

2012-10-22

- Bach (1685-1750) Germany; Well Tempered Clavier - Prelude and Fugue; Mass in B minor; Suite.
- Cantata = (2 kinds = sacred and secular) = oratorio form; (like a short oratorio).
  - Text from Bible, hymns, or newly written; (25 minutes).
  - Based on Gospel or Epistles - to reinforce sermon. (Music directors wrote one for every Sunday)
  - Bach = 295 written (195 remain)
- Chorale prelude = for organ, based on a hymn tune.
- Chorale = hymn = German religious text - easy to remember - one note to syllable; from folk songs or Catholic melodies; congregation sang.
- Passion = Eastern story (oratorio form).
- Wacht auf (p. 174-175) Bridegroom and bride = God and people. Christ and church;
  - 1st movement = chorus and small orch. - basso continuo; Ritornello and chorale
- Classical Period (1750-1820) (Novel and symphony = greatest legacy.)
  - Age of Enlightenment = social morals, politics and philosophy governed by "reason" = the idea that "common sense" could solve all problems in the world, and was best guide of conduct.
  - "Classic" used for music and architecture because of a return to simplicity after excess of the Baroque.
  - Composition emphasized mind - not heart.
  - Newton = gravity;
  - Linnaeus = a botanist who classified all animal and plant life;
  - B. Franklin = lightning and electricity
  - Rousseau = (French philosopher and musician) = said was for "common man" and power of government rests in consent of people being governed;
  - America = independent; Napoleon to power after French Revolution.
  - Social injustice = a big concern (not religion). Agnosticism - Atheism; These changes influence visual arts = Rococo = light colors, curved line, excessive ornamentation. Later = neoclassical = return to simplicity and grandeur of Greeks and Romans to give feeling of heroism and moralism.
  - Economics = "Laissez-Faire" = businesses free of government.
  - Middle Class = influential = money for concerts, music lessons for children, inst. Public concerts flourished = demanded newest music and performers. (Beginning of concert booking agents and managers.) Composers wrote easier music - Emphasis on music as entertainment.
  - Operas = more entertaining and comic (Rousseau).
  - "Salon" = important.

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- Vienna = the important city at this time. Emperor supported music, literature, and free press (250,000 - 300).
- Melody = easy to remember (folk and pop songs)
- Dynamics = again crescendo and decrescendo.
- Piano replaced harpsichord.
- Basso continuo = The end.
- Style galant - gallant style = light, graceful music
- Contrast of mood = variety and contrasts within a movement
- changes = gradual or sudden.
- Rhythm = flexible and many patterns - sudden or gradual change.
- Texture = homophonic and change to polyphonic.
- Sonata form.