

## Chronology

Romanticism is difficult to define in terms of a distinct historical period in music. The following chronology covers a large stretch of time broadly equivalent to the 'long nineteenth century' lasting from the French Revolution to the First World War, in which nearly all discussion of music and Romanticism is located. It concentrates on the period between the late 1790s and 1850, which covers both the eras usually associated with literary and artistic manifestations of Romanticism and music's subsequent 'Romantic generation' of composers. After mid-century the examples given are generally more confined to music, reflecting the oft-noted sense that music's purported 'Romantic' quality in this period was at variance with its surrounding culture.

- 1781 Mozart moves to Vienna. Kant, *Critique of Pure Reason*.
- 1782 Rousseau's *Confessions* posthumously published.
- 1789 Outbreak of French Revolution. William Blake, *Songs of Innocence*.
- 1790 Death of Joseph II of Austria. Kant, *Critique of Judgement*. Goethe, *Faust: A Fragment*.
- 1791 Death of Mozart. Haydn travels to London. Thomas Paine, *The Rights of Man*.
- 1792 Beethoven, aged 21, arrives in Vienna. Mary Wollstonecraft, *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*.
- 1793 Execution of Louis XVI; French Revolutionary Terror.
- 1794 Fichte begins lecturing on the *Wissenschaftslehre* in Jena.
- 1795 Schiller, *Aesthetic Education of Man*, Goethe, *Wilhelm Meister's Apprenticeship*.
- 1796 Jean Paul, *Siebenkäs*.
- 1797 Emergence of early Romantic circle in Jena and Berlin. Wackenroder, *Outpourings of an Art-Loving Friar*. Coleridge writes *Kubla Khan, or a Vision in a Dream. A Fragment*. Birth of Schubert.
- 1798 Haydn, *The Creation*. First issue of the *Athenäum* published by the Schlegel brothers (six issues, until 1800). Wordsworth and Coleridge, *Lyrical Ballads*.

- 1799 Hölderlin, *Hyperion*. Wackenroder/Tieck, *Fantasies on Art*, Schleiermacher, *On Religion*, F. Schlegel, *Lucinde*. Goya, *Caprichos*.
- 1800 Novalis, *Hymns to the Night*. Schelling, *System of Transcendental Idealism*. Volta invents early form of electrical battery.
- 1801 Birth of Bellini. Act of Union between Great Britain and Ireland.
- 1802 Beethoven, Piano Sonatas, Op. 31. Chateaubriand, *René*. Schelling, *Philosophy of Art*.
- 1803 Birth of Berlioz. Jean Paul, *Titan*.
- 1804 Napoleon crowned Emperor of France by Pope in Rome. Beethoven, *Eroica* Symphony. Senancour, *Obermann*. Declaration of Independence in Haiti.
- 1805 British Navy defeats French fleet at Trafalgar. Wordsworth completes *The Prelude*. First volume of *Des Knaben Wunderhorn* published by Arnim and Brentano in Heidelberg. Birth of Fanny Mendelssohn, later Hensel.
- 1806 France defeats Prussia at the Battle of Jena; dissolution of Holy Roman Empire.
- 1807 Hegel, *Phenomenology of Spirit*. Abolition of slave trade across British Empire.
- 1808 Premiere of Beethoven, Symphonies Nos. 5 & 6. Goethe, *Faust*, Part 1, Moore, first book of *Irish Melodies*.
- 1809 Death of Haydn. Birth of Mendelssohn. A. W. Schlegel, *Lectures on Dramatic Art and Literature*.
- 1810 E. T. A. Hoffmann's review of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony. Birth of Chopin and Schumann. De Staël, *On Germany*. Caspar David Friedrich, *The Monk by the Sea*.
- 1811 Birth of Liszt. Luddite riots against industrialisation in English Midlands. Austen, *Sense and Sensibility*.
- 1812 Napoleon's failed invasion of Russia. Byron, *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage*, cantos 1 & 2. J. M. W. Turner, *Snow Storm: Hannibal and his Army Crossing the Alps*.
- 1813 Napoleon defeated in Peninsula War (cf. Beethoven's *Wellington's Victory*) and at Leipzig at the 'Battle of Nations'. Birth of Wagner and Verdi.
- 1814 Field publishes first three *Nocturnes*; Schubert, 'Gretchen am Spinnrade'. Scott, *Waverley*.
- 1815 Final defeat of Napoleon at Waterloo. Congress of Vienna. Schubert, 'Der Erlkönig', 'Heidenröslein'.
- 1816 Beethoven, *An die ferne Geliebte*, Rossini, *Il barbiere di Siviglia*, Spohr, *Faust*.

- 1817 Byron, *Manfred*, Coleridge, *Biographia Literaria*.
- 1818 Schopenhauer, *The World as Will and Representation*, vol. 1. Friedrich, *The Wanderer over the Sea of Clouds*. Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein*.
- 1819 Birth of Clara Schumann, née Wieck. Gericault, *Raft of the Medusa*. Peterloo Massacre in Manchester. Anti-Semitic Hep-Hep riots and repressive Carlsbad Decrees in German territories.
- 1820 Hoffmann, *Life and Opinions of Tomcat Murr*, Lamartine, *Poetic Meditations*, Shelley, *Prometheus Unbound*. Ørsted discovers connection between electricity and magnetism.
- 1821 Weber, *Der Freischütz*. Shelley, *A Defence of Poetry*. Constable, *The Hay Wain*. Death of Napoleon and Keats. Start of Greek War of Independence.
- 1822 Birth of Franck. Death of Hoffmann and Shelley.
- 1823 Schubert, *Die schöne Müllerin*.
- 1824 Premiere of Beethoven, Symphony No. 9. Birth of Smetana and Bruckner. Death of Byron.
- 1825 Mendelssohn, Octet. Opening of Stockton and Darlington Railway.
- 1826 Death of Weber. Mendelssohn, Overture to *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.
- 1827 Death of Beethoven. Schubert, *Winterreise*. Heine, *Book of Songs*, Hugo, Preface to *Cromwell*, Delacroix, *The Death of Sardanapalus*.
- 1828 Death of Schubert. Auber, *La Muette de Portici*, Marschner, *Der Vampyr*. Paganini starts major European concert tour.
- 1829 Mendelssohn's pioneering revival of Bach's *St Matthew Passion* in Berlin, and journey to Scotland (inspiration for *Hebrides Overture* and 'Scottish' Symphony). Rossini, *Guillaume Tell*.
- 1830 July Revolution in Paris. Berlioz, *Symphonie fantastique*. Stendhal, *The Red and the Black*. Tennyson, first collection of *Poems*.
- 1831 Meyerbeer, *Robert le diable*, Bellini, *La sonnambula* and *Norma*. Faraday discovers principle of electromagnetic induction.
- 1832 Chopin, *Nocturnes*, Op. 9. Mickiewicz completes *Dziady*. Death of Goethe and Scott. Great Reform Act in Britain.
- 1833 Mendelssohn, 'Italian' Symphony. Birth of Brahms and Borodin.
- 1834 Berlioz, *Harold in Italy*. Schumann co-founds *Neue Zeitschrift für Musik*. Death of Coleridge.
- 1835 Chopin, Ballade No. 1, Donizetti, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Schumann, *Carnaval*. Death of Bellini. Heine, *The Romantic School*, Leopardi, *Canti*.

- 1836 Meyerbeer, *Les Huguenots*. Cole, *The Course of Empire*. Dickens, *The Pickwick Papers*.
- 1837 Eichendorff, *Poems*. Accession of Queen Victoria to British throne. Cooke and Wheatstone patent the electric telegraph.
- 1839 Berlioz, *Roméo et Juliette*. Schubert's 'Great' C major Symphony, rediscovered by Schumann, premiered under Mendelssohn's direction. Introduction of photographic processes by Daguerre and Talbot.
- 1840 Gade, *Echoes of Ossian* Overture, Schumann, *Liederkreis* Op. 39, *Dichterliebe*. Birth of Tchaikovsky. Friedrich Wilhelm IV ('the Romantic on the Throne') becomes King of Prussia.
- 1841 Schumann, Symphonies Nos 1 & 4, Wagner, *The Flying Dutchman*. Birth of Dvořák.
- 1842 Mendelssohn, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, incidental music.
- 1843 Birth of Grieg. Kierkegaard, *Either/Or*.
- 1844 Elizabeth Barrett Browning, *Poems*. Turner, *Rain, Steam and Speed – The Great Western Railway*.
- 1845 Franz Brendel takes over *Neue Zeitschrift für Musik*, which becomes mouthpiece for the 'New German School'. Merimée, *Carmen*.
- 1846 Berlioz, *La Damnation de Faust*. Hensel publishes first works.
- 1847 Death of Hensel and Mendelssohn. Charlotte Brontë, *Jane Eyre*, Emily Brontë, *Wuthering Heights*.
- 1848 Revolutionary uprisings across Europe. Death of Donizetti. Liszt stops career as touring virtuoso and settles in Weimar as Kapellmeister. Founding of Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood. Marx and Engels, *The Communist Manifesto*.
- 1849 Death of Chopin. Meyerbeer, *Le Prophète*. Wagner flees to Switzerland, pens *Art and Revolution* and subsequent tracts. Courbet, *The Stone Breakers*.
- 1850 Death of Wordsworth.
- 1851 Great Exhibition held in London's Crystal Palace. Melville, *Moby-Dick*.
- 1853 Liszt, B minor Sonata, Verdi, *Il trovatore* and *La traviata*, Wagner begins composition of *Das Rheingold*. Schumann writes 'Neue Bahnen', promoting Brahms.
- 1854 Liszt introduces the term 'symphonic poem' to describe *Les préludes*. Schumann has psychological breakdown and is institutionalised. Hanslick, *Vom musikalisch-Schönen*.
- 1855 Whitman, *Leaves of Grass* (first version).
- 1856 Death of Schumann. Flaubert, *Madame Bovary*.

- 1857 Birth of Elgar. Liszt, *A Faust Symphony*. Baudelaire, *Les Fleurs du mal*.
- 1858 Birth of Puccini.
- 1859 Gounod, *Faust*, Wagner, *Tristan und Isolde*. Darwin, *On the Origin of Species*.
- 1860 Brahms and Joachim amongst four signees to a declaration objecting to Brendel and New German School. Birth of Mahler and Wolf.
- 1861 Unification of Italy. Start of the American Civil War.
- 1862 Birth of Delius and Debussy. Hugo, *Les misérables*.
- 1863 Premiere of Berlioz, *Les Troyens* (cut version). Helmholtz, *On the Sensations of Tone*.
- 1864 Death of Meyerbeer. Birth of Richard Strauss. Maxwell proves light is an electromagnetic wave.
- 1865 Birth of Nielsen, Glazunov, and Sibelius. American Civil War ends.
- 1866 Bruch, Violin Concerto No. 1. Dostoevsky, *Crime and Punishment*.
- 1867 Opening of the Suez Canal.
- 1868 Grieg, Piano Concerto. Death of Rossini.
- 1869 Death of Berlioz. Brahms, *A German Requiem*. Tolstoy, *War and Peace*.
- 1870 Tchaikovsky, *Romeo and Juliet* fantasy-overture. Wagner, *Beethoven* essay. Start of Franco-Prussian War.
- 1871 Verdi, *Aida*. Eliot, *Middlemarch*. Unification of Germany.
- 1872 Mussorgsky, *Boris Godunov*. Nietzsche, *The Birth of Tragedy*.
- 1873 Birth of Rachmaninov.
- 1874 Bruckner, Symphony No. 4 ('Romantic'), first version; Johann Strauss (son), *Die Fledermaus*; Verdi, *Requiem*. Birth of Schoenberg. Term 'Impressionism' coined to criticise Monet's 1872 painting *Impression: soleil levant*.
- 1875 Bizet, *Carmen*, and death. Grieg, *Peer Gynt*.
- 1876 Premieres of Wagner's *Der Ring des Nibelungen* at Bayreuth, and Brahms's Symphony No. 1. Alexander Graham Bell patents the telephone.
- 1877 Thomas Edison demonstrates his new phonograph. Tolstoy, *Anna Karenina*.
- 1878 Dvořák, *Slavonic Dances*, Op. 46, Sullivan, *H.M.S. Pinafore*, Tchaikovsky, Symphony No. 4.
- 1879 Smetana, *Má vlast*.
- 1880 Offenbach, *The Tales of Hoffmann*, and death. Dostoevsky, *The Brothers Karamazov*.
- 1881 Borodin, String Quartet No. 2.

- 1882 Wagner, *Parsifal*.
- 1883 Death of Wagner. Bruckner Symphony No. 7.
- 1885 Brahms, Symphony No. 4, Dvořák, Symphony No. 7.
- 1886 Franck, Violin Sonata. Death of Liszt.
- 1888 Franck, Symphony in D minor, Rimsky-Korsakov, *Scheherazade*. Nietzsche, *The Case of Wagner*. Strindberg, *Miss Julie*.
- 1889 Premieres of Mahler, Symphony No. 1, and Strauss, *Don Juan*. Tolstoy, *The Kreutzer Sonata*.
- 1890 Mascagni, *Cavalleria rusticana*. Death of Franck.
- 1891 Brahms, Clarinet Quintet. Hardy, *Tess of the d'Urbervilles*, Ibsen, *Hedda Gabler*.
- 1892 Leoncavallo, *Pagliacci*, Sibelius, *En saga*.
- 1893 Dvořák, Symphony No. 9 ('From the New World'); Tchaikovsky, Symphony No. 6 (*Pathétique*), and death; Verdi, *Falstaff*.
- 1894 Beach, *Gaelic* Symphony, Debussy, *Prélude à L'après-midi d'un faune*, Dvořák, Cello Concerto. Beginning of Dreyfus affair in France.
- 1895 Rachmaninov, Symphony No. 1. Lumière brothers patent their *cinématographe* and screen first public films. Röntgen discovers X-rays. Trial of Oscar Wilde.
- 1896 Mahler, Symphony No. 3, Puccini, *La bohème*. Death of Bruckner and Clara Schumann. Marconi patents radio transmitter.
- 1897 Death of Brahms. Vienna Secession co-founded by Klimt. Tolstoy, *What Is Art?*
- 1898 Coleridge-Taylor, *Hiawatha's Wedding Feast*. Rodin's *Monument to Balzac* rejected. Zola publishes *J'accuse*.
- 1899 Elgar, *Enigma Variations*, Joplin, *Maple Leaf Rag*, Schoenberg, *Verklärte Nacht*. Yeats, *The Wind Among the Reeds*. Freud, *Interpretation of Dreams*.
- 1900 Elgar, *The Dream of Gerontius*, Puccini, *Tosca*.
- 1901 Rachmaninov, Piano Concerto No. 2. Death of Verdi. Thomas Mann, *Buddenbrooks*. Death of Queen Victoria.
- 1902 Debussy, *Pelléas et Mélisande*, Mahler, Symphony No. 5, Sibelius, Symphony No. 2. Klimt, *Beethoven Frieze*.
- 1903 Wright Brothers achieve first manned powered flight.
- 1904 Delius, *Sea Drift*, Puccini, *Madama Butterfly*. Death of Dvořák.
- 1905 Debussy, *La Mer*, Lehár, *The Merry Widow*, Strauss, *Salome*. Einstein, *Special Theory of Relativity*. Russo-Japanese War ends in victory for Japan.
- 1906 Ives, *Central Park in the Dark*, Smyth, *The Wreckers*.

- 1907 Rachmaninov, Symphony No. 2. Death of Grieg. Picasso, *Les Demoiselles d'Avignon*.
- 1908 Elgar, Symphony No. 1, Mahler, *Das Lied von der Erde*, Rachmaninov, *The Isle of the Dead*, Scriabin, *Poem of Ecstasy*, Schoenberg, String Quartet No. 2.
- 1909 Albéniz, *Iberia*, Mahler, Symphony No. 9, Schoenberg, *Erwartung*.
- 1910 Strauss, *Der Rosenkavalier*, Stravinsky, *The Firebird*, Vaughan Williams, *Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis*.
- 1911 Elgar Symphony No. 2, Nielsen Symphony No. 3, Sibelius Symphony No. 4. Death of Mahler. Amundsen beats Scott to South Pole.
- 1912 Bartók, *Bluebeard's Castle*, Ravel, *Daphnis et Chloé*.
- 1913 Riots at premieres of Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring* in Paris, and at Berg's *Altenberg Lieder* in Vienna. Proust, *Swann's Way*.
- 1914 Outbreak of First World War.

