



THE BAROQUE PERIOD

(1600–1750)

Composers

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)
François Couperin (1668–1733)
George Frideric Handel (1685–1759)
Jean-Baptiste Lully (1632–1687)
Jean-Philippe Rameau (1683–1764)
Domenico Scarlatti (1685–1757)
Georg Philipp Telemann (1681–1767)

Keyboard Instruments

Clavichord
Harpsichord
Organ

Typical Forms

Invention
Fugue
Toccata
Prelude
March
Dance

KEYS TO STYLISTIC MASTERY



Melody

Includes short *motives*, often repeated starting on another pitch.



Vary dynamics when *motive* repeats.

Choice of *articulation* affects the *character*.



In general, play stepwise motion *legato* and play skips and upbeats detached.



Rhythm

Often based on popular dance steps.



Learn about the dance so you can understand how the steps affect the rhythm.



Harmony

Written in major or minor keys with shifts to *closely related keys*.



Identify the key of each section to help you learn and memorize the piece.



Warm up with a scale in the key of the piece. This will help you remember sharps or flats in the key and to hear the *tonality*.



Tempo

Must be steady, often with a slight *ritardando* at the final cadence.



Learn the music using a metronome.



Menuet in D Minor

Jean-Baptiste Lully (1632–1687)



Keys to this piece:



Both hands are equally important.
Bring out the LH answering *motive*.



Sometimes the hands play contrasting
touches at the same time.



Add *mordent* (♩) and *trills* (♩) second
time only.

Allegretto (♩ = 92–104)

1 *p*

5 *mf* *mp* *p*

10 *mp* *mf* *f* *mp*

14 *poco rit. 2nd time*