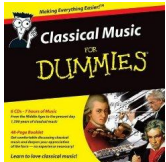


Classical Music For Dummies CD 4 - Apogee of Romanticism (2010)

Written by bluesever

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01. Wagner - Lohengrin - Prelude Acte I - Karajan 02. Wagner - Walkyrie - Chevauchee - Jansons 03. Wagner - Lohengrin - Choeur des fiancialles (extr.) - Heger-Chor der Bayerischen Staatsoper Munich 04. Wagner - Idylle de Siegfried - Janowski 05. Bruckner - Symphoonie 4 Romantique - 4e mvt - Finale. Bewegt, doch nicht zu schnell - Klemperer 06. J. Strauss II - Le beau Danube bleu op. 314 (extr.) - Boskovsky 07. Schumann - Scenes d'enfants op. 15 - 7. Reverie - Argerich 08. Schumann - Piano op. 54 - 1er mvt - Allegro affetuoso (extr.) - Jansons-Andsnes 09. Schumann - Carnaval de Vienne op. 26 - 4. Intermezzo - Cziffra 10. Brahms - Symphonie 3 op. 90 - 3e mvt - Poco allegretto - Harding 11. Brahms - Quatuor avec piaNo.1 op. 25 - 4e mvt - Rondo alla Zingarese (extr.) - Angelich - R. & G. Capucon - Causse 12. Brahms - Intermezzo op. 119-3 - Angelich 13. Brahms - Violon op. 77 - 3e mvt - Allegro giocoso (extr.) - Sawallisch-Zimmermann 14. Mahler - Symphonie 5 - 4e mvt - Adagietto - Rattle 15. Smetana - Ma Patrie - La Moldau (extr.) - Pesek 16. Dvorak - Danse slave op. 72-2 (extr.) - Maazel 17. Dvorak - Symphonie 9 du Nouveau Monde - 4e mvt - Allegro con fuoco op. 95 (extr.) - Giulini 18. Grieg - Peer Gynt op. 46 - 13. Au matin - Paavo Jarvi 19. Grieg - Suite au temps de Holberg op. 40 - Prelude - Paavo Jarvi 20. Verdi - Requiem - 2 - 1. Dies Irae - Muti-Coro teatro alla Scala di Milano 21. Verdi - Nabucco - Choeur des Esclaves - Muti-Ambrosian Opera Chorus 22. Puccini - Messe di Gloria - Credo. 10. Et Incarnatus est - Pappano-Alagna

The Romantic period started around 1830 and ended around 1900, as compositions became increasingly expressive and inventive. Expansive symphonies, virtuosic piano music, dramatic operas, and passionate songs took inspiration from art and literature. Famous Romantic composers include Tchaikovsky, Brahms, Mahler, and Verdi – to name but a few!

The Romantic era is known for its intense energy and passion. The rigid forms of classical music gave way to greater expression, and music grew closer to art, literature and theatre.

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Beethoven pioneered Romanticism and expanded previously strict formulas for symphonies and sonatas, and introduced a whole new approach to music, giving his works references to other aspects of life - for example, his 'Pastoral' Symphony No. 6 describes countryside scenes.

As well as symphonies, the tone poem and descriptive overture were popular as pieces of stand-alone orchestral music that evoked anything from a painting or poem to a feeling of nationalistic fervour.

The Romantic era gave birth to the virtuoso. Liszt was one of the greatest of his time, and wrote demanding piano music to show off his own brilliance. Chopin is also among the outstanding composer-performers from this time. In the world of opera, cue the entrance of Verdi in the middle of the Romantic era. He turned Italian opera on its head by introducing new subject material, often with social, political or nationalistic themes, and combined these with a direct approach to composing.

Germany's Richard Wagner also played a key role in developing the operatic genre. Before Wagner, the action and music in opera was split into short pieces or 'numbers' much like a modern-day musical show. Wagner's operas are written as long, continuous sweeps of music. The characters and ideas are given short signature melodies called leitmotifs.

Wagner's ideas dominated most music, from the large-scale symphonies of Bruckner and Mahler to the heroic tone poems and operas of Richard Strauss, even reaching Italy, where Verdi and Puccini started to produce operas according to many of Wagner's rules.

Ideas and compositions became more and more outlandish and inventive until the musical rules had to be rewritten, and the scene was set for the biggest change in music for centuries - the beginning of Modernism. ---classicfm.com

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