

Baroque period

The years between 1600-1750 when a particular type of music was being composed across Europe.

ostinato

A repeating part; can be a tune or a rhythm.

polyphonic

A musical texture in which different parts weave in and out of each other.

treble clef



bass clef



Claudio Monteverdi

1567 - 1643



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opera

A dramatic performance in which a story is told using music and singing.

recitative

A section of an opera or oratorio where the sung melody imitates speech.

Johann Pachelbel

1653 - 1706



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canon

Music in which very similar parts are introduced one by one to overlap.

Henry Purcell

1659 - 1695



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ground bass

A repeating melody in the bass part, usually played by a cello, and most commonly found in Baroque music.

Johann Sebastian Bach

1685 - 1750



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fugue

Music in multiple parts where a main theme (subject) and secondary theme (counter subject) appear over and over in different parts and at different pitches.

George Frideric Handel

1685 - 1759



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oratorio

A dramatic vocal work on a religious theme, like an opera, but sung without staging.