CLASSICAL ENCOUNTERS

Baroque Era
1600 – 1750

Major Composers
Corelli, Bach
Vivaldi
Handel
Telemann

Form of Government
Monarchy

Gold Theory
Church & Monarchy

Pendulum Theory
romantic

Centers
Italy, Germany, France

New Trends
Rise of instrumental music
Major/minor system
Use of distinct melodic phrase
"Spinning out"
Steady 8th note pulse
Vigorous, dramatic music
Ornamented, decorative
Terraced dynamics
1st Theory textbook – 1732
Rise of the "virtuoso"
Improvisation

Instruments
Strings, flute
harpsichord, organ, guitar.

Classical Era
1750 – 1825

Major Composers
Haydn
Mozart
Beethoven
Schubert

Form of Government
Aristocracy

Gold Theory
Aristocrats

Pendulum Theory
classical

Centers
Esterhaza, Vienna

New Trends
Classical formal structures
- Sonata Allegro form

printed dynamics & new rhythms
larger orchestra
interest in chamber music
pianoforte
8 bar melody
Patronage System

Instruments
greater use of wind instruments
use of more strings

Romantic Era
1825 – 1900

Major Composers
Wagner, Dvorak
Berlioz, Brahms,
Grieg, Mahler,
Strauss

Form of Government
Democracy

Gold Theory
Patrons or "free-lance"

Pendulum Theory
romantic

Centers
Vienna, other nations' cities

New Trends
structures expand in size
size of orchestra grows
improved wind instruments
Program Music
"starving artist" concept
"Throne" of Beethoven

Instruments
use of piccolo, English horn
contrabassoon, harp,
bass clarinet, percussion
larger string sections

1900 to present

Major Composers
Ravel, Debussy
Stravinsky, Ives
Copland, Gershwin
Shostakovich, John Adams

Form of Government
Democracy, Totalitarianism

Gold Theory
Free-lance, Univ./Gov't

Pendulum Theory
many swings

Centers
Paris, U.S., E. Europe, China

New Trends
break-down of tonality
Impressionism
Neo Classicism
Serialism
Minimalism
Eclecticism

Instruments
More percussion
Electronics
Largest sized- orchestra