



## The Baroque Period (1600-1750)

Baroque music sounds **ORNATE, DECORATED** and **EXTRAVAGANT**

**ORNAMENTS** – decorations added to the melodies

**POLYPHONIC TEXTURE** – dense overlapping with lots of interweaving melodies

**IMITATION** and **SEQUENCE**

**TERRACED DYNAMICS** – either loud or soft

**TIMBRE & SONORITY** – mainly strings, simple woodwind (recorders) and trumpets and timpani for dramatic moments. **HARPSICHORD** ('tinkling' sound) plays the **(BASSO) CONTINUO** (or **ORGAN**) with cello/double bass to provide an accompaniment and support harmonies


**GROUND BASS, FUGUE, SONATA DA CHIESA, SONATA DA CAMERA, CONCERTO GROSSO, SOLO CONCERTO, BAROQUE DANCE SUITE, "CHAMBER MUSIC", OPERA, ORATORIO, MASS, CANTATA, CHORALES, PASSIONS, ANTHEMS**

Examples of Baroque Music:

"The Four Seasons" (Violin Concertos) by Vivaldi

"Messiah" – (an Oratorio) by Handel

"Mass in B minor" (a sacred vocal work) by J. S. Bach



## The Classical Period (1750-1820)

Classical music sounds **BALANCED, ELEGANT, ORDERED** and **SYMMETRICAL**

**BALANCED REGULAR PHRASES** (4 and 8 bars)

**HOMOPHONIC TEXTURE** – clear melody with an accompaniment

**ALBERTI BASS** – Pattern of Root, 5<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> as an accompaniment

**FUNCTIONAL HARMONY** – clear keys, cadences and modulations

**VARIETY IN DYNAMICS** – wider range and use of **CRESCENDO** and **DIMINUENDO**

**TIMBRE & SONORITY** – orchestra enlarged – clarinets added, piano invented (replaced harpsichord)

**SYMPHONY, STRING QUARTET, SONATA (SONATA FORM), SOLO PIANO SONATAS, CONCERTO, CHAMBER MUSIC, OPERA, MASS**

Examples of Classical Music:

"Symphony No.40 in G minor" by Mozart

"Trumpet Concerto" by Haydn

"Symphony No.5" – Beethoven ("bridging the gap" to the Romantic)



## The Romantic Period (1820-1900)

Romantic music sounds **LYRICAL, EMOTIONAL, DRAMATIC** and **DESCRIPTIVE**

**THEMES** – much music based on an emotion, place, dreams, the supernatural or stories

**LEITMOTIFS** – short melodies linked to a character or emotions

**EXTRAVAGANT DYNAMICS** – extremes used to portray intense emotion

**CHROMATICISM** – use of notes outside the key to create **DISSONANCE**

**RICHER HARMONIES** – extended chords and unusual keys to help show emotion

**NATIONAL INFLUENCES** – music influenced by folk music and national pride

**TIMBRE & SONORITY** – huge increase in size and range of orchestral instruments. Harps, Tuba, Piccolo, Bass Clarinet, Cor Anglais and Double Bassoon added with large range of percussion . Piano popular – solo piano pieces

**PROGRAMME MUSIC: PROGRAMME SYMPHONY, CONCERT OVERTURE, SYMPHONIC/TONE POEM, INCIDENTAL MUSIC, OPERAS, ORATORIOS, REQUIEMS, LIEDER, CONCERTOS**

Examples of Romantic Music:

"Raindrop Prelude" (solo piano piece) by Chopin

"Hebrides Overture" (Concert Overture) by Mendelssohn

"New World Symphony" (Orchestral work) by Dvorák