THE BAROQUE PERIOD

If it's not Baroque, Don't Fix It!

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1600-1750

I'm Baroque, Ill pay you Bach!

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- The Baroque period saw the beginning of the **orchestra**. A **chamber orchestra** is a small orchestra where each player has her own part to play. **Chamber music** is played by **trios** (3), **quartets** (4), **quintets** (5), and up to about ten players.

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- **Form** is a plan a composer has when he writes a song. Many of the musical <u>forms</u> that were used during this time are still used today. A popular <u>form</u> of this time was the **fugue**.

• A **fugue** is like a <u>round</u>. One voice starts the piece, then other voices enter, one after another, just like in a round. The difference is that the voices in fugues enter on higher and lower pitches. They also continue to play new material while the other voices make their entrance.



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- Music of the Classical period was also **very structured** and **emotions were controlled**. It was **tuneful** and **simple**. Even the size of the orchestra was small, usually with no more than **40 musicians**.
- The Classical period wanted **balance** and **contrast**. This was achieved using **form**. Music was not to be too loud or too soft, too fast or too slow. Nothing was done in the extreme. Control was more important than strong emotions.

Form

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 Dances were popular during this period as well as preludes, fugues, suites, toccatas and theme and variations. Binary and ternary forms were used frequently.

Binary Form-Music composed in two related sections usually repeated. AABB **Ternary Form-**Music composed in two related sections with the third literally repeated ABA

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Keyboard Instruments

- Clavichord,
- Harpsichord
- Organ

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Style

 Phrase and expression marks were not used. Faster notes were normally played smooth; slower notes were normally played not very smooth. Ornaments were used frequently.

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 - Terraced Dynamics-loudness or softness depending on the texture of the music
 - Tempo markings
 - Improvisation
 - The use of music to express emotion

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- Similar to the opera
- A series of **arias** (an elaborate vocal solo)



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- and recitatives (a rhythmically free vocal style that imitates natural speech)



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Cantata

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- A series of **arias** (an elaborate vocal solo)
- and recitatives (a rhythmically free vocal style that imitates natural speech)
- Not staged or acted.

The Birth of the Modern Orchestra





- The Birth of the Modern Orchestra
- Strings
 - Strings-1st & 2nd Violins, Viola Cello, Double Bass
 - Woodwind-a pair of flutes, oboes
 - Percussion-Kettle drums/timpani
 - Keyboard-Harpsichord

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- Solo Instruments
 - Organ, Violin
 - Choirs

BAROQUE ART AND LIFESTYLE

Baroque Art

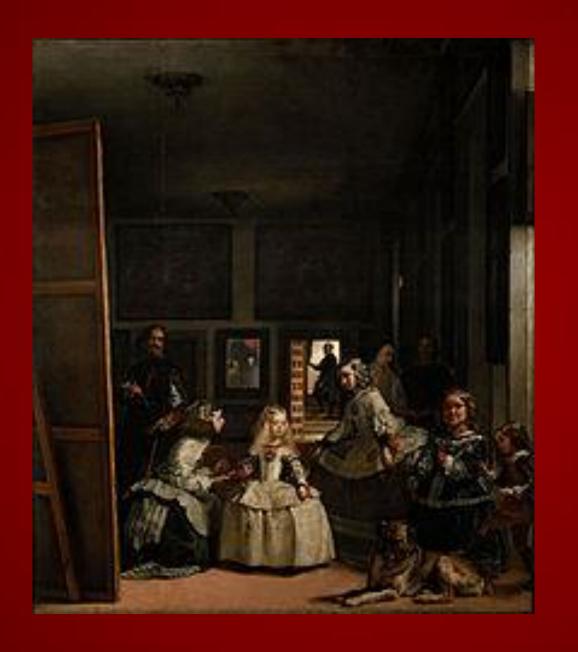
- Art during this time copied life and created an earthy realism in their paintings.
- Artists paid special attention to form and figure, light and shadow.
- Art was dramatic, emotional, full of life and movement











Baroque Lifestyle

- Extreme class differences
- Wars
- Popular Themes during this time
 - Carpe Diem (Seize the day)
 - Momento Mori (Remember that you must die)















