

A solo concerto is a piece of music for one solo instrument with an orchestra.

3 movements: Fast – Slow – Fast

Melodies:

- Fast notes / Slow notes
- Scales / Leaps / Repeated notes / Chord notes
- Ornaments / Decoration
- Long flowing melodies
- Sequences in the melody

Terraced dynamics

Small / limited orchestra

Accompaniment

Homophonic?

Long chords / Repeated chords /  
Bass note plus chords

Contrapuntal?

Imitation?

How do the soloist and orchestra and continuo interact?

Soloist and continuo only      Orchestra only  
*Tutti (everyone)*

How does the music of the soloist relate to that of the accompaniment?

Area of Study 2:  
The Concerto through time

## BAROQUE SOLO CONCERTO

BAROQUE  
1600 – 1750

J S Bach – German



G F Handel – Born in Germany, moved to England



H Purcell – England

A Vivaldi – Italian



Violin



Cello



Bassoon



Natural Trumpet



Recorder



Flute

Solo instruments



Continuo =  
Harpsichord & Cello  
Unique to Baroque

A concerto grosso is a piece of music for a group of solo instruments with an orchestra.

**Concertino** – group of soloists

**Ripieno** – larger group of instruments  
(not the soloists)

Imitation – copying

Sequence – same melody at  
higher/lower pitch

Decoration:

Trills – Turns – Mordents



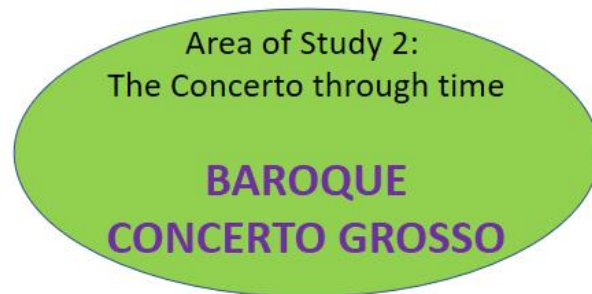
Augmentation / Diminution

Doubling / Halving note values

How do the soloists and orchestra and continuo interact?

How does the music of the soloists relate to that of the accompaniment?

Harpichord player led the orchestra



BAROQUE  
1600 – 1750

A Corelli – Italian



J S Bach - German



Instruments



Violin



Cello



Harpichord



Viola



Violone



Lute



Basso Continuo =  
Harpichord & Cello  
Unique to Baroque

A solo concerto is a piece of music for one solo instrument with an orchestra.

3 movements: Fast – Slow – Fast

Melodies:

- Fast notes / Slow notes
- Scales / Leaps / Repeated notes / Chord notes
- Long flowing melodies
- Sequences in the melody

Gradual dynamics

Moderate sized orchestra

Balanced phrases

Accompaniment

Homophonic?

Long chords / Repeated chords /

Bass note plus chords

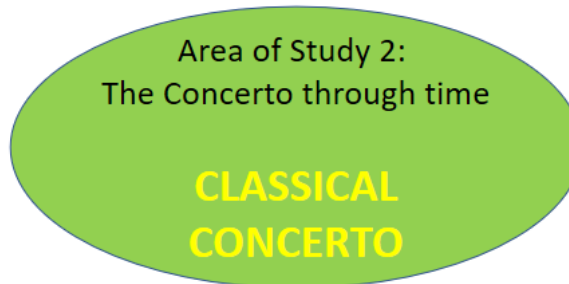
Contrapuntal?

Imitation?

How do the soloist and orchestra and continuo interact?

How does the music of the soloist relate to that of the accompaniment?

Orchestra had a conductor



New Solo instruments



Clarinet



French Horn



Valved Trumpet



Piano

**Cadenza**

Soloists shows off / virtuosic

Orchestra stops

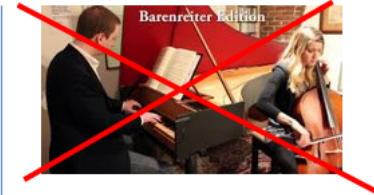
Ends with a trill to tell orchestra when to start again

CLASSICAL  
1750 – c. 1810/1820

Mozart – Austrian 

Haydn – Austrian

Beethoven - German 



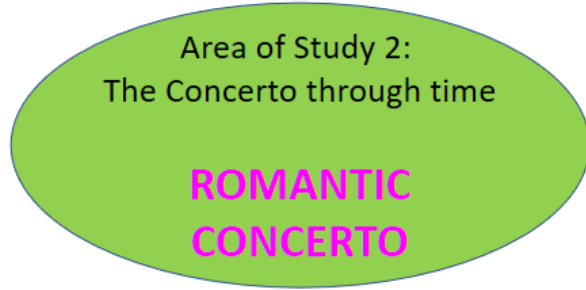
NO Continuo

A solo concerto is a piece of music for one solo instrument with an orchestra.

- Dramatic
- Expressive
- Dissonance – clashing sounds
- Increased range
- Large orchestra
- More brass and percussion
- Picture painting
- RUBATO

How do the soloist and orchestra and continuo interact?  
 How does the music of the soloist relate to that of the accompaniment?

Orchestra had a conductor



**ROMANTIC**  
c. 1810/1820 – c.1910

Mendelssohn - German  
 Brahms – German 

Tchaikovsky - Russian  
 Rachmaninov – Russian 

Increased instrument pitch range

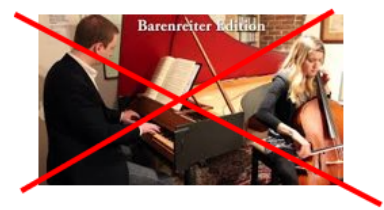


Piccolo



Tuba

**Cadenza**  
 Soloists shows off / virtuosic  
 Orchestra stops  
 Ends with a trill to tell orchestra when to start again



NO Continuo



**Example:**  
**Thalassaki Mou** by  
**Iannis Parios**

## BOUZOUKI



Stringed instrument  
Unique sound  
Slides and tremolos in thirds

Area of Study 3:  
Rhythms of the World

## GREEK MUSIC



DEFI

DOUMBЕК



Irregular time signatures

5	7
8	8



MELODY

- Simple
- Lots of ornamentation
- Move by step
- Small range
- Lyrical (expressive)
- Harmonised a 3<sup>rd</sup> higher

STRUCTURE

- Short sections
- Sections repeated

TONALITY

- Diatonic and major chords
- Bass emphasises tonic and dominant
- Some modulation (relatives)

TIMBRE AND ARTICULATION

- Stringed instruments, bowed or plucked
- Hand percussion
- Wind instruments

TEXTURE

- Clear melody line
- Accompaniment
- Off-beat chords



## ISRAELI FOLK DANCES

Oud and irregular time signatures appear in some Jewish and Israeli music

Israeli music is lively  
Lively style of dancing  
Played at Jewish weddings and bar mitzvah ceremonies

2/4 or 4/4

Bass part on each crotchet beat (tonic and dominant)

Chords off beat

Fast

Gradual accelerando

Melodies on clarinet, violin, accordion

Grace notes, pitch bends to create distinctive sound

Decoration of melody

Rich history of vocal music

### OUD



Pear-shaped stringed instrument  
11 strings  
Tuned in five pairs with one drone  
Played with a pick

Area of Study 3:  
Rhythms of the World

## ISRAELI & PALESTINIAN MUSIC

### Palestine

Scale:  
MAQAM (also called the Arabic Scale)  
Uses microtones

### DOUMBEK





### SITAR

Two sets of strings – one played and the other is sympathetic (vibrates)  
Improvises melody  
Pitch bends  
Based on a Raga (scale)  
Ravi & Anoushka Shankar



### TABLA

Pair of drums  
Plays the rhythm  
(Tala)

Area of Study 3:  
Rhythms of the World

## INDIAN CLASSICAL MUSIC

### TANPURA

Plays a continuous  
sound (a drone)



**BANSURI** – flute  
**SARANGI** – bowed  
strings

For educated people  
Long pieces of music



Raga – note pattern used  
Tala – rhythm pattern used

Sections of piece:

ALAP – slow, no metre or pules, sitar  
improvises around the raga plus drone

JHOR – slightly faster, simple pulse,  
improvisation around the raga

JHALA – fast, climax, rhythm takes over,  
tala, tabla

GAT – set composition (not improvised),  
instrumental version, question and  
answer

BANDISH – set composition (not  
improvised) vocal version, question and  
answer

FUSION OF BRITISH DANCE & INDIAN FOLK



BRITISH DANCE INFLUENCES

- Technology
- Fast, driving beat
- 4
- 4
- Verse/chorus structure
- Electronic instruments



- Created for dancing
- Colourful costumes
- Synchronised dancing
- Asian Weddings/Festivals in the UK


Punjabi MC  
Alaap

Area of Study 3:  
Rhythms of the World

**BHANGRA**

INDIAN FOLK INFLUENCES


- Sung in Punjabi
- Dhol drum
- Chants of Hoi
- Sitar
- Microtones

Time signature: 4/4 with each beat divided into 3 

Vocal melody: limited range, ornamented, microtonal intervals

Punjabi language

Instruments:

- Strings
- Percussion
- Dhol 
- Sitar
- Tumbi (plucked—one string)
- Sarangi (bowed)
- Shouts of 'hoi'
- Drum machines
- Electronic

Tempo: Fast (140/180bpm)

Structure:

- Verse/chorus
- Instrumental intro





**BRAZIL**

Played in favelas  
Strong sense of community  
Baterias have a sense of rivalry and compete with each other  
Modern Samba fuses many different styles

Structure is not set  
The leader uses the repinique and the apito to indicate breaks and introduce new sections:  
All instruments play repeated patterns – Ostinato  
All instruments play the same rhythm  
Solo section  
Call and response section

Area of Study 3:  
Rhythms of the World  
**SAMBA**

SON CLAVE RHYTHM

Instruments

Surdo



Shakers (Chocalho)



timbales



guiro



repinique



agogo bells



cuica



Whistle (apito)



How do the instruments interact with each other?

Polyphony

- Polyrhythm
- Counterpoint

Multiple independent melodic lines or voices  
Multiple independent rhythms  
Multiple melodic lines – a style of composing popular in Baroque

Homophony

- Monophony

Multiple melodic lines or voices played with the same rhythm  
A single melodic line or voice

Antiphony

Call and response, normally associated with singing



Area of Study 3:  
Rhythms of the World

# AFRICAN DRUMMING

Cross-rhythm – two or more conflicting rhythms heard at the same time

Polyrhythm – more than one rhythm together

Aural tradition – not written down

Short, improvised sections

Changes indicated by the leader



**Djembe**  
Bass  
Tone  
Slap



**Dundun**  
Talking  
Drum





CARIBBEAN



STEEL DRUMS



Area of Study 3:  
Rhythms of the World  
**CALYPSO**

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO



- Lead vocal + backing vocals
- Call and response vocals
- Syncopated melodies
- Short simple phrases in Chorus
- Lyrics are often cultural or political
- Verse Chorus structure
- Acoustic guitar
- Major key
- Simple harmony using primary chords

Film Music  
Video Game Music  
Western Classical Music used in films

Learners need to study a variety of each aspect in order to develop an understanding of the way that **composers** write or use music to help **convey a scene or moving image** with a storyline and characters. They should develop an understanding of the musical elements that composers use to do this and be able to identify and write about such features.

Learners need to be able to identify the elements of music and be able to recognise instruments and some of the techniques used



John Williams Rachel Portman

How does the music convey the theme of the film?

Leitmotif – music associated with a character

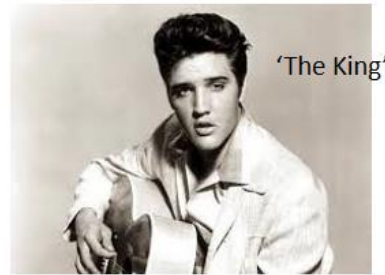
Area of Study 4:  
Film Music & Video  
Game Music



Element
<u>M</u> elody
<u>D</u> ynamics
<u>I</u> nstruments
<u>R</u> hythm
<u>T</u> exture
<u>T</u> onality
<u>T</u> echnology



- vocal and instrumental techniques within popular music
- how voices and instruments interact within popular music
- the development of instruments in popular music over time
- the development and impact of technology over time
- the variety and development of styles within popular music over time
- the origins and cultural context of the named genres of popular music
- the typical musical characteristics, conventions and features of the specified genres



Area of Study 5:  
Conventions of Pop

1950s / 1960s  
Rock 'n' Roll

Derived from Blues and Jazz  
 Infectious beat or rhythm  
 Guitar riffs  
 Moderate to fast tempo  
4/4 time signature  
 Vocal melody and accompaniment  
 Melodies have a narrow vocal range  
 Heavy reliance on chord progressions.  
 Many songs just using chords I IV and V.  
 Guitars, Bass, Vocals



Buddy Holly



Bill Haley



Chubby Checker



Chuck Berry



The Beach Boys

## 1970s

Elton John, Eric Clapton, The Carpenters,  
Lou Reed, Harry Nilsson, Stevie Wonder,  
Carly Simon



- Slow to moderate tempo
- 4/4 time signature
- Romantic lyrics; expressive vocal performance

- Verse/Chorus structure
- Slow harmonic rhythm
- Dynamics usually increase towards the chorus.

## 1980s

Lionel Richie, Bette Midler, Bonnie Tyler,  
Whitney Houston, The Bangles



### Area of Study 5: Conventions of Pop

## Pop Ballads of the 1970s, 1980s & 1990s

## 1990s

Sinead O'Connor, Bob Dylan, Sting,  
The Pretenders, Boyzone, Seal,  
Robbie Williams



- How does the voice work with the instruments?
- What are the musical features of the accompaniment?
- Is there an instrumental solo in the piece?  
If so, what instrument is playing?

- Describe the music of the solo section
- What is the structure of the piece?
- What is the tempo of the piece?
- How does the texture change?
- Can you identify the chord structure?



**Dark, serious Lyrics**  
**Instrumentation**

- Electric Guitar
- Electric Bass
- Keyboard
- Drum Kit
- Vocals

**Riffs**

- Guitar solos (improvised)
- Verse – Chorus structure
- Blues influence

A song or piece of music that stirs the listener's emotions and inspires them to join in.  
Think about a 'national anthem'

Area of Study 5:  
Conventions of Pop

**Rock Anthems  
of the  
1970s & 1980s**



**Electric Guitar – Use of Effects**

Distortion/Overdrive

Chorus

Wah-wah

Delay

**Vocal Techniques**

**Melisma**

More than one note per syllable

**Cross rhythms**

Where two conflicting rhythms are heard together

**Falsetto**

Where male singers produce notes higher than their normal range

**Vocalisation**

Wordless singing

**Portamento**

A slide from one note to another



Digital recording allows

Almost limitless **overdubbing** (vocal and instrumental layers easier to achieve than in Reel to Reel and Tape recording from previous decades)

Manipulation of sound (use of more complex effects such as **Vocoding**)

Inclusion of

- Sampling
- Drum loops
- Synthesizers

Artists able to easily fuse different styles. Modern pop can include Rock, Rap, EDM, Latin etc.

Discuss the genre influences and use of instrumentation

Beyonce



Adele

Area of Study 5:  
Conventions of Pop

Pop Solo Artists  
from 1990s  
onwards

Describe / Discuss...

- Pitch
- Dynamics
- Tempo
- Rhythm
- Metre

- Instrumentation
- Harmony
- Melody
- Texture
- Tonality

Cher

