

# BAROQUE (XVII)

Middle Ages V	Renaissance XVI	Baroque XVII	Classicism XVIII	Romanticism XIX	XX's
------------------	--------------------	-----------------	---------------------	--------------------	------

## I. Historical context:

-Is the artistic period that expands from 1600 to 1750.

-During this period many scientific advances are produced and the big monarchies consolidate their power, i.e., France with Louis XIV 'Le Roi Soleil'

-The baroque art looks for the dramatic expression of the feelings with contrast effects and ornaments.



Baroque architecture

## II. Musical context

The Baroque is a very important period for the music History, since the most revolutionary changes happen in this period:

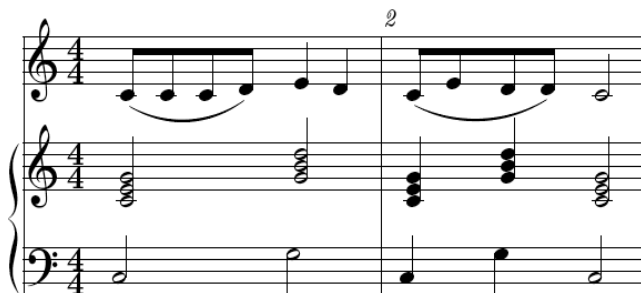
-The polyphony is replaced by the **chords**, although the polyphony was still practiced by composers like Bach.

-Is the birth of the **opera**. The first Opera was L'orfeo, by Monteverdi.

-The instrumental music gains importance, thanks to the improvement of the violin family. This also means the appearance of the 'orchestra'.

## Activities

1. Which one is polyphonic ? and accompanied melody?



2. Listen and distinguish between polyphony and accompanied melody:

- a.
- b.
- c.

3. The melody was often accompanied by a '**basso ostinato**' or '**continuo**', a bass line that was repeated during the piece. Look at the continuo in this aria called 'When I am Laid' from Dido and Aeneas, an opera by Henri Purcell

## When I Am Laid in Earth

from Dido and Aeneas

**Adagio lamentoso** Henry Purcell

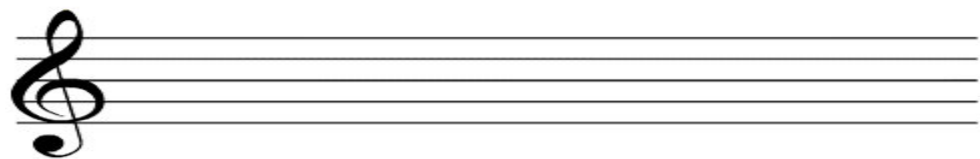
6 *p*

S. When I am laid, am laid in earth, may my

10

S. wrongs create No trouble, no trouble in, thy

- a) Mark the beginning and the end of the bass line  
 b) We can find continuo in some actual songs like 'Somebody that I used to know' or 'Hit the road Jack'. Write a basic line to be played by a low instrument and improvised over it with your classmates.



### III. New musical forms

- Vocal Music:

**The Opera** . The biggest vocal form. It has different parts like recitatives (almost spoken parts), arias (virtuosic part for the soloist), chorus and instrumental parts.

**The Oratorio**. Religious opera with no representation. One of the most famous oratorios is *The Messiah* by Haendel, with its famous chorus ♪ **'Hallelujah'**.

- Instrumental Music:

**Suite**. Set of dances, for instance: Allemande, Zarabanda, Bourré and Giga. Usually played by a single instrument.

**Concert** . For a soloist instrument and orchestra. It's like a dialogue between the soloist and the tutti. The concert usually has three movements: Allegro – Largo - Presto

#### Activities:

1. Listen and try to distinguish between opera, concerto and suite. Pay attention to the instruments and voices.
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.

### IV. Composers. Is the time of the first great composers:

#### Antonio Vivaldi (1687-1741)



Born in Venecia, he was called 'The red monk' because of his hair. He composed 477 concertos, helping to establish the form. He is famous for his set of 4 concertos for violin *The Four Seasons*. His music looks for contrasts, with dynamic rhythmic and timbre changes

♪ **The Summer**. 3<sup>rd</sup> movement

♪ **The Spring**. 1<sup>st</sup> movement

#### J.S. Bach (1685-1750)



He was German and his family was one of the greatest musician families. He had two wives and 20 children. His music is complex, contrapuntal, with a high intellectual depth. He was organist and composed a great amount of religious music.

♪ **Suite for violoncello**

♪ **Tocatta and Fugue**

♪ **Goldberg variations**

#### G.F. Haendel (1685-1759).



He was German but nationalized British after his success with the opera 'Rinaldo' in London. He is known for his Italian operas and oratorios.

♪ **Lascia ch'io pianga**, from the opera Rinaldo.

♪ **Hallelujah**, from the oratorio The Messiah

## Activities

1. During this period the composers used the dance rhythms to compose instrumental music, like in the suite. One of the main dances of the suite was the Zarabanda, an old Spanish dance. Play with your class the **Sarabande** by Haendel, part of his suite for harpsichord in D minor.



2. Another typical dance from the baroque is the **minuet**, introduced by Lully in the French court, including it in his operas and ballets. Lully worked for the king Louis XIV, who loved dancing. Lully was very important in the development of ballet. His life is reflected in the movie *Le roi soleil*.

**Minueto, J. S. Bach.** Separate the musical phrases and play this minuet by Bach and create a choreography with your class:



3. Answer the questions

Is the period between \_\_\_\_\_

In this period Monteverdi composed the first \_\_\_\_\_,

titled \_\_\_\_\_, and premiered in the year \_\_\_\_\_.

Write two musical characteristics of this music:

a.

b.

The polyphony is replaced by the \_\_\_\_\_.

What of these 4 examples is polyphonic? (0,5)

Name four important composers from this period:

What is a suite?

What musical ensemble appears in this period?

What string instrument is the most important now?

What musical form is the religious version of the opera?

Listen and write the title and the composer:

- 
- 
- 
- 

What is an 'ostinato' or 'continuo'?

Name an ancient Spanish dance, usually included in the suite

What famous suite was composed by Bach?

The 'concerto' appeared in \_\_\_\_\_ (country) thanks to \_\_\_\_\_ (composer)

What popular dance was introduced by Lully in the French court?

Composer who stands out for his oratorios:

Search information about the baroque instruments:

What instrument used to play the 'ostinato'?

What renaissance instrument disappeared?

Name a very popular wind instrument

## Activities

1. Play and dance this Allemande, a German dance, usually included in the suite.

### Allemande

The image displays a musical score for the Allemande, a dance from a suite. The score is arranged in two systems. The first system includes four staves: Xilófono (Xylophone), Metalófono (Metallophone), Pandero (Bongos), and Sonajas (Shakers). The Xilófono part is written in treble clef with a 2/4 time signature, featuring a melodic line of eighth and sixteenth notes. The Metalófono part consists of chords in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The Pandero part shows a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The Sonajas part shows a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The second system continues the same four parts, ending with a double bar line.

2. Underline the correct option

The Allemande has a binary/ ternary/ quaternary rhythm  
The Minuet has a binary/ ternary/ quaternary rhythm  
The Zarabande has a binary/ ternary/ quaternary rhythm

3. Draw your own scheme of this unit