

GLOSSARY OF IMPORTANT COMPOSERS  
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**Hildegard of Bingen**

**Name:** Hildegard of Bingen

**Dates:** 1098-1179

**Musical period:** Medieval

**Nationality:** German

**Worked in:** Bingen (Rhine Valley)

**Selected important works:** *Ordo Vitutum* – a play with music notated with neumes

**Interesting information:** One of the earliest known composers, she was also a poet, mystic and scientist, and founded a nunnery in Bingen, Germany, and is revered in that country.

**Léonin**

**Name:** Léonin

**Dates:** c.1130-1190

**Musical period:** Medieval

**Nationality:** French

**Worked in:** Paris

**Selected important works:** *Magnus Liber* – a book of organum for the choir of Notre Dame

**Interesting information:** Worked at the newly built Notre Dame Cathedral, and best known for polyphonic organum.

**Pérotin**

**Name:** Pérotin

**Dates:** c.1160-c.1220

**Musical period:** Medieval

**Nationality:** French

**Worked in:** Paris

**Selected important works:** *Magnus Liber* – possibly a pupil of Léonin, he probably revised this work and added his own compositions.

**Interesting information:** Little is known about him, but he probably worked at Notre Dame around the same time as Léonin.

**Halle**

**Name:** Adam de la Halle

**Dates:** c.1237-1288

**Musical period:** Medieval

**Nationality:** French

**Worked in:** Travelled throughout France

**Selected important works:** The Play of Robin and Marion

**Interesting information:** The above work is possibly the earliest surviving example of a French play with music.

**Machaut**

**Name:** Guillaume de Machaut

**Dates:** c.1300-1377

**Musical period:** Medieval

**Nationality:** French

**Worked in:** Rheims, France

**Selected important works:** *Messe de Notre Dame*

**Interesting information:** Wrote sacred and secular music in the Ars Nova style – the most important 14<sup>th</sup> century composer known to us today.

### Dunstable

**Name:** John Dunstable

**Dates:** c.1390-1453

**Musical period:** Medieval

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** Travelled throughout Europe

**Selected important works:** Masses and Motets

**Interesting information:** Very influential composer, especially on Dufay.

### Dufay

**Name:** Guillaume Dufay

**Dates:** 1397-1474

**Musical period:** Medieval

**Nationality:** Flemish

**Worked in:** Cambrai, France, and all over Italy

**Selected important works:** Mass of the Armed Man

**Interesting information:** The most famous and revered composer of his day.

### Ockeghem

**Name:** Jean d'Ockeghem

**Dates:** c.1410-1497

**Musical period:** Medieval/Renaissance

**Nationality:** Flemish

**Worked in:** Northern France

**Selected important works:** Not much survives, but we do have 14 Masses of his.

**Interesting information:** Very important composer of sacred music.

### Josquin

**Name:** Josquin des Prez

**Dates:** c.1440-1521

**Musical period:** Renaissance

**Nationality:** Flemish

**Worked in:** Italy and France

**Selected important works:** *Messe de Beata Virgine*

**Interesting information:** Famous and revered in his day, did as much to cement Renaissance style as Mozart in the Classical period.

### Obrecht

**Name:** Jacob Obrecht

**Dates:** c.1451-1505

**Musical period:** Renaissance

**Nationality:** Flemish

**Worked in:** Netherlands and Ferrara, Italy

**Selected important works:** Masses and Motets

**Interesting information:** Used secular tunes and number symbolism in his sacred music.

### Willaert

**Name:** Adrian Willaert

**Dates:** c.1490-1562

**Musical period:** Renaissance

**Nationality:** Flemish

**Worked in:** Venice

**Selected important works:** Antiphonal sacred music, Italian madrigals

**Interesting information:** Choirmaster at St. Mark's, Venice.

### Walter

**Name:** Johann Walter

**Dates:** 1496-1570

**Musical period:** Renaissance

**Nationality:** German

**Worked in:** Various cities in Germany

**Selected important works:** Chorales and motets

**Interesting information:** Edited the first Protestant hymnal in Germany, which had a forward by Martin Luther himself.

### Tallis

**Name:** Thomas Tallis

**Dates:** c.1505-1585

**Musical period:** Renaissance

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** Canterbury and London

**Selected important works:** *Spem in Alium* (c.1570) – 40-part motet

**Interesting information:** Wrote both in English and Latin, depending on the religion of the day in England. Organist and composer to the Chapel Royal during Elizabeth I's reign.

### A. Gabrieli

**Name:** Andrea Gabrieli

**Dates:** c.1510-1586

**Musical period:** Renaissance

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** Venice

**Selected important works:** Antiphonal sacred music

**Interesting information:** Pupil of Willaert and took over St. Mark's post from him.

### Palestrina

**Name:** Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina

**Dates:** c.1525-1594

**Musical period:** Renaissance

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** Rome

**Selected important works:** *Missa Papae Marcelli* (1567), *Stabat Mater* (1590)

**Interesting information:** Pleased the Council of Trent with his uncluttered, beautiful Mass and Motet settings.

### Lassus

**Name:** Orlande de Lassus

**Dates:** c.1532-1594

**Musical period:** Renaissance

**Nationality:** Flemish

**Worked in:** Munich

**Selected important works:** *Psalmi Davidis Poenitentiales* (1584), many motets

**Interesting information:** Worked in Italy and Germany, and traveled much. Known for sacred and secular music.

### Byrd

**Name:** William Byrd

**Dates:** c.1543-1623

**Musical period:** Renaissance

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** Lincoln and London

**Selected important works:** *Cantiones Sacrae* (1575, jointly with Tallis), many Masses, instrumental music

**Interesting information:** Pupil of Tallis who also worked at the Chapel Royal. His secular music was as popular as his sacred music, especially with the Queen.

### Victoria

**Name:** Tomás Luis de Victoria

**Dates:** c.1548-1611

**Musical period:** Renaissance

**Nationality:** Spanish

**Worked in:** Rome and Madrid

**Selected important works:** *Missa pro Victoria*, numerous Magnificats

**Interesting information:** Only wrote sacred music. Trained in Italy (possibly with Palestrina) but was mainly based in Spain.

### Caccini

**Name:** Giulio Caccini

**Dates:** c.1550-1618

**Musical period:** Renaissance

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** Florence

**Selected important works:** *Le Nuove Musiche* (1601)

**Interesting information:** Co-founder of the Florentine Camerata (see Peri, below).

### Morley

**Name:** Thomas Morley

**Dates:** 1557-1602

**Musical period:** Renaissance

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** England

**Selected important works:** Editor of *The Triumphs of Oriana* – a collection of madrigals

**Interesting information:** Pupil of Byrd and possible friend of Shakespeare.

### G. Gabrieli

**Name:** Giovanni Gabrieli

**Dates:** 1557-1612

**Musical period:** Renaissance

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** Venice

**Selected important works:** Antiphonal sacred and secular music such as *Sonata pian' e forte* (1597 for brass)

**Interesting information:** Nephew of Andrea who inherited the post at St Mark's, Venice, from him.

### Gesualdo

**Name:** Carlo Gesualdo

**Dates:** c.1560-1613

**Musical period:** Renaissance

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** Naples

**Selected important works:** Madrigals

**Interesting information:** Murdered his wife and her lover, and went steadily insane as he got older. His music has been more popular recently than it was in his day.

### Peri

**Name:** Jacopo Peri

**Dates:** 1561-1621

**Musical period:** Renaissance

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** Florence

**Selected important works:** Operas

**Interesting information:** With Caccini, a member of the Florentine Camerata, a group that created the earliest operas.

### Dowland

**Name:** John Dowland

**Dates:** c.1563-1626

**Musical period:** Renaissance

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** England and Denmark

**Selected important works:** *Flow my Tears; Lachrimae*

**Interesting information:** Travelling singer and royal lutenist to James I.

### Monteverdi

**Name:** Claudio Monteverdi

**Dates:** 1567-1643

**Musical period:** Renaissance/Baroque

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** Mantua, Venice

**Selected important works:** *Orfeo* (1607), *Vespers of the Blessed Virgin* (1610)

**Interesting information:** Extremely important composer who wrote prolifically in almost all genres of the day, including one of the first operas.

### Wilbye

**Name:** John Wilbye

**Dates:** 1574-1638

**Musical period:** Renaissance

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** England

**Selected important works:** Two books of madrigals

**Interesting information:** Considered one of the best of the English madrigalists.

### Weelkes

**Name:** Thomas Weelkes

**Dates:** c.1576-1623

**Musical period:** Renaissance

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** England

**Selected important works:** Three books of madrigals

**Interesting information:** Friend of Morley and contributor to *The Triumphs of Oriana*. Studied at Oxford and became organist of Chichester Cathedral.

### Allegri

**Name:** Gregorio Allegri

**Dates:** 1582-1652

**Musical period:** Renaissance/Baroque

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** Rome

**Selected important works:** *Miserere* (c1630)

**Interesting information:** Allegri's famous *Miserere* was reserved for exclusive performance in the Sistine Chapel, and therefore was not heard anywhere else until Mozart heard it in 1770 and wrote it out from memory.

### Schütz

**Name:** Heinrich Schütz

**Dates:** 1585-1672

**Musical period:** Baroque

**Nationality:** German

**Worked in:** Dresden (but trained in Venice)

**Selected important works:** *Christmas Oratorio* (1660), *Passions* (1664-66)

**Interesting information:** Did much to develop the German tradition of sacred music, subsequently championed by Bach.

### Carissimi

**Name:** Giacomo Carissimi

**Dates:** 1605-1674

**Musical period:** Baroque

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** Rome

**Selected important works:** Oratorios and Motets

**Interesting information:** Brought Monteverdi's opera style to church music.

### Couperin

**Name:** Francois Couperin

**Dates:** c.1626-1661

**Musical period:** Baroque

**Nationality:** French  
**Worked in:** Versailles  
**Selected important works:** Over 200 works for harpsichord  
**Interesting information:** Worked at the courts of Louis XIV and XV.

### Lully

**Name:** Jean-Baptiste Lully  
**Dates:** 1632-1687  
**Musical period:** Baroque  
**Nationality:** Italian  
**Worked in:** Versailles, Paris  
**Selected important works:** Operas and Ballets, including *Armide* (1686)  
**Interesting information:** The court composer of Louis XIV, and originator of French opera. Died from an infection resulting from hitting his foot with a stick whilst beating time.

### Buxtehude

**Name:** Dietrich Buxtehude  
**Dates:** c.1637-1707  
**Musical period:** Baroque  
**Nationality:** Danish  
**Worked in:** Lübeck, Germany  
**Selected important works:** Organ music and cantatas  
**Interesting information:** As a youth, Bach walked miles in order to hear Buxtehude play the organ.

### Charpentier

**Name:** Marc-Antoine Charpentier  
**Dates:** c.1643-1704  
**Musical period:** Baroque  
**Nationality:** French  
**Worked in:** Paris  
**Selected important works:** *Te Deum* (c.1690), *Les Arts Florissants* (1686 opera)  
**Interesting information:** For a time, Charpentier was the composer for playwright Moliere's new productions.

### Pachelbel

**Name:** Johann Pachelbel  
**Dates:** 1653-1706  
**Musical period:** Baroque  
**Nationality:** German  
**Worked in:** Various cities in Germany  
**Selected important works:** *Canon in D*, organ music  
**Interesting information:** Knew the Bach family and was a major influence on J.S. Bach.

### Corelli

**Name:** Archangelo Corelli  
**Dates:** 1653-1713  
**Musical period:** Baroque  
**Nationality:** Italian  
**Worked in:** Rome

**Selected important works:** Sonatas and Concerti Grossi

**Interesting information:** A violinist whose instrumental music influenced Handel greatly.

### Purcell

**Name:** Henry Purcell

**Dates:** 1659-1695

**Musical period:** Baroque

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** London

**Selected important works:** *Dido and Aeneas* (1689), *Funeral Music for Queen Mary* (1695)

**Interesting information:** Organist at Chapel Royal during Charles II's reign, the last great English composer for nearly two hundred years. His *Funeral Music for Queen Mary* ended up being played at his own funeral.

### A. Scarlatti

**Name:** Alessandro Scarlatti

**Dates:** 1660-1725

**Musical period:** Baroque

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** Rome and Naples

**Selected important works:** Over 100 operas, sacred music

**Interesting information:** Credited with inventing both the da capo aria and the Italian overture.

### Albinoni

**Name:** Tomaso Albinoni

**Dates:** 1671-1751

**Musical period:** Baroque

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** Venice

**Selected important works:** Many operas, concerti and sonatas, including well-known oboe and trumpet concertos

**Interesting information:** Contrary to popular opinion, Albinoni did not actually write the *Adagio* for organ and strings with which he is associated.

### Vivaldi

**Name:** Antonio Vivaldi

**Dates:** 1678-1741

**Musical period:** Baroque

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** Venice

**Selected important works:** *The Four Seasons* (1725) are four of over 400 concertos

**Interesting information:** Ordained and engaged as a teacher and composer at a Venetian orphanage. Did more for the solo concerto than any other composer.

### Telemann

**Name:** Georg Philipp Telemann

**Dates:** 1681-1767

**Musical period:** Baroque

**Nationality:** German



**Worked in:** Hamburg

**Selected important works:** Operas, church music, instrumental music

**Interesting information:** Possibly wrote more music than any other composer, vocal and instrumental, sacred and secular.

### Rameau

**Name:** Jean-Phillipe Rameau

**Dates:** 1683-1764

**Musical period:** Baroque

**Nationality:** French

**Worked in:** Paris

**Selected important works:** *Castor et Pollux* (1737), keyboard music

**Interesting information:** Successor to Lully as an important French opera composer; his patron was a wealthy Parisian tax-collector.

### J.S. Bach

**Name:** Johann Sebastian Bach

**Dates:** 1685-1750

**Musical period:** Baroque

**Nationality:** German

**Worked in:** Weimer, Cöthen and Leipzig, Germany

**Selected important works:** *Brandenburg Concertos* (1721), *The Well-Tempered Clavier* (1722-44), *St Matthew Passion* (1729)

**Interesting information:** Wrote a huge amount of music in every major genre except opera, whilst holding down important jobs that required him to teach students and compose for weekly services. One of the most influential composers who ever lived.

### D. Scarlatti

**Name:** Dominico Scarlatti

**Dates:** 1685-1757

**Musical period:** Baroque

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** Rome, Lisbon, Madrid

**Selected important works:** Over 500 keyboard sonatas

**Interesting information:** Most of his sonatas were written for the daughter of the Portugese King, in whose service he remained for most of his life.

### Handel

**Name:** George Frideric Handel

**Dates:** 1685-1759

**Musical period:** Baroque

**Nationality:** German

**Worked in:** Hamburg, throughout Italy, London

**Selected important works:** *Water Music* (1717), *Messiah* (1742), operas, oratorios, concerti grossi

**Interesting information:** Landed on his feet in England when his ex-employer in Germany became George I. Was also the first composer-in-residence at the Royal Academy of Music.

### Tartini

**Name:** Guiseppe Tartini

**Dates:** 1692-1770

**Musical period:** Baroque

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** Padua and Venice

**Selected important works:** 'Devil's Trill' Sonata (c.1713)

**Interesting information:** Was a violin virtuoso, and wrote many sonatas and concertos for the instrument.

### Hasse

**Name:** Johan Hasse

**Dates:** 1699-1783

**Musical period:** Baroque

**Nationality:** German

**Worked in:** Dresden and Vienna

**Selected important works:** Operas

**Interesting information:** Almost exclusively wrote operas.

### Pergolesi

**Name:** Giovanni Batista Pergolesi

**Dates:** 1710-1736

**Musical period:** Baroque

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** Naples

**Selected important works:** *Stabat Mater* (1736)

**Interesting information:** Died young from tuberculosis. Some of his music appears in Stravinsky's *Pulcinella*.

### Arne

**Name:** Thomas Arne

**Dates:** 1710-1778

**Musical period:** Baroque

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** London

**Selected important works:** *Alfred* (1740) – a masque

**Interesting information:** The above work included the song *Rule, Britannia!* This underrated English composer lived in Covent Garden (he is buried in the church there) and was educated at Eton.

### Gluck

**Name:** Christoph Willibald Gluck

**Dates:** 1714-1787

**Musical period:** Rococo/Classical

**Nationality:** German

**Worked in:** Vienna and Milan

**Selected important works:** *Orfeo ed Euridice* (1762), *Alceste* (1767)

**Interesting information:** Gluck is very important in the history of opera. He reformed opera seria, bringing the plot and text back to the fore, and listed his reforms in the preface to *Alceste*.

### C.P.E. Bach

**Name:** Carl Philipp Emmanuel Bach

**Dates:** 1714-1788

**Musical period:** Rococo/Classical

**Nationality:** German

**Worked in:** Berlin and Hamburg

**Selected important works:** Many keyboard sonatas

**Interesting information:** Son of J.S. Bach, he succeeded Telemann at Hamburg and did much to develop Classical sonata form.

### Haydn

**Name:** Josef Haydn

**Dates:** 1732-1809

**Musical period:** Classical

**Nationality:** Austrian

**Worked in:** Esterhazy, near Vienna; also toured extensively

**Selected important works:** *Symphony No.94 'Surprise'* (1791), *The Creation* (1798)

**Interesting information:** Known as 'Papa Haydn', considered the 'father' of the symphony and string quartet. Also wrote numerous concerti, operas, sonatas and sacred works.

### J.C. Bach

**Name:** Johann Christian Bach

**Dates:** 1735-1782

**Musical period:** Rococo/Classical

**Nationality:** German

**Worked in:** London

**Selected important works:** Sinfonias, piano concerti, operas

**Interesting information:** Son of J.S. Bach, he was known as 'the English Bach' and was a big influence on Mozart.

### Paisiello

**Name:** Giovanni Paisiello

**Dates:** 1740-1816

**Musical period:** Classical

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** St Petersburg and Naples

**Selected important works:** *Il Barbiera di Siviglia* (1782)

**Interesting information:** Yes, that's right, Paisiello wrote an opera called *The Barber of Seville* before Rossini, and it was more popular for a time. He wrote over 100 operas in all.

### Boccherini

**Name:** Luigi Boccherini

**Dates:** 1743-1805

**Musical period:** Classical

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** Vienna and Madrid

**Selected important works:** *String Quintet op.13 no.5* (contains his famous *Minuet*)

**Interesting information:** Wrote a huge amount of chamber music, symphonies and church music.

### Cimarosa

**Name:** Domenico Cimarosa

**Dates:** 1749-1801

**Musical period:** Classical

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** Vienna and Naples

**Selected important works:** *Il matrimonio segreto* (1792)

**Interesting information:** Succeeded Salieri in Vienna, and wrote many operas and a popular oboe concerto.

### Salieri

**Name:** Antonio Salieri

**Dates:** 1750-1825

**Musical period:** Classical

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** Vienna

**Selected important works:** Operas

**Interesting information:** Court *Kapellmeister* and supposed rival of Mozart, though few of his operas survive. He taught Beethoven and Schubert.

### Clementi

**Name:** Muzio Clementi

**Dates:** 1752-1832

**Musical period:** Classical

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** London, after touring as a pianist

**Selected important works:** Piano pieces

**Interesting information:** Almost exclusively wrote for the piano, and was a sought-after piano teacher.

### Mozart

**Name:** Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

**Dates:** 1756-1791

**Musical period:** Classical

**Nationality:** Austrian

**Worked in:** Salzburg and Vienna; also toured extensively

**Selected important works:** *Symphony No. 41 'Jupiter'* (1788), *The Magic Flute* (1791), *Requiem* (1791)

**Interesting information:** Child prodigy who had a towering compositional influence on all music, despite only living for 35 years.

### Cherubini

**Name:** Luigi Cherubini

**Dates:** 1760-1842

**Musical period:** Classical/Romantic

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** Paris

**Selected important works:** *The Water-Carrier* (1800)

**Interesting information:** Big influence on Beethoven, whom he met in 1805. Tyrannical professor at the Paris Conservatoire – taught a number of important 19<sup>th</sup> century musical figures.

### **Beethoven**

**Name:** Ludwig van Beethoven

**Dates:** 1770-1827

**Musical period:** Classical

**Nationality:** German

**Worked in:** Vienna

**Selected important works:** *Piano Concerto No.5 'Emperor'* (1809), *Symphony No.9 'Choral'* (1824)

**Interesting information:** Bridged the Classical and Romantic periods with his immeasurable contributions to the piano sonata, symphony and string quartet. Also wrote one opera.

### **Hummel**

**Name:** Johann Nepomuk Hummel

**Dates:** 1778-1837

**Musical period:** Classical

**Nationality:** German

**Worked in:** Vienna and Weimar

**Selected important works:** *Trumpet Concerto* (1803)

**Interesting information:** Only really known for the above work, but wrote a lot of piano music that influenced Chopin. Was a pupil of Mozart.

### **Field**

**Name:** John Field

**Dates:** 1782-1837

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Irish

**Worked in:** St Petersburg (and toured extensively)

**Selected important works:** Nocturnes for piano

**Interesting information:** Studied with Clementi and became a virtuoso pianist; his Nocturnes were a big influence on Chopin.

### **Paganini**

**Name:** Niccolò Paganini

**Dates:** 1782-1840

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** Toured throughout Europe

**Selected important works:** *24 Caprices* (1820)

**Interesting information:** Ridiculously talented violin virtuoso – his appearance and ability caused rumours that he was in league with the devil. Many composers wrote works for him.

### **Auber**

**Name:** Daniel Auber

**Dates:** 1782-1871

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** French

**Worked in:** Paris

**Selected important works:** *La Muette de Portici* (1828)

**Interesting information:** Influential opera composer; succeeded Cherubini (his teacher) as director of the Paris Conservatoire.

### Spohr

**Name:** Louis Spohr

**Dates:** 1784-1859

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** German

**Worked in:** Germany, Vienna, London

**Selected important works:** Instrumental music

**Interesting information:** Violinist and conductor who wrote a number of important instrumental works. Also said to be the first conductor to use a baton!

### Weber

**Name:** Carl Maria von Weber

**Dates:** 1786-1826

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** German

**Worked in:** Germany, Vienna, Prague and London

**Selected important works:** *Der Freischütz* (1821), many works for the clarinet

**Interesting information:** Forward-looking and sought-after opera director and composer, who was one of the pioneers of Romanticism, despite dying before Beethoven and Schubert.

### Meyerbeer

**Name:** Giacomo Meyerbeer

**Dates:** 1791-1864

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** German

**Worked in:** Italy and Paris

**Selected important works:** *Les Huguenots* (1836)

**Interesting information:** Very rich and successful opera composer, ruthlessly criticized by Wagner in later life (partly due to Wagner's anti-semitic leanings); his works are less popular today.

### Rossini

**Name:** Gioacchino Rossini

**Dates:** 1792-1868

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** All over Italy, and Paris

**Selected important works:** *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* (1816), *Guillaume Tell* (1829)

**Interesting information:** Wrote a large number of operas extremely quickly, becoming rich and famous by the age of 30. Many consider him the saviour of Italian opera.

### Marschner

**Name:** Heinrich Marschner

**Dates:** 1795-1861

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** German

**Worked in:** Dresden

**Selected important works:** Operas

**Interesting information:** Not well-known today, but he fills the gap between Weber and Wagner in the history of German Romantic opera.

### Berwald

**Name:** Franz Berwald

**Dates:** 1796-1868

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Swedish

**Worked in:** Berlin, Vienna and Stockholm

**Selected important works:** 4 Symphonies, *Piano Concerto* (1855)

**Interesting information:** An amateur composer who left some charming music, still popular today. Struggled to gain much popularity in his lifetime.

### Schubert

**Name:** Franz Schubert

**Dates:** 1797-1828

**Musical period:** Classical/Romantic

**Nationality:** Austrian

**Worked in:** Vienna

**Selected important works:** 'Trout' Quintet (1819), *Symphony No.8 'Unfinished'* (1822), over 600 songs.

**Interesting information:** Best known for his huge contribution to the German Lied, but also wrote symphonies, sonatas and chamber music.

### Donizetti

**Name:** Gaetano Donizetti

**Dates:** 1797-1848

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** All over Italy, and Paris

**Selected important works:** *L'elisir d'amore* (1832), *Lucia di Lammermoor* (1835)

**Interesting information:** Popular and successful opera composer in the *Bel Canto* style.

### Bellini

**Name:** Vincenzo Bellini

**Dates:** 1801-1835

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** All over Italy, and Paris

**Selected important works:** *Norma* (1831)

**Interesting information:** Wrote very expressively for the voice. His *Casta Diva* (from *Norma*) was made famous by Maria Callas.

### Glinka

**Name:** Mikhail Glinka

**Dates:** 1803-1857

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Russian

**Worked in:** St. Petersburg

**Selected important works:** *A Life for the Tsar* (1836)

**Interesting information:** Wrote some songs and chamber music, but concentrated mainly on opera after a trip to Italy in the 1830s.

### Berlioz

**Name:** Hector Berlioz

**Dates:** 1803-1869

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** French

**Worked in:** Paris

**Selected important works:** *Symphonie Fantastique* (1830), *La Damnation de Faust* (1846)

**Interesting information:** A passionate and emotional man who only played the guitar, he wrote monumental orchestral and choral works that were very forward-looking, especially in their orchestration.

### Strauss I

**Name:** Johann Strauss the (elder)

**Dates:** 1804-1849

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Austrian

**Worked in:** Vienna

**Selected important works:** *Radetsky March* (1848)

**Interesting information:** Head of the family that took Vienna by storm with their 'light' music for dancing.

### Mendelssohn

**Name:** Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy

**Dates:** 1809-1847

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** German

**Worked in:** Based in Leipzig but traveled a lot

**Selected important works:** *Hebrides Overture* (1830), *Violin Concerto* (1844), *Lieder Ohne Worte* for piano (1829-45)

**Interesting information:** Very talented composer and hard-working promoter and conductor. He was heavily involved in the promotion of Bach's music in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

### Chopin

**Name:** Frédéric Chopin

**Dates:** 1810-1849

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Polish

**Worked in:** Paris

**Selected important works:** Books of preludes, waltzes, nocturnes and mazurkas for the piano

**Interesting information:** Wrote almost exclusively for the piano, and was a talented performer.

### Schumann

**Name:** Robert Schumann

**Dates:** 1810-1856

**Musical period:** Romantic



**Nationality:** German

**Worked in:** Leipzig, Dresden and Dusseldorf

**Selected important works:** *Carnaval* (1835), *Piano Concerto* (1841-5), song-cycles

**Interesting information:** Obsessed with the young pianist Clara Wieck, whom he eventually married when she came of age. His piano music is filled with strange codes and imaginary characters, who related to people in his life (including himself).

### Liszt

**Name:** Franz Liszt

**Dates:** 1811-1886

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Hungarian

**Worked in:** Paris, Weimar and toured all around Europe

**Selected important works:** *Piano Sonata* (1853), *Faust Symphony* (1857)

**Interesting information:** Extremely talented concert pianist and forward-looking composer; took minor holy orders in later life.

### Bruckner

**Name:** Anton Bruckner

**Dates:** 1813-1883

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Austrian

**Worked in:** Vienna

**Selected important works:** Nine symphonies

**Interesting information:** Known as a symphonist though fiercely critical of his own work; admired by Wagner, who was an exact contemporary.

### Wagner

**Name:** Richard Wagner

**Dates:** 1813-1883

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** German

**Worked in:** Paris, Dresden, Munich, Bayreuth

**Selected important works:** *Tristan und Isolde* (1859), *Der Ring des Nibelungen* (1853-74)

**Interesting information:** Hugely important composer of operas, which he called 'music-dramas'. Exercised control over all aspects of his productions, and built the opera house at Bayreuth. A fervent German nationalist.

### Verdi

**Name:** Giuseppe Verdi

**Dates:** 1813-1901

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** All over Italy

**Selected important works:** *Rigoletto* (1851), *Aida* (1871), *Requiem* (1874)

**Interesting information:** The greatest Italian opera composer, also wrote a very operatic-sounding Requiem mass.

### Gounod

**Name:** Charles Gounod

**Dates:** 1818-1893

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** French

**Worked in:** Paris, London

**Selected important works:** *Faust* (1859)

**Interesting information:** Wrote grand operas – *Faust* was his greatest success.

### Offenbach

**Name:** Jacques Offenbach

**Dates:** 1819-1880

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** German

**Worked in:** Paris

**Selected important works:** *Orpheus in the Underworld* (1858), *Tales of Hoffman* (1881)

**Interesting information:** Best known for light operettas, of which he wrote over 90. *Orpheus in the Underworld* includes the famous *Can-Can*.

### Franck

**Name:** César Franck

**Dates:** 1822-1890

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Belgian

**Worked in:** Paris

**Selected important works:** *Symphony in D minor* (1888), sacred music

**Interesting information:** Professor of organ at Paris Conservatoire.

### Lalo

**Name:** Edouard Lalo

**Dates:** 1823-1892

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** French

**Worked in:** Paris

**Selected important works:** *Symphonie Espagnole* (1874)

**Interesting information:** Also known for operas and ballets, only began composing seriously in his forties.

### Smetana

**Name:** Bedrich Smetana

**Dates:** 1824-1884

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Czech

**Worked in:** Prague

**Selected important works:** *Ma Vlast* (1872-9)

**Interesting information:** Turned to composition after a career as a pianist and teacher; became deaf in later life.

### Strauss II

**Name:** Johann Strauss II

**Dates:** 1825-1899

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Austrian

**Worked in:** Vienna

**Selected important works:** *Blue Danube waltz* (1867), *Die Fledermaus* (1874)

**Interesting information:** Known as 'The Waltz King', he originally set up a waltz band to rival his father's, and toured Europe, Russia and America on a shoestring. There were two other Strauss sons who also followed in their father's footsteps.

### **Borodin**

**Name:** Alexander Borodin

**Dates:** 1833-1887

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Russian

**Worked in:** St. Petersburg

**Selected important works:** *Symphony No.2 in B minor* (1877), *Prince Igor* (1887)

**Interesting information:** The *Polovtsian Dances* from his only opera, *Prince Igor*, are still popular today; he was also a professor of chemistry.

### **Brahms**

**Name:** Johannes Brahms

**Dates:** 1833-1897

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** German

**Worked in:** Hamburg and Vienna

**Selected important works:** Four symphonies, songs; *Ein Deutsches Requiem* (1868)

**Interesting information:** Disassociated himself from Liszt and other 'new' composers, but his symphonies are masterpieces of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Was very close to Clara Schumann and helped champion her late husband's music after Schumann's death.

### **Cui**

**Name:** César Cui

**Dates:** 1835-1918

**Musical period:** Russian

**Nationality:** Russian

**Worked in:** St. Petersburg

**Selected important works:** Little of Cui's music is played today, but he did write 15 operas

**Interesting information:** An army officer whose musical career was largely a sideline, though he was a member of 'The Mighty Handful' (see Balakirev).

### **Saint-Saens**

**Name:** Camille Saint-Saens

**Dates:** 1835-1921

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** French

**Worked in:** Paris, Algiers

**Selected important works:** *Symphony No.3* (1886), *Le Carnaval des Animaux* (1886)

**Interesting information:** Very prolific composer, ironically his best-known piece (*The Carnival of the Animals*) was written as a private joke piece for friends to perform.

### **Delibes**

**Name:** Léo Delibes

**Dates:** 1836-1891

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** French

**Worked in:** Paris

**Selected important works:** *Coppelia* (1870), *Lakmé* (1883)

**Interesting information:** Known for his ballets and operas. *Lakmé* includes the famed 'Flower Duet'.

### **Balakirev**

**Name:** Mily Balakirev

**Dates:** 1837-1910

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Russian

**Worked in:** St. Petersburg

**Selected important works:** *Islamey* for piano (1869)

**Interesting information:** Self-styled leader of the Russian nationalist group 'The Mighty Handful'. Not a prolific composer, but influenced by Glinka, and very critical of his peers, especially Tchaikovsky.

### **Bizet**

**Name:** Georges Bizet

**Dates:** 1838-1875

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** French

**Worked in:** Paris

**Selected important works:** *Carmen* (1875)

**Interesting information:** Had much promise as a young composer but did not enjoy much success. Sadly, he did not live to see the fantastic success of his opera *Carmen*.

### **Bruch**

**Name:** Max Bruch

**Dates:** 1838-1920

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** German

**Worked in:** Berlin

**Selected important works:** *Violin Concerto in G minor* (1868), *Kol Nidrei* (1881)

**Interesting information:** Well respected as a conductor, his violin concerto is one of the most famous ever written.

### **Mussorgsky**

**Name:** Modest Mussorgsky

**Dates:** 1839-1881

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Russian

**Worked in:** St. Petersburg

**Selected important works:** *Boris Godunov* (1872), *Pictures at an Exhibition* (1874)

**Interesting information:** An alcoholic who composed slowly and left a lot of music incomplete at his death, but his music remains very popular.

### **Tchaikovsky**

**Name:** Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

**Dates:** 1840-1893

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Russian

**Worked in:** St. Petersburg

**Selected important works:** Symphonies (6) and Ballets

**Interesting information:** A tremendous talent for melody and for writing dramatic works, especially ballet. Died in mysterious circumstances shortly after the first performance of his *Symphony No. 6 'Pathétique'*.

### Chabrier

**Name:** Emmanuel Chabrier

**Dates:** 1841-1894

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** French

**Worked in:** Paris

**Selected important works:** *España* (1883)

**Interesting information:** Turned to composition having heard Wagner's *Tristan und Isolde*. Best known for the above orchestral work, but spent most of his career writing operas.

### Dvořák

**Name:** Antonin Dvořák

**Dates:** 1841-1904

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Czech

**Worked in:** Prague, but spent time in England and America

**Selected important works:** *Symphony No.9 'From the New World'* (1893), *Cello Concerto* (1895)

**Interesting information:** Very prolific and popular nationalist composer, who traveled widely.

### Sullivan

**Name:** Arthur Sullivan

**Dates:** 1842-1900

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** London

**Selected important works:** Numerous operettas with his librettist, W.S. Gilbert.

**Interesting information:** Preferred to talk about his 'serious' music – had a very low opinion of his lighter operettas despite their resounding successes.

### Massenet

**Name:** Jules Massenet

**Dates:** 1842-1912

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** French

**Worked in:** Paris

**Selected important works:** *Manon* (1884), *Werther* (1892)

**Interesting information:** Famous for his operas; the two mentioned above are still performed regularly.

### Grieg

**Name:** Edvard Grieg

**Dates:** 1843-1907

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Norwegian

**Worked in:** Norway, but toured Europe as a concert pianist

**Selected important works:** *Piano Concerto in A minor* (1868), *Peer Gynt Suites* (1874-5)

**Interesting information:** Nationalist composer whose travels in Europe caused him to meet and be influenced by many 19<sup>th</sup> century composers, including Schumann.

### Rimsky-Korsakov

**Name:** Nicolay Rimsky-Korsakov

**Dates:** 1844-1908

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Russian

**Worked in:** St. Petersburg

**Selected important works:** *Capriccio Espagnol* (1887), *Sheherazade* (1888)

**Interesting information:** Professor of composition at St. Petersburg Conservatory, where he taught Stravinsky. A very successful composer who also wrote books about orchestration.

### Fauré

**Name:** Gabriel Fauré

**Dates:** 1845-1924

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** French

**Worked in:** Paris

**Selected important works:** *Requiem* (1888), *Dolly Suite* (1897)

**Interesting information:** Pupil of Saint-Saens, he became Director of the Paris Conservatoire and taught Ravel.

### Parry

**Name:** Hubert Parry

**Dates:** 1848-1918

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** London, Oxford

**Selected important works:** Choral Music

**Interesting information:** First significant English composer since Purcell. Professor at Royal College of Music and at Oxford, and influenced many younger composers. Wrote the hymn *Jerusalem*.

### D'Indy

**Name:** Vincent D'Indy

**Dates:** 1851-1931

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** French

**Worked in:** Paris

**Selected important works:** Operas and orchestral music

**Interesting information:** Pupil of Franck and admirer of Wagner; founded Schola Cantorum in Paris.

### Stanford

**Name:** Charles Villiers Stanford

**Dates:** 1852-1924

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** London, Cambridge

**Selected important works:** Choral music

**Interesting information:** Professor at Royal College of Music and at Cambridge; wrote much music sung daily in Anglican cathedrals today.

### Janáček

**Name:** Leos Janáček

**Dates:** 1854-1928

**Musical period:** 20th century

**Nationality:** Czech

**Worked in:** Brno and Prague

**Selected important works:** *The Cunning Little Vixen* (1923), *Sinfonietta* (1926)

**Interesting information:** You might be surprised to see his name so far back in this chronological list – because most of his important music was written in the last 30 years of his life.

### Elgar

**Name:** Edward Elgar

**Dates:** 1857-1934

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** Worcester, Malvern, Hereford

**Selected important works:** *Enigma Variations* (1899), *The Dream of Gerontius* (1900)

**Interesting information:** Started out as a music teacher and performer, success as a composer came later with the *Enigma Variations*.

### Puccini

**Name:** Giacomo Puccini

**Dates:** 1858-1924

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** Lucca, Italy

**Selected important works:** *La Boheme* (1896), *Tosca* (1900)

**Interesting information:** Almost exclusively an opera composer, famous for writing realistic, true-to-life operas.

### Wolf

**Name:** Hugo Wolf

**Dates:** 1860-1903

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** German

**Worked in:** Vienna

**Selected important works:** Songs

**Interesting information:** Fellow pupil of Mahler at Vienna Conservatory; staunch Wagner supporter.

### Albéniz

**Name:** Isaac Albéniz

**Dates:** 1860-1909

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Spanish

**Worked in:** Travelled all his life

**Selected important works:** *Iberia* (1906-9)

**Interesting information:** Ran away aged 10, and was unable to settle anywhere for long. Most of his important works are for piano.

### Mahler

**Name:** Gustav Mahler

**Dates:** 1860-1911

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Austrian

**Worked in:** Vienna

**Selected important works:** 10 symphonies

**Interesting information:** Wrote monumental symphonies, and was also a very successful conductor.

### Debussy

**Name:** Claude Debussy

**Dates:** 1862-1918

**Musical period:** Romantic/20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** French

**Worked in:** Paris

**Selected important works:** *La Mer* (1905), *Preludes* (1910/1913)

**Interesting information:** Hated the term 'Impressionist' but is described as such; heavily influenced by Wagner but managed to forge a distinct style

### Delius

**Name:** Frederick Delius

**Dates:** 1862-1934

**Musical period:** Romantic/20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** Paris

**Selected important works:** *Brigg Fair* (1907), various concerti

**Interesting information:** Wrote very 'English' sounding music, despite spending most of his life abroad. Championed by conductor Sir Thomas Beecham.

### Strauss

**Name:** Richard Strauss

**Dates:** 1864-1949

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** German

**Worked in:** Munich

**Selected important works:** *Also Sprach Zarathustra* (1896), *Der Rosenkavalier* (1911)

**Interesting information:** Wrote mainly operas and tone poems, and hung on to his late Romantic style well into the 20<sup>th</sup> century.



### Nielsen

**Name:** Carl Nielsen

**Dates:** 1865-1931

**Musical period:** Romantic/20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** Danish

**Worked in:** Copenhagen

**Selected important works:** *Symphony no.4 'The Inextinguishable'* (1916)

**Interesting information:** Best known for his symphonies, but also wrote operas.

### Dukas

**Name:** Paul Dukas

**Dates:** 1865-1935

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** French

**Worked in:** Paris

**Selected important works:** *L'apprenti sorcier* (1897)

**Interesting information:** Friend of Debussy who did not publish many works, and destroyed much of his own music before he died, but the above piece is extremely famous, probably thanks to Disney!

### Glazunov

**Name:** Alexander Glazunov

**Dates:** 1865-1936

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Russian

**Worked in:** St. Petersburg

**Selected important works:** *The Seasons* (1899)

**Interesting information:** Prolific, well-travelled and respected composer. Also a conductor, whose alleged poor rendition of Rachmaninov's *First Symphony* almost prematurely ended the younger composer's career.

### Sibelius

**Name:** Jean Sibelius

**Dates:** 1865-1957

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Finnish

**Worked in:** Mainly Finland

**Selected important works:** *Finlandia* (1899), *Symphony no.5* (1915)

**Interesting information:** Important symphonist who struggled to write anything significant for the last third of his life.

### Busoni

**Name:** Ferruccio Busoni

**Dates:** 1866-1924

**Musical period:** Romantic/20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** Vienna, Leipzig and Berlin

**Selected important works:** *Piano Concerto* (1904)

**Interesting information:** The above work includes a male chorus! Much of his music was harmonically quite experimental; also known as a concert pianist and re-arranged the works of Bach in a more modern style.

### Satie

**Name:** Eric Satie

**Dates:** 1866-1925

**Musical period:** Romantic/20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** French

**Worked in:** Paris

**Selected important works:** *Trois Gymnopédies* (1888), *Parade* (1917)

**Interesting information:** His work was forward-looking and almost minimalist, many years before the true minimalism movement. Very eccentric man – once bought 12 identical velvet suits!

### Granados

**Name:** Enrique Granados

**Dates:** 1867-1916

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Spanish

**Worked in:** Barcelona

**Selected important works:** *Goyescas* (1911)

**Interesting information:** Also wrote stage works. Drowned trying to save his wife when the ship he was traveling on was torpedoed in the English Channel by a German submarine.

### Scriabin

**Name:** Alexander Scriabin

**Dates:** 1872-1915

**Musical period:** Romantic/20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** Russian

**Worked in:** Moscow and Switzerland

**Selected important works:** *Piano Concerto* (1896), piano sonatas

**Interesting information:** His best work was for the piano. Pioneered the concept of keys being associated with colours.

### Vaughan Williams

**Name:** Ralph Vaughn Williams

**Dates:** 1872-1958

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** London

**Selected important works:** *Fantasia on a theme of Thomas Tallis* (1910), 9 symphonies

**Interesting information:** Collected folk music and based a lot of his output on folk influences; professor of composition at the Royal College of Music.

### Rachmaninov

**Name:** Sergei Rachmaninov

**Dates:** 1873-1943

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Russian

**Worked in:** St. Petersburg, Los Angeles

**Selected important works:** *Piano Concerto No.2* (1901), *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini* (1934)

**Interesting information:** Exiled from Russia in 1917. Throughout his career he maintained a Romantic style, despite the changing times around him.

### Holst

**Name:** Gustav Holst

**Dates:** 1874-1934

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** London

**Selected important works:** *The Planets* (1914-16)

**Interesting information:** Held various school music-teaching posts throughout his life, most notably at St. Paul's School for Girls in West London.

### Schoenberg

**Name:** Arnold Schoenberg

**Dates:** 1874-1951

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** Austrian

**Worked in:** Vienna and USA

**Selected important works:** *Pierrot Lunaire* (1912), *5 Pieces for Piano* (1923)

**Interesting information:** Pioneered the 12-note technique known as serialism.

### Ives

**Name:** Charles Ives

**Dates:** 1874-1954

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** American

**Worked in:** New York

**Selected important works:** *Variations on 'America'* (1891)

**Interesting information:** First major composer from the USA, Ives was known for his eccentricities and forward-looking ideas.

### Ravel

**Name:** Maurice Ravel

**Dates:** 1875-1937

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** French

**Worked in:** Paris

**Selected important works:** *Miroirs* (1905), *Le Tombeau de Couperin* (1917), *Piano Concerto in G* (1929)

**Interesting information:** Wrote a piano concerto for the left hand only, for his friend Paul Wittgenstein who had lost his right arm during World War I.

### de Falla

**Name:** Manuel de Falla

**Dates:** 1876-1946

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** Spanish

**Worked in:** Spain, France and Argentina

**Selected important works:** *El sombrero de tres picos* (1919)

**Interesting information:** Heavily influenced by Spanish musical history and folk song.

### Respighi

**Name:** Ottorino Respighi

**Dates:** 1879-1936

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** Rome

**Selected important works:** *Pini di Roma* (1924)

**Interesting information:** Studied with Rimsky-Korsakov (who also taught Stravinsky).

### Ireland

**Name:** John Ireland

**Dates:** 1879-1962

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** London

**Selected important works:** Church music

**Interesting information:** Taught Benjamin Britten for a time. Wrote a large amount of very charming (but perhaps slightly dated) music.

### Bartók

**Name:** Béla Bartók

**Dates:** 1881-1945

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** Hungarian

**Worked in:** Budapest and New York

**Selected important works:** *Microkosmos* (1926-39), *Concerto for Orchestra* (1943)

**Interesting information:** Avid collector of Hungarian folk music. Was a successful concert pianist as well as a composer.

### Szymanowski

**Name:** Karol Szymanowski

**Dates:** 1882-1937

**Musical period:** Romantic

**Nationality:** Polish

**Worked in:** Berlin and Warsaw

**Selected important works:** Piano music, violin concertos

**Interesting information:** Travelled widely, especially around the Mediterranean, which influenced his music greatly.

### Grainger

**Name:** Percy Grainger

**Dates:** 1882-1961

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** Australian

**Worked in:** London and USA

**Selected important works:** *A Lincolnshire Posy* (1940)

**Interesting information:** Best known for his interest in English folk song, which permeates through his work. Close friend of Greig and Delius.

### Kodály

**Name:** Zoltán Kodály

**Dates:** 1882-1967

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** Hungarian

**Worked in:** Budapest

**Selected important works:** *Háry János* (1926)

**Interesting information:** Like his friend Bartók he collected folk music for much of his career.

### Stravinsky

**Name:** Igor Stravinsky

**Dates:** 1882-1971

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** Russian

**Worked in:** St. Petersburg, Paris and USA

**Selected important works:** *Le Sacre du Printemps* (1912), *Symphony of Psalms* (1930)

**Interesting information:** Arguably the most influential composer of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, able to reinvent his style to remain at the forefront of music for his entire career. *Le Sacre du Printemps* is a 20<sup>th</sup> century masterpiece.

### Webern

**Name:** Anton Webern

**Dates:** 1883-1945

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** Austrian

**Worked in:** Vienna

**Selected important works:** *Concerto for 9 instruments* (1931-4)

**Interesting information:** Pupil of Schoenberg who wrote strictly serial pieces, most of which were very short. His music was banned by the Nazi regime. Accidentally shot dead by an American soldier in 1945.

### Bax

**Name:** Arnold Bax

**Dates:** 1883-1953

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** London and Dublin

**Selected important works:** *Tintagel* (1917)

**Interesting information:** Wrote a huge amount of music, much of which has been largely forgotten since his death. Due a revival!

### Berg

**Name:** Alban Berg

**Dates:** 1885-1935

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** Austrian

**Worked in:** Vienna

**Selected important works:** *Wozzeck* (1917-22), *Violin Concerto* (1935)

**Interesting information:** Pupil of Schoenberg, but managed to put a more 'romantic' slant into his serial compositions. His *Violin Concerto* was dedicated to the memory of the 18 year-old daughter of Mahler's widow. Died from septicaemia following an insect sting.

### Honegger

**Name:** Arthur Honegger

**Dates:** 1892-1955

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** Swiss

**Worked in:** Paris

**Selected important works:** *Pacific 231* (1924)

**Interesting information:** Influenced by Bach, was a member of 'Les Six'.

### Milhaud

**Name:** Darius Milhaud

**Dates:** 1892-1974

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** French

**Worked in:** Paris and USA

**Selected important works:** *Le boeuf sur le toit* (1919)

**Interesting information:** Forced to leave France for the USA in 1940 as he was Jewish. A lot of his music is influenced by jazz and Latin-American music.

### Prokofiev

**Name:** Sergei Prokofiev

**Dates:** 1891-1953

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** Russian

**Worked in:** St. Petersburg, USA, Paris and Moscow.

**Selected important works:** *Classical Symphony* (1917), *Piano Concerto No.3* (1921), *Romeo and Juliet* (1936)

**Interesting information:** After emigrating to the USA and then France, he returned to Russia with mixed fortunes, and died on the same day as Stalin.

### Warlock

**Name:** Peter Warlock (real name Philip Heseltine)

**Dates:** 1894-1930

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** London

**Selected important works:** *Capriol Suite* (1926)

**Interesting information:** Friend of Lambert who is alleged to have committed suicide.

### Hindemith

**Name:** Paul Hindemith

**Dates:** 1895-1963

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** German

**Worked in:** Frankfurt, New York and Switzerland

**Selected important works:** *Mathis der Maler* (1934), many sonatas

**Interesting information:** A talented viola player (he was the soloist at the Proms in a performance of Walton's *Viola Concerto*), he was highly regarded by his fellow composers but disliked by the Nazi party for openly associating with Jews.

### Gershwin

**Name:** George Gershwin

**Dates:** 1898-1937

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** American

**Worked in:** New York and Los Angeles

**Selected important works:** *Rhapsody in Blue* (1924), *Porgy and Bess* (1935)

**Interesting information:** Successful composer both for the concert hall and the Broadway theatre.

### Poulenc

**Name:** Francois Poulenc

**Dates:** 1899-1963

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** French

**Worked in:** Paris

**Selected important works:** *Organ Concerto* (1938), *Gloria* (1959)

**Interesting information:** Important member of the group 'Les Six'; his later music was mainly sacred.

### Auric

**Name:** Georges Auric

**Dates:** 1899-1983

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** French

**Worked in:** Paris

**Selected important works:** *Passport to Pimlico* (1948)

**Interesting information:** Member of 'Les Six' who started out writing for the Ballets Russes in Paris, but is best known for his film music.

### Weill

**Name:** Kurt Weill

**Dates:** 1900-1950

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** German

**Worked in:** Berlin, Paris and New York

**Selected important works:** *Die Dreigroschenoper* (1928)

**Interesting information:** The above work, based on *The Beggar's Opera*, contains the song *Mack the Knife*.

### Copland

**Name:** Aaron Copland

**Dates:** 1900-1990

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** American

**Worked in:** New York

**Selected important works:** *Rodeo* (1942), *Appalachian Spring* (1944)

**Interesting information:** Extremely influential American composer whose ballets and Symphonies are best known. Studied in Paris, which had a profound influence on his style.

### Rodrigo

**Name:** Joaquín Rodrigo

**Dates:** 1901-1999

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** Spanish

**Worked in:** Madrid

**Selected important works:** *Concierto de Aranjuez* (1939)

**Interesting information:** Extremely famous guitar concerto (above), but he also wrote concertos for many other instruments. Was virtually blind for most of his life.

### Walton

**Name:** William Walton

**Dates:** 1902-1983

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** London and Italy

**Selected important works:** *Façade* (1922), *Belshazzar's Feast* (1929-31)

**Interesting information:** Viewed as Elgar's successor, Walton also had a successful career as a film music composer.

### Khachaturian

**Name:** Aram Khachaturian

**Dates:** 1903-1978

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** Armenian

**Worked in:** INSERT

**Selected important works:** *Spartacus* (1956)

**Interesting information:** Wrote some famous music, but rather bowed to the demands of the Stalin regime.

### Lambert

**Name:** Constant Lambert

**Dates:** 1905-1951

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** London

**Selected important works:** *The Rio Grande* (1927)

**Interesting information:** Music director of Sadler's Wells Ballet, his son was manager of The Who.

### Tippett

**Name:** Michael Tippett

**Dates:** 1905-1998



**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** London

**Selected important works:** *A child of our time* (1939-41)

**Interesting information:** The above work reflected Tippett's radical politics and pacifist views, for which he briefly went to prison.

### Shostakovich

**Name:** Dmitri Shostakovich

**Dates:** 1906-1975

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** Russian

**Worked in:** St Petersburg and Moscow

**Selected important works:** *Symphony no.5* (1937), String Quartets

**Interesting information:** Hugely influential Russian composer, who was sometimes denounced by Stalin.

### Messiaen

**Name:** Olivier Messiaen

**Dates:** 1908-1992

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** French

**Worked in:** Paris

**Selected important works:** *Turangalila-Symphonie* (1946-48)

**Interesting information:** Very influential composer and teacher; amongst other things he notated birdsong and used it in some of his music.

### Carter

**Name:** Elliott Carter

**Dates:** Born 1908

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** American

**Worked in:** America and Europe

**Selected important works:** *Concerto for Orchestra* (1969)

**Interesting information:** Very original and quite radical, popular American composer. Still writing music today!

### Barber

**Name:** Samuel Barber

**Dates:** 1910-1981

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** American

**Worked in:** Philadelphia and New York

**Selected important works:** *Adagio for Strings* (1938)

**Interesting information:** Famous for the above work, but also wrote music for piano, orchestral music and opera.

### Cage

**Name:** John Cage

**Dates:** 1912-1992

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** American

**Worked in:** New York

**Selected important works:** *Sonatas and Interludes* (1946-8), *HPSCHD* (1967-9)

**Interesting information:** The best known of the ultra-experimental composers, famous for inventing the prepared piano and composing the 'silent' piece 4'33".

### Britten

**Name:** Benjamin Britten

**Dates:** 1913-1976

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** London, USA and Aldeburgh (Suffolk)

**Selected important works:** *Peter Grimes* (1945), *War Requiem* (1962)

**Interesting information:** Very original and influential English composer; founded the Aldeburgh festival.

### Lutoslawski

**Name:** Witold Lutoslawski

**Dates:** 1913-1994

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** Polish

**Worked in:** Warsaw

**Selected important works:** *Cello Concerto* (1970)

**Interesting information:** Career took off after the death of Stalin as he began to take more risks stylistically.

### Bernstein

**Name:** Leonard Bernstein

**Dates:** 1918-1990

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** American

**Worked in:** New York

**Selected important works:** *West Side Story* (1957), *Chichester Psalms* (1965)

**Interesting information:** Was incredibly successful both as a composer of musical theatre and of more 'serious' music, as well as a sought-after conductor.

### Xenakis

**Name:** Iannis Xenakis

**Dates:** 1922-2001

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** Greek

**Worked in:** Paris and USA

**Selected important works:** *Oresteia* (1966)

**Interesting information:** Lost an eye fighting for the Greek resistance in the war; introduced many mathematical concepts into his music.

### Ligeti

**Name:** György Ligeti

**Dates:** 1923-2006

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** Hungarian

**Worked in:** Vienna and Berlin

**Selected important works:** *Le grand macabre* (1972-76)

**Interesting information:** Some of his music was used without permission in the film *2001: A Space Odyssey*.

### Berio

**Name:** Luciano Berio

**Dates:** 1925-2003

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** Italian

**Worked in:** Milan, USA and Paris

**Selected important works:** *Sinfonia* (1969)

**Interesting information:** Fascinated with the human voice, which he used in very original ways in his composition. Was married to singer Cathy Berberian.

### Boulez

**Name:** Pierre Boulez

**Dates:** Born 1925

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** French

**Worked in:** Across Europe

**Selected important works:** *Le marteau sans maître* (1954), 3 piano sonatas

**Interesting information:** Pupil of Messiaen and revered conductor; extended 12-note technique in his compositions.

### Henze

**Name:** Hans Werner Henze

**Dates:** Born 1926

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** German

**Worked in:** Italy

**Selected important works:** *The Bassarids* (1966)

**Interesting information:** Successful opera composer, also very prolific as a composer of instrumental music.

### Kurtág

**Name:** Gyorgy Kurtág

**Dates:** Born 1926

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** Hungarian

**Worked in:** Budapest

**Selected important works:** *Games for piano* (four books, 1973-76)

**Interesting information:** Was professor of piano at the Franz Liszt Academy in Hungary.

### Stockhausen

**Name:** Karlheinz Stockhausen

**Dates:** 1928-2007

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** German

**Worked in:** Cologne

**Selected important works:** *Gruppen* (1957), *Stimmung* (1968)

**Interesting information:** Influential, reclusive and avant-garde composer, who was interested in electronic means of reproducing sound.

### Górecki

**Name:** Henryk Górecki

**Dates:** 1933-2010

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** Polish

**Worked in:** Southern Poland

**Selected important works:** *Symphony no.3 'Symphony of Sorrowful Songs'* (1976)

**Interesting information:** The above piece was a huge 'hit'. Influenced by everything from Renaissance polyphony to serialism.

### Schnittke

**Name:** Alfred Schnittke

**Dates:** 1934-1998

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** Russian

**Worked in:** Moscow and Hamburg

**Selected important works:** Symphonies

**Interesting information:** Very highly regarded composer – wrote in serial, avant-garde and more traditional styles. Often vilified by the Soviet regime.

### Birtwhistle

**Name:** Harrison Birtwhistle

**Dates:** Born 1934

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** Manchester, London

**Selected important works:** *The Last Supper* (2000)

**Interesting information:** Acclaimed composer, mainly of theatre music

### Maxwell Davies

**Name:** Peter Maxwell Davies

**Dates:** Born 1934

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** Manchester, Orkney

**Selected important works:** *Eight Songs for a Mad King* (1969)

**Interesting information:** Has also written a lot of children's music.

### Pärt

**Name:** Arvo Pärt

**Dates:** Born 1935

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** Estonian

**Worked in:** Berlin

**Selected important works:** *Cantus in Memory of Benjamin Britten* (1977)

**Interesting information:** Though he is heavily influenced by serialism, his minimalist interests make his music very accessible.

### Riley

**Name:** Terry Riley

**Dates:** Born 1935

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** American

**Worked in:** INSERT

**Selected important works:** *In C* (1964)

**Interesting information:** Influenced Glass and Reich, some call him the pioneer of minimalism.

### Reich

**Name:** Steve Reich

**Dates:** Born 1936

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** American

**Worked in:** New York

**Selected important works:** *Different Trains* (1988)

**Interesting information:** Popular minimalist composer, interested in using tape and in African music.

### Glass

**Name:** Philip Glass

**Dates:** Born 1937

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** American

**Worked in:** New York, but studied in Paris and India.

**Selected important works:** *Einstein on the Beach* (1975)

**Interesting information:** Influenced by Indian music, Glass is best known for minimalist operas.

### Tavener

**Name:** John Tavener

**Dates:** Born 1944

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** CHECK

**Selected important works:** *The Protecting Veil* (1987), Choral Music

**Interesting information:** Popular composer of minimalist-influenced music, much of it inspired by the Greek Orthodox faith.

### Adams

**Name:** John Adams

**Dates:** Born 1947

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** American

**Worked in:** USA

**Selected important works:** *Nixon in China* (1984-87)

**Interesting information:** Popular minimalist composer, especially known for his two operas.

### Weir

**Name:** Judith Weir

**Dates:** Born 1954

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** Cambridge, London

**Selected important works:** *Blond Eckbert* (opera – 1994)

**Interesting information:** Studied with John Tavener and then with Robin Holloway at Cambridge.

### Macmillan

**Name:** James Macmillan

**Dates:** Born 1959

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** Scottish

**Worked in:** Edinburgh and London

**Selected important works:** *Quickening* (1998)

**Interesting information:** Has done much for Scottish music and also regularly conducts around the UK.

### Benjamin

**Name:** George Benjamin

**Dates:** Born 1960

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** London

**Selected important works:** *A Mind of Winter* (1981)

**Interesting information:** Studied with Messiaen in Paris and then at Cambridge. Also a respected conductor.

### Turnage

**Name:** Mark-Anthony Turnage

**Dates:** Born 1960

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** London

**Selected important works:** *Greek* (1988)

**Interesting information:** Acclaimed composer, especially of opera, and strongly influenced by jazz.

### Panufnik

**Name:** Roxanna Panufnik

**Dates:** Born 1968

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** British/Polish

**Worked in:** London

**Selected important works:** *C*

**Interesting information:** Her father was also a respected composer.

**Adès**

**Name:** Thomas Adès

**Dates:** Born 1971

**Musical period:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Nationality:** English

**Worked in:** London

**Selected important works:** *Powder her face (1995)*

**Interesting information:** Talented composer whose music is being performed worldwide.