

DAY 2: STYLISTIC TRAITS OF ROMANTIC MUSIC

Fill in the blanks below as we discuss the stylistic traits of Romantic Music.

1. The dates of the Romantic Period are 1820 to 1900.
2. The composers of the Romantic Period were very interested in composing programmatic music -- music that tells a story or is based on an idea.
3. Romantic composers often composed character pieces (piano pieces, often short, that are based on an idea) and tone poems (orchestral pieces that are based on an idea). Other common forms include concertos, dances, etudes, and variations.
4. Other Romantic Period characteristics:
 - a. Thicker texture -- more layers of notes and fuller chords.
 - b. More frequent and more distant modulations -- switching to other keys during the piece.
 - c. Increased use of the pedal on the piano.
 - d. Increased use of dissonance to increase unpredictability.
 - e. Increased chromaticism - half-step motion.
5. Romantic Composers began using new chords, like secondary dominants and diminished sevenths chords.
6. Some famous composers of the Romantic Period are: Chopin, Schumann, Liszt, and Brahms.

WORD BOX:

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| Chopin | modulations | Schumann |
| dissonance | 1820 | programmatic music |
| tone poems | Brahms | 1900 |
| pedal | secondary dominants | Liszt |
| chromaticism | texture | diminished sevenths |
| | character pieces | |