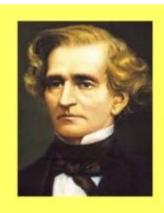
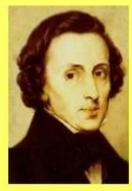
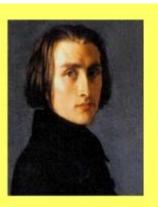
Revolutionary Romanticism: Berlioz, Chopin and Liszt

John Gibbons, lecturer









Course Description:

From fragmentary piano character sketches to massive oratorios, this course will analyze and contextualize the most dramatic era of change in western music history. Four composers, born at the outset of the 19th century, will lead us on this musical hero's journey; the grandiose, ambitious, eccentric Berlioz; the poignantly intimate Schumann; the subtle and perfect Chopin; and the superhumanly energectic Liszt: pianist, composer, conductor, and promoter.

Week 1: The Artist as Virtuoso

Piano Concerti by Chopin, Schumann, and Liszt

Liszt: Transcendental Études

Week 2: The Artist as Faust

Berlioz: The Damnation of Faust

Liszt: Sonata in b minor and "Faust" Symphony Schumann: Scenes from Goethe's "Faust"

Week 3: The Artist as Poet

Berlioz: "Summer Nights" Schumann: "Dichterliebe" Liszt: Petrarch Sonnets Chopin: Ballades

Week 4: The Artist as Shakespearean Hero

Berlioz: Romeo and Juliet Symphony, King Lear Overture, Beatrice and Benedict

Liszt: Hamlet

Week 5: The Artist as Nationalist Icon

Chopin: Many pieces, including mazurkas and polonaises Liszt: Many pieces, including Hungarian Rhapsodies

Berlioz: Funeral and Triumphant Symphony

Schumann: Forest Scenes

Week 6: The Artist Contemplates the Divine

Berlioz: Requiem

Liszt: Various Choral Works (including "Stations of the Cross") and "Religious

and Poetic Harmonies"

Schumann: Mass

Week 7: The Artist Contemplates Nature

Liszt: Years of Pilgrimage

Berlioz: Selections from opera, overture, and Harold in Italy

Chopin: Selected Nocturnes Schumann: "Rhenish" Symphony

Week 8: The Artist as Anti-Hero

Berlioz: Symphonie Fantastique and Harold in Italy

Liszt: Dante Sonata and Symphony

Chopin and Schumann: Selected (short) piano pieces

Recommended Reading:

Jacues Barzun, Berlioz and the Romantic Symphony

Hector Berlioz, Memoirs

Alfred Brendel, Music Sounded Out Musical Thoughts and Afterthoughts

David Cairns, Berlioz biography (2 vol.)

Carl Dalhaus, 19th Century Musical Romanticism

Charles Rosen, The Romantic Generation

Alan Walker, Liszt: The Virtuoso Years (vol. 1)

Liszt: The Weimar Years (vol. 2) Liszt: the Late Years (vol. 3)

Franz Liszt, Chopin

Hugh Macdonald, Berlioz biography (Master Musicians series)

Leon Plantinga, Music in the Romantic Era

Jim Sampson, Chopin (Master Musicians series)

George Sand, Lettres di un voyager; A Season in Majorca

Ronald Taylor, Liszt