

MUSIC IN THE 20th and 21st CENTURIES

This is not a comprehensive list of everything you should know about music in the 20th and 21st centuries, nor is it a list of questions that you must memorize for an exam. Instead, it's a list of terms (concepts, events, people, places, etc.) you should be familiar with in order to analyze scores and sound recordings, to outline a chronology of basic historical and musical developments in Romanticism, discuss the relationship between music and culture in that period and the relevance of that music and ideas in present-day culture.

Important Historical Events

- Paris World Exposition (Exposition Universelle) 1889: This world fair brought cultures and innovations from all over the world to Paris. The Eiffel Tower (then the tallest structure in the world) was built as the entrance arch to the exposition.
- The Great War 1914-1918: The largest global conflict that existed to date. It was different than previous wars in the industrialization of the conflict. It also extended beyond Europe into the Middle East and North Africa. It marked the end of the Turkish Ottoman Empire.
- Russian Revolution 1917: The Bolshevik Revolution marked the end of the Tsarist regime. It transformed Russia into the first communist country in the world.
- Wilson's 14 points 1918: At the end of WW1, U.S. President Woodrow Wilson articulated his agenda for world peace in 14 points. This speech marked the tone for nationalism and global territorial issues for decades to come.
- 1929: The stock market crash of Wall Street precipitated the Great Depression: a decade of economic turmoil that facilitated the rise of socialism, communism, populism, anarchism, and fascism.
- The Total War 1939-1945: The most destructive conflict experienced in history. Its scope included nations all over the world and it reached not only military forces but also civilians. Cities were regularly bombed and the first and only nuclear weapons ever to be used in history were deployed.
- The Cold War 1950-1990: an ideological, political, and military conflict where the Western block or "First World" (The U.S.A. + NATO allies) and the Eastern Block (The U.S.S.R. and its allies) or "Second World" confronted each other indirectly in developing countries or "Third World" to expand their sphere of domination around the world.
- The Counterculture 1960-1970s: a culture of rebellion against Western society's mainstream establishments and social structures developed, calling them into question. Some of the social movements that developed are now known as "identity politics." The counter culture included the second wave of feminism, gay rights movement, civil rights movement, a pacifist movement (against the Vietnam war), and the sexual revolution. It popularized the recreational use of hallucinogenic drugs (LSD, heroine, cannabis), and contributed the revival of folk music and the rise of rock and roll and other forms of popular music.
- Globalization 1990s: The fall of the Soviet Block gave way to the rise of Neoliberalism at a global scale. The "Globalization" of markets, capital, information, and music accelerates at an unprecedented pace.

- 9/11, 2001: The terrorist attacks against the United States on September 11, 2001 opened a new age of state surveillance, war on terror, and global conflict along ethnic and religious ideologies.

What impact did these events have in the development of music and culture in the 19th century? Conversely, what impact did music have in these historical events and culture?

Music Theory, Aesthetics, and Philosophy in the 20th and 21st Centuries:

- Modernism: continuing an old musical tradition in a “NEW” direction (expressionism, impressionism, primitivism, serialism, etc.)
- Avant-Guardism: challenging or questioning tradition, going against tradition, moving in a different direction (chance music, indeterminacy, musique concrète, minimalism)
- New nationalisms in Europe and the Americas
- Music as an academic pursuit
- New systems of pitch organization:
 - Atonality (developing variation, pitch-class sets, chromatic saturation, Sprechstimme)
 - Polytonality (using harmonies in several keys simultaneously)
 - Neotonicity (establishing a tonal center, by ways other than harmonic progressions of the common practice period: assertion of tonal center, modal music, etc.)
 - Chromatic saturation
 - Serialism (12-tone methods)
 - Klangfarbenmelodie
 - Electronically recorded and/or produced sounds
 - Sound masses
 - Tone clusters
 - Chance operations
 - Indeterminacy
 - New sounds: electronically recorded and/or produced
 - Texture music
 - Musical eclecticism

Musical Genres and Styles:

- Important Styles and Schools:
 - Second Viennese School
 - Expressionism
 - Impressionism/Symbolism
 - Primitivism
 - Nationalism
 - Serialism
 - Hyperserialism
 - Electronic Music and Musique Concrète
 - Chance music (or aleatory music)
 - Indeterminacy
 - Texture music
 - Minimalism

Important People and Places

- People:
 - Debussy
 - Joplin
 - Schoenberg and the Second Viennese School
 - Diaghilev
 - Nijinsky
 - Stravinsky
 - Bartók
 - Copland
 - Cowell
 - Ives
 - Gershwin
 - Varèse
 - Revueltas
 - Villa-Lobos
 - Ginastera
 - Les Six
 - Britten
 - Messiaen
 - Boulez
 - Babbitt
 - Shostakovich
 - Cage
 - Stockhausen
 - Berio
 - Ellington
 - Bernstein
 - Crumb
 - Penderecki
 - Ligeti
 - Young
 - Reich
 - Glass
 - Adams
 - Pärt
 - Carter
 - Golijov
 - Higdon
 - Boulanger
- Places:
 - France (Paris)
 - U.S.A. (Los Angeles, San Francisco, The East Coast)
 - The USSR (Russia)
 - The U.K.
 - Latin America
 - Hungary
 - Germany