



Marist CLS

Favorite Concertos

January 11, 2021



Paul Stoddard

Zoom reminders

- Use the View icon to change from gallery to speaker if you want.
- When I share my screen (which will be most of the class) you will see my Power Point slides and YouTube videos in the main window.
- If you want to ask a question:
 - Click the Raise Hand icon (you can find it after you click the Participants button).
 - Or, type your question in the Chat
- Keep yourself muted unless asking your question after I call on you.

Thanks!



Concertos

(Concerti if you speak Italian)

- + Music for an instrumental soloist and orchestra. The vast majority are for piano or violin soloist.
- + Cello is a distant third. There are also some for clarinet, flute, oboe, French horn, trumpet, etc.
- + Other instruments have only a few, although in the 20th century composers started writing them for all kinds of odd instruments. (See the list “Concertos for other instruments” at the end of the [Wikipedia article](#).)

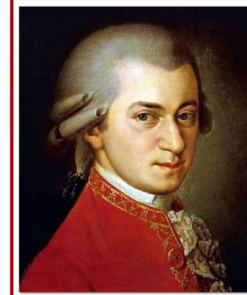


Concertos –
your favorites and mine





Mozart



**Wolfgang
Amadeus
MOZART**
1756-1791

- + [Violin Concerto No 5](#) played by Anne Sophie-Mutter
- + [Piano Concerto No 17](#) played by Lenny (Mozart wrote 27)
- + Piano Concerto No 21, [2nd movement](#) played by Yeol Eum Son
- + One of my favorites, [Piano Concerto No 22](#) played by Mitsuko Uchida
- + [Horn Concerto No 4](#) E flat major K 495 played by Radek Baborák (Mozart wrote 5 for Horn, 1 for bassoon)
- + [Clarinet Concerto](#) K.622 played by Richard Stoltzman
- + [Sinfonia Concertante](#) (violin & viola) played by Perlman and Zuckerman
- + [Concerto for Flute Harp and Orchestra](#) in C major, K 299



Musical Forms – understanding structure

- ❖ Classical pieces are long. By contrast most pop songs are only 2 or 3 minutes. Structural forms give us one way of understanding a piece of music.
- Classical concertos usually have 3 movements: the 1st is fast in Sonata form, the 2nd is slow, and the 3rd is a fast Rondo.
- One or more movements may have a cadenza, which is where the soloist really gets to show off!



Musical forms - Sonata



- ❖ Most popular songs follow a simple form called AABA.
Example: Duke Ellington's *Don't Get Around Much Anymore*.
We can think of this formula as 3 parts familiar + 1 part different.

- ❖ Sonata form is a more complex version of **AABA**.



- Optional introduction
- **Theme 1, theme 2**
- **Theme 1, theme 2** repeated
- **Development** (modify themes & wander around in different keys)
- **Recapitulation** (a fancy way of saying Theme 1, theme 2 again)
- Optional coda (for an exciting ending)

- ❖ The recapitulation = emotional impact when we come back to the familiar after wandering around!



Musical Forms – understanding structure

- ❖ Rondos start with a theme that keeps coming back after alternating with other themes – ABACADA.
- ❖ Remember that forms are flexible. Composers often modify them so that their music stays interesting.





Beethoven



- + [Violin Concerto](#) played by Anne-Sophie Mutter. (Favorite of Jack, Linda, and Rachel Carson)
- + “Emperor” [Piano Concerto # 5](#) played by Zimerman. (Beethoven wrote 5 piano concertos.) [Slow movement](#). Does this [melody](#) sound familiar?
- + [Concerto for Violin, piano and cello](#) (aka Triple concerto) played by Schmidt, Bailey, Perlman (Lillian favorite)

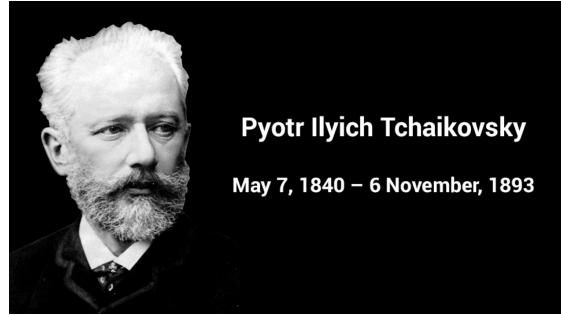


Some CLS Favorites



- ❖ Chopin [Piano Concerto No. 2](#) played by Arthur Rubenstein (Linda)
- ❖ Chopin [Piano Concerto No. 1](#) played by Evgeny Kissin (Linda, Lillian)





Tchaikovsky



+ Tchaikovsky (1840 – 1893)

- [Piano Concerto No. 1](#), Op. 23 played by Anna Fedorova (he wrote 3)
- [Violin Concerto in D major](#), Op. 35 played by Itzhak Perlman
- [Variations on a Rococo Theme for cello and orchestra](#)
played by Narek Hakhnazaryan





More Russians



- + Rachmaninoff (1873 – 1943): [Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini](#) played by Anna Fedorova (Rachmaninoff also wrote 3 piano concertos)
Romantic [variation](#) played by John Barry & Chet Swiatkowski (Judy favorite)
- + Rachmaninoff [Piano Concerto No. 3](#) played by Anna Federova (Doris favorite)
- + Prokofiev (1891 – 1953)
 - [Violin Concerto No.1](#) played by Midori
 - [Piano Concerto No. 3](#) played by Martha Argerich



British and American composers

- + Elgar (1857 – 1934): [Cello Concerto](#) played by Jacqueline du Pre
- + Barber (1910 – 1981): Violin Concerto, Opus 14. Here's the [Andante](#) (slow movement) played by Hilary Hahn
- + Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872 – 1958): "[The Lark Ascending](#)" for violin and orchestra played by Hilary Hahn
- + Aaron Copeland (1900 – 1990): [Clarinet Concerto](#) played by Benny Goodman, conducted by Copeland ([Better performance](#) by Martin Frost)





Vivaldi, Bach

- + Vivaldi: [Four Seasons](#) played by Alexandra Conunova
- + Vivaldi: [Mandolin Concerto](#) played by Avi Avital,
played by [Detlef Tewes](#) (Mike favorite)



- + Bach: [Brandenburg Concerto No 2](#) played by The English Baroque Soloists (Bach wrote 6 Brandenburgs)
- + Bach: [Concerto No. 3 in D minor for 2 Violins, BWV 1043](#) played by Isaac Stern and Gil Shaham
[3rd movement](#) played by Julia Fischer · Alexander Sitkovetsky (Lesley favorite)

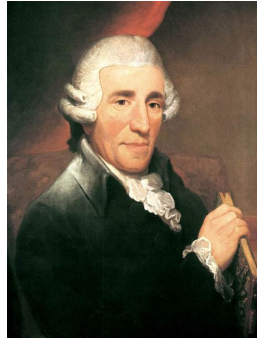




Haydn



- + Haydn: Trumpet Concerto in Eb played by Alison Balsom (Beth favorite)
- + Haydn: Cello Concerto No 2 played by Mstislaw Rostropowitsch (Haydn wrote 5 for cello)





Clara Schumann, Brahms



+ Clara Schumann: Piano Concerto Op.7
played by Claudia Corona

+ Brahms (1833 -1897)

- Piano Concerto No. 1 played by Arthur Rubinstein
- Violin Concerto played by Janine Jansen (Willard favorite)
- Concerto for Violin, Cello & Orchestra in A Minor,
Op.102 (aka Double Concerto)
played by Isaac Stern & Yo-Yo Ma





Some popular violin concertos



- + Mendelssohn: Violin Concerto E Minor Opus 64 played by Itzhak Perlman
- + Dvorak Violin Concerto in A Minor played by Joshua Bell (Lillian)
- + Max Bruch (1838 – 1920): Scottish Fantasy in E flat major Op 46 played by Joshua Bell (Bruch also wrote 3 violin concertos and a concerto for clarinet and viola!)
- + Sibelius (1865 – 1957): Violin Concerto in D minor played by Sarah Chang

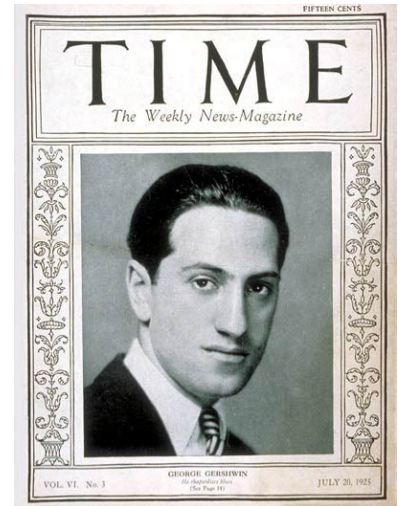




Jazzy Concertos



- + Igor Stravinsky: [Ebony Concerto](#) played by London Symphony Orchestra (originally written for the Woody Herman band)
- + Duke Ellington: [Symphonic Suite for Piano and Orchestra](#) ("New World A-Comin")
- + George Gershwin: [Piano Concerto in F](#) played by Yuja Wang
- + George Gershwin: [Rhapsody in Blue](#) played by Lang Lang
Performed by [Earl Wild, Benny Goodman and Toscanini](#) (Diane favorite)
- + Artie Shaw [Clarinet Concerto](#)



Resources

- + Hudson Valley Philharmonic [String Competition](#)

- + WNYC Open Ears Project
 - [Prokofiev Violin Concerto No 2](#)
 - [Mozart Piano Concerto No 17](#)
 - [Beethoven Violin Concerto](#)
 - [Bach Concerto for 2 Violins](#)





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