

MUSIC IN THE BAROQUE ERA

This is not a comprehensive list of everything you should know about music in the baroque era, and is not 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 the Baroque era, 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

- Thirty-years war: 1618-1648. One of the longest and most destructive conflicts in Central Europe that involved religious struggles between Catholics and Protestants, but was especially political due to the rivalries between Bourbons (France) and Habsburgs (Holy Roman Empire)
- English Civil War (1642-1649) and Restoration (1660). A civil war within the United Kingdom ended with the abolishment of the monarchy and the establishment of a commonwealth ruled by Puritans such as Oliver Cromwell. Upon Cromwell's death, the monarchy was restored under Charles II. A constitutional monarchy was established.
- Louis XIV of France (1638-1715) rules from 1643 until his death (72 years), the longest any monarch has ruled in European history.
- Georg Ludwig of Hanover (1660-1727) becomes king George I of Great Britain in 1714 and remains in the throne of England until his death.
- Philip the V of Spain (1683-1746), grandson of Louis XIV of France ascends to the throne of Spain in 1700 as the first Bourbon to rule the Spanish Empire. The influence of France spreads to the New World through changes known as "The Bourbon Reforms."
- Frederick the Great (1712-1786) reigns in Prussia from 1740 to 1786

What impact did these events have in the development of music and culture in the Baroque era? Conversely, what impact did music have in these historical events and culture?

Music Theory, Aesthetics, and Philosophy in the baroque era:

- Emphasis on emotion
 - Doctrine of Affections
 - "Second Practice"
 - Monody
 - Recitative

- Emphasis on harmony:
 - Dissonance
 - Chromaticism
 - Functional tonality
 - Figured bass
- Greater emphasis on musical instruments (see instrumental genres)
- Important texts, compositions, and treatises:
 - Giulio Caccini: *Le nuove musiche* (new music) (1601 or 1602)
 - The Artusi/Monteverdi controversy (“Second Practice”) (1605)
 - Vivaldi: *L’estro armonico* (Harmonic inspiration) (1711)
 - Rameau: *Treatise on Harmony* (1722)

Musical Genres and Styles:

- Elements of form and style:
 - Imitative polyphony: canon, ricercare, fugue
 - Recitative
 - Aria (strophic, variation, da capo)
 - “Movements”
 - Basso continuo
 - Basso ostinato/ground bass
 - Notes inégales
 - Ritornello
 - Polychoral singing
 - Antiphonal singing
 - Variation forms (chaconne)
 - Chord realization
 - Improvisation and ornamentation
 - Word painting
 - Emotion painting
- Vocal genres:
 - Madrigals (solo madrigals, “second practice” madrigals)
 - Motet
 - Monody
 - Chorale
 - Opera
 - Masque
 - Oratorio
 - Cantata
 - Sacred concerto
 - Villancico
 - Airs de Cour (musique mesurée)
- Instrumental genres:
 - Dance suites (Allamande, Courrante, Sarabande, Minuet, etc....)
 - Chaconne
 - Trio sonata (da camera, da chiesa)

- Solo sonata
- Concerto grosso
- Solo concerto
- Toccata
- Chorale prelude (organ)

Important People and Places

- People:
 - Claudio Monteverdi
 - Florentine Camerata (Caccini, Peri)
 - Giovanni Gabrieli
 - Jean Baptiste Lully
 - Archangelo Corelli
 - Antonio Vivaldi
 - Jean Philippe Rameau
 - George Frederic Handel
 - Johann Sebastian Bach
- Places:
 - Florence
 - Venice
 - Naples
 - London
 - Versailles
 - Lima
 - Mexico (City)
 - Leipzig