

MUSICAL ERAS

The **ROMANTIC ERA** started emerging in the early 1800's. Most scholars would place this period between 1825-1900. Again, this was a time of revolt from the Classical Era with its clean musical lines. Composers wanted something more lush and richer sounding. The idea of the sounds coming from the emotional side rather than the intellectual was the thought of the day.

As this period began developing, the transition from Classical was welcomed. Beethoven is considered a transitional composer. In his earlier works, he followed the rules of the day, but soon the emotional fire within him was too much, and he began writing from his heart. Perhaps you have played some of his Bagatelles or dances. During the middle portion of this era, there were many composers. Most of them wrote for the piano, so as pianists, we are very familiar with this era. Towards the end of the century, the compositions were taking on a slightly different form. Impressionism (to give an idea of) started emerging. Composers wanted to allow the listener to draw his or her own conclusions about the music. We have discussed "**Children's Corner**" by Debussy. He was composing during this period.

Famous Composers and their countries¹:

Brahms , Johannes	Germany
Burgmüller , Friedrich	Germany
Chopin , Frédéric	Poland
Debussy , Claude	France
Grieg , Edvard	Norway
Gurlitt , Cornelius	Germany
Liszt , Franz	Hungary
MacDowell , Edward	America
Mendelssohn , Felix	Germany
Schubert , Franz	Germany
Schumann , Robert	Germany
Tchaikovsky , Peter	Russian

ACTIVITIES

1. Have your teacher play pieces from each of the three sections of the Romantic Era.
2. Look in your history book and find out what was happening in America during the same time.
3. List how many pieces you have played from the Romantic Era.