor and common time.

No dynamic
markings

Contrapuntal
texture

Key Characteristics of Classical Music

- MELODY – Regular phrase lengths, graceful and elegant melodic ideas, mostly *diatonic* (using notes from the scale). The phrase structure usually involves repetition of ideas, as well as use of contrasting ideas.
- DYNAMICS – Shaped, with the use of *crescendo* and *diminuendo*.
- HARMONY – Tonic-dominant oriented harmony, with harmonic movement (rate of chord changes) increasing towards cadence points.
- TEXTURE – Frequent use of melody-dominated texture, usually with the tune at the top
- ACCOMPANIMENT – Outlines harmony, either with chords or broken chord patterns, such as the Alberti bass



Classical Melody – Mozart Sonata Facile KV 545

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1vDxInJVvW8>

Regular phrase lengths

Accompaniment
- Alberti Bass,
outlines
harmony

Melody-
dominated
texture

Diatonic

Key Characteristics of Romantic Music

- TEMPO – More flexible, more use of *rubato*
- MELODY – They are more lyrical and song-like, and are not necessarily in the top part. Phrases are extended and the cadences became less obvious. Phrases are less regular and predictable in length. Wider range of piano used
- HARMONY – Richer and more expressive use of chromatic notes.
- TEXTURE – Greater range of textures.
- STRUCTURE – Often involves melodically unrelated sections, such as the introduction or the coda.
- MOOD – Multiple moods in the same piece
- TECHNIQUES – Significant use of the sustain pedal in piano music
- DYNAMICS – Wider range of dynamics

Romantic Melody – Chopin Prelude in E minor

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ef-4Bv5Ng0w>

Use of rubato

The image displays a musical score for Chopin's Prelude in E minor, consisting of four systems of music. Each system includes a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The first system is marked 'Largo' and 'p' (piano), and includes the instruction 'espressivo'. The score features a melodic line in the treble clef and a harmonic accompaniment in the bass clef, characterized by rich, chromatic textures and irregular phrase lengths. The music is written in E minor, indicated by one sharp (F#) in the key signature.

Richer harmony,
use of
chromatic notes

Sustain pedal is
often used

Irregular phrase
lengths

Key Characteristics of 20th Century Music

- MELODY – Phrasing tends to be freer and less clearly defined, with a possibility of asymmetric phrase lengths. Use of vigorous rhythms, perhaps with abrupt changes between ideas and use of spiky accents.
- HARMONY – More adventurous and dissonant, with a variety of chord types including note clusters and unrelated chords
- DYNAMICS – Wide range, sometimes featuring sudden changes, and exploration of the extremes of note range and dynamic level.
- TONALITY – May be less obvious, or there may be a complete lack of a tonal centre (*atonality*)
- TEXTURE – Likely to be varied, sometimes with dramatic contrasts, or sometimes a particular texture is the main focus (e.g. in minimalist music)

20th Century Examples

- Stravinsky – Rite of Spring - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rP42C-4zL3w>
- Prokofiev – Piano Concerto No. 2 Op. 16 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xcte8hM6kYA>
- Shostakovich – Symphony No. 7 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J4feLVLg46k>
- Bartok – Romanian Folk Dances - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MVt85w21MoQ>
- Debussy - Prélude à l'Après-midi d'un faune - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bYyK922PsUw>
- Schoenberg – Suite for Piano Op. 25 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bQHR_Z8XVvi
- Pierre Boulez – Piano Sonata No. 2 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RSwFQI7UI9Y>
- Bernstein – Candide Overture - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=422-yb8TXj8>
- Britten – War Requiem - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rsSMCq7pl_k
- Gershwin – Rhapsody In Blue - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=17Mv_qh9UB4