HOME	# Music history and composer's biographies Go to my main Music Page Go to my History Page Download pdf for printing	
	Major eras of classical music / Composers listed by dates of birth	
	Links to some composer timelines	
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	Major eras of Classical music Each era is defined by distinct styles and the composers who shaped them.	
	Medieval (500–1400) Monophonic plainchant, early polyphony, and religious focus. Hildegard of Bingen (1098–1179) **Renaissance Era** (c. 1400–1600)Growth of polyphony, secular madrigals, and modal harmony. Byrd, William : c. 1540 –1623 Monteverdi, Claudio : 1567 –1643 *(Transitioned into the Baroque era)* Palestrina, Giovanni Pierluigi da : c. 1525 –1594 Tallis, Thomas : c. 1505 1585	**Romantic Era (c. 1820–1900** Intense emotionality, programmatic storytelling, nationalism, and massive orchestras. Brahms, Johannes : 1833 –1897 Chopin, Frédéric : 1810 –1849 Dvořák, Antonín : 1841 –1904 Schumann, Robert : 1810 –1856 Tchaikovsky, Pyotr Ilyich : 1840 –1893 Wagner, Richard : 1813 –1883 Verdi, Giuseppe : 1813 –1901

Baroque Era **(c. 1600–1750)** Development of counterpoint, the fugue, opera, and complex ornamentation.
Bach, Johann Sebastian : 1685 –1750
Handel, George Frideric : 1685 –1759
Vivaldi, Antonio : 1678 –1741

Classical Era **(c. 1750–1820)**Emphasis on structural clarity, symmetry, order, and the sonata form.
Beethoven, Ludwig van : 1770 – 26 1827 *(Transitioned into the Romantic era)*
Haydn, Joseph : 1732 –1809
Mozart, Wolfgang Amadeus : 1756 –1791

20th Century & Modern Era **(c. 1900–Present)** Avant-garde, experimental styles, serialism, impressionism, and electronic music.
Debussy, Claude : 1862 1918
Strauss, Richard s: 1864 –1949
Holst, Gustav : 1874 –1934
Rachmaninoff, Sergei : 1873 –1943
Stravinsky, Igor : 1882 –1971
Shostakovic, Dmitri: 1906 – 1975

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	Composers listed according to their dates of birth The names are all linked to their Wikipedia pages			
	1000-1499		**1500 - 1549**	**1550 - 1599**
	Hildegard von Bingen (1098–1179) **John Taverner** 1490 – 1545 **Josquin des Prez** c.1450 – 1521		**Byrd, William :** c. 1540 –1623 **de Monte Philippe** (1521 – 1603 **Dowland, John** 1563 – 1626 **Palestrina, Giovanni:** c. 1525 –1594 **Shepperd, John** 1515 - 1558 **Sweelinck, Jan** 1562 – 1621 **Tallis, Thomas :** c. 1505 1585	**Allegri, Gregorio** 1582 – 1652 **Campion, Thomas** 1567 – 1620 **Gabrieli, Giovanni** c. 1554/1557 – 1612 **Gesualdo, Carlo da Venosa** 1566 – 1613 **Gibbons, Orlando** 1583 – 1625 **Monteverdi, Claudio :** 1567 –1643 **Schütz, Heinrich** 1585 - 1672 **Tomkins, Thomas** (1572 – 1656
	1600 - 1649	**1650 - 1699**	**1700 - 1749**	**1750 - 1799**

	Buxtehude, Dieterich c. 1637 – 1707 **Charpentier, Marc-Antoine** 1643 – 1704 Lully, Jean-Baptiste 1632 – 1687 Strozzi, Barbara 1619 – 1677 Very few other well-known composers of this period. They are all listed here	Albinoni, Tomaso 1671 – 1751 Arne, Thomas 1710 – 1778 Bach, Johann Sebastian : 1685 –1750 Caldara, Antonio 1670 – 1736 Corelli, Arcangelo 1653 – 1713 Couperin, François 1668 – 1733 Eccles, John 1668 – 1735 Geminiani, Francesco 1687 – 1762 Handel, George Frideric : 1685 –1759 Marcello, Benedetto 1686 – 1739) Pachelbel, Johann 1653 - 1706 Purcell,Henry 1659 -1695 Rameau, Jean-Philippe 1683 – 1764 Scarlatti Giuseppe Domenico 1685 – 1757 Telemann, Georg Philipp 1681- 1767 Vivaldi, Antonio : 1678 –1741	Bach, Carl Philipp Emanuel 1714 –1788 Bach, Johann Christian1735 – 1782 Bologne, Joseph; (Chevalier de Saint-George) 1745 – 1799 Haydn,Joseph : 1732 –1809 Gluck, Christoph Willibrand 1714 – 1787 Pergolesi, Giovanni 1710 – 1736	Beethoven, Ludwig van : 1770 –1827 Bréval, Jean-Baptiste 1753 – 1823 Cervetto, James 1748 - 1837 Cherubini, Maria Luigi 1760 – 1842 Czerny Carl 1791 – 1857 Donizetti, Domenico 1797 – 1848 Haydn, Johann Michael 1737 – 1806 Hummel, Johann Nepomuk 1778 – 1837 Field, John 1782 – 23 January 1837 Meyerbeer, Giacomo 1791 – 1864 Mozart, Wolfgang Amadeus : 1756 –1791 Paganini, Niccolò 1782 – 1840 Rossini, Gioachino 1792 – 1868) Salieri, Antonio 1750 – 1825 Schubert, Franz Peter 1797 –1828) Spohr, Louis 1784 – 1859 Weber, Carl Maria von 1786 – 1826
	1800 - 1849	**1850 - 1899**	**1900 - 1949**	**1950 - present**
	Alkan, Charles-Valentin 1813 – 1888 Balakirev, Mily 1837 - 1910 Balfe Michael 1808 – 1870 Berlioz,Louis-Hector 1803 – 1869 Bizet,Georges 1838 – 1875 Borodin, Alexander 1833 – 1887 Brahms Johannes : 1833 –1897 Bruch, Max 1838 – 1920 Bruckner,Anton 1824 - 1896 Chabrier, Alexis-Emmanuel 1841 – 1894 Chopin, Frédéric : 1810 –1849 Cui, César 1835 – 1918 Delibes, Clément 1836 – 1891 Dvořák, Antonín : 1841 –1904 Fauré, Gabriel Urbain 1845 – 1924 Franck, César 1822 –1890 Glinka, Mikhail 1804 – 1857 Gounod, Charles-François 1818 – 1893) Grieg, Edvard 1843 – 1907 Lalo, Édouard 1823 – 1892 Liszt, Franz 1811 - 1886 Massenet, Jules 1842 – 1912 Mayer, Emilie 1812 – 1883 Mendelssohn, Fanny 1805 – 1847 Mendelssohn,Felix 1809 – 1847 Mussorgsky, Modest 1839 – 1881	Albéniz, Isaac 1860 – 1909 Bartók, Béla 1881 – 1945 Bax, Arnold 1883 – 1953 Beach, Amy 1867 – 1944 Berg, Alban 1885 – 1935 Bloch, Ernest 1880 – 1959 Bonis, "Mel" 1858 – 1937 Boulanger, Nadia 1887 – 1979 Busoni, Ferruccio 1866 – 1924 Bridge, Frank 1879 – 1941 Canteloube, Marie-Joseph 1879 – 1957 Chaminade, Cécile 1857 – 1944 Chausson, Amédée-Ernest 1855 – 1899 Coates, Eric 1886 –1957) Coleridge-Taylor, Samuel 1875 – 1912 Delius, Frederick 1862 – 1934 Debussy, Claude : 1862 1918 Dohnányi, Ernst von 1877 – 1960 Dukas, Paul 1865 – 1935 Elgar, Edward 1857 – 1934 Enescu, George 1881 – 1955 de Falla, Manuel 1876 - 1946 Frühling, Carl 1868 – 1937 Gershwin, George 1898 – 1937 Giordano, Umberto 1867 – 1948 Glazunov, Alexander 1865 – 1936	Adams, John 1947 Addinsell, Richard 1904 – 1977- Arnold, Malcolm 1921 - 2006 Barber, Samuel 1910 – 1981 Benjamin, Arthur 1893 – 1960 Berio, Luciano 1925 2003 Bernstein, Leonard 1918 – 1990 Birtwistle, Harrison 1934 – 2022 Boulez, Pierre 1925 – 2016 Bourgeois, Derek 1941 – 2017 Cage, John 1912 – 1992 Cardew, Cornelius 1936 – 1981 Carter, Elliott Jr. 1908 – 2012 Copland, Aaron 1900 – 1990 Dallapiccola, Luigi 1904 – 1975 Duruflé, Maurice 1902 – 1986 Dutilleux, Henri 1916 – 2013 Finzi, Gerald 1901 – 1956 Gipps, Ruth 1921 – 1999 Glass, Philip 1937- Górecki, Henry 1933 – 2010) Harvey, Jonathan 1939 – 2012 Henze, Hans Werner 1926 – 2012 Hirose, Ryōhei 1930 - 2008 Hoddinott, Alun 1929 – 2008 Holst, Imogen 1907 – 1984	Adès, Thomas 1971 - Márquez, Arturo 1950- Traill, John Late 1979 - present

Offenbach, Jacques 1819 – 1880
Parry, Charles 1848 – 1918
Ponchielli, Amilcare 1834 – 1886
Popper,, David 1843 – 1913
Raff, Joseph 1822 – 1882
Rimsky-Korsakov, Nikolai 1844 – 1908
Saint-Saëns, Charles-Camille 1835 – 1921
Schumann, Clara 1819 – 1896
Schumann, Robert : 1810 –1856
Smetana, Bedřich 1824 – 1884
Strauss, Johann I 1804 – 1849
Strauss, Johann II 1825 – 1899
Sullivan, Arthur 1842 – 1900
von Suppé, 1819 – 1895
Tchaikovsky, Pyotr : 1840 –1893
Verdi, Giuseppe : 1813 –1901
Vieuxtemps, Henri 1820 – 1881
Wagner, Richard : 1813 –1883

Grainger, Percy 1882 – 1961
Gurney, Ivor 1890 – 1937
Hindemith, Paul 1895 – 1963
Holst, Gustav : 1874 –1934
Honegger, Oscar-Arthur 1892 – 1955
Howells, Herbert 1892 – 1983
Humperdinck, Engelbert 1854 – 1921
Ibert, Jacques 1890 – 1962
Ireland, John 1879 – 1962
Ives, Charles 1874 – 1954
Janáček, Leoš 1854 – 1928
Joplin, Scott 1868 – 1917
Kodály, Zoltán 1882 – 1967
Korngold, Erich 1897 – 1957
Lehár, Franz 1870 – 1948
Leoncavallo, Ruggero 1857 – 1919
MacCunn, Hamish 1868 – 1916
Martin, Frank 1890 – 1974
Martinů, Bohuslav 1890 – 1959
Milhaud, Darius 1892 – 1974
Nielsen, Carl August 1865 – 1931
Orff, Carl 1895 – 1982
Ponce, Manuel 1882 – 1948
Poulenc, Francis 1899 – 1963
Price, Florence 1887/88 – 1953
Prokofiev, Sergei 1891 – 1953
Puccini, Giacomo 1858 – 1924
Rachmaninoff, Sergei : 1873 –1943
Ravel, Joseph 1875 – 1937
Reger, Johann 1873 – 1916
Respighi, Ottorino 1879 – 1936
Satie, Erik 1866 – 1925
Schoenberg, Arnold 1874 – 1951
Scriabin, Alexander 1872 - 1915
Sibelius, Jean 1865 – 1957
Smyth, Ethel 1858 – 1944
Sousa, John Philip 1854 – 1932
Squire, William 1871 – 1963
Stanford, Charles 1852 – 1924
Strauss, Richard : 1864 –1949
Stravinsky, Igor : 1882 –1971
Suk, Josef 1874 – 1935
Szymanowski, Karol 1882 – 1937
Villa-Lobos, Heitor 1887 – 1959
Webern, Anton 1883 – 1945
Wolf, Hugo 1860 – 1903

Jenkins, Karl 1944 **-**
Kabalevsky, Dmitry 1904 – 1987
Khachaturian, Aram 1903 – 1978
Lambert, Leonard 1905 – 1951
Ligeti, György 1923 – 2006
Lutosławski, Witold 1913 – 1994
Maxwell Davies, Peter 1934 – 2016
Messiaen, Olivier 1908 – 1992
Panufnik, Andrzej 1914 – 1991
Pärt, Arvo 1935 -
Penderecki, Krzysztof 1933 – 2020
Reich, Stephen 1936-
Riley, Terrence 1935-
Rodrigo, Joaquín , 1901 – 1999
Russell, George 1923 – 2009
Rutter, John 1945-
Shostakovich, Dmitri : 1906 – 1975
Stockhausen, Karlheinz 1928 – 2007
Takemitsu, Tōru 1930 – 1996
Tavener, John 1944 – 2013
Tippett, Michael 1905 – 1998
Walton, William 1902 – 1983
Weill, Kurt 1900 – 1950
Williams, Grace 1906 – 1977
Williams, John 1932-

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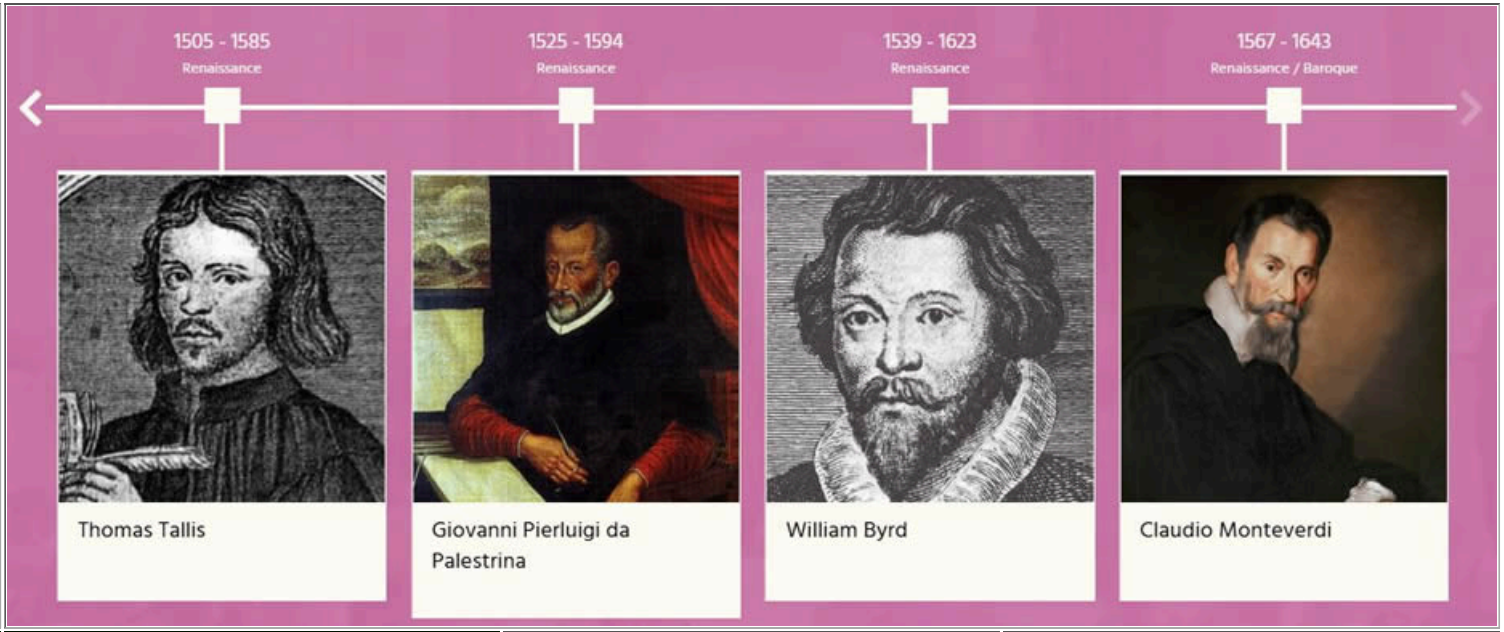
	Sinfonia Composer timeline **Excellent site with pictures of composers** **This is an example:**			
	MFiles extensive timelines			
.TOP	**Youtube clips:**	**Timeline With good pictures**	**Excellent timeline from P. Kritidis**	
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