

# History of Music

## Identifying music from different periods



What are the "finger-prints" of each period of music history

### Renaissance:

- 👉 Simple polyphonic style often using imitation
- 👉 Instruments of the period (lute, viols, recorders, clavichord etc )
- 👉 Much choral writing esp. for the church, but also Madrigals (songs)

### Baroque:

- 👉 Many flowing lines of music (polyphonic) weaving together
- 👉 Instruments of the period
- 👉 Straightforward harmony with bass continuo ('cello & harpsichord)

### Classical:

- 👉 Stricter structures, shorter phrases and cadence points.
- 👉 Melody & Accompaniment (homophonic textures)
- 👉 Clear, simple harmonies

### Romantic:

- 👉 Longer melodic lines, and freer structures, emphasis on emotive appeal (dynamic contrasts etc.)
- 👉 Richer and more chromatic harmonies
- 👉 Development of brass & percussion sections, and bigger orchestras

### Modern

- 👉 Harmonies become more discordant (dissonant)
- 👉 Beat/rhythms more irregular
- 👉 Unconventional ways of playing instruments

