

ORCHESTRAL MUSIC HISTORY

	ART, OPERA & CULTURE	LITERATURE & THEATER	AMERICAN & WORLD HISTORY	SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
<p>The Renaissance Era 1450 - 1600</p> <p>ORCHESTRAL MUSIC (COMPOSERS & COMPOSITIONS) including other significant works</p> <p>A l'eure by Josquin des Prez (approx. 1492-95)</p> <p>Ottaviano Petrucci published Harmonice Musices Odhecaton in 1501</p> <p>Ricercari sopra li tuoni a Quattro by Giovanni Palestrina (1562)</p> <p>Bransles by Thoinot Arbeau (1589)</p> <p>Fantasia a 6 by William Byrd (year unknown)</p>	<p>Mona Lisa by DaVinci (1503)</p> <p>Sistine Chapel began by Michelangelo (1508)</p> <p>Venus of Urbino by Titian (1525)</p> <p>Spem in Alium by Thomas Tallis (1570)</p> <p>Dafne, by Jacopo Peri(1598)</p>	<p>Le Morte d'Arthur by Sir Thomas Malory (1485—published)</p> <p>The Prince by Machiavelli (1513)</p> <p>Romeo & Juliet (1594), A Midsummer Night's Dream (1595), The Merchant of Venice (1596), Henry IV (1597), Much Ado About Nothing (1598), Julius Caesar and Twelfth Night (1599) by William Shakespeare</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tudor dynasty began in England (1485) • First voyage of Columbus (1492) • Martin Luther broke from the Catholic Church and wrote his Ninety-five theses (1517) • Magellan circumnavigated the globe (1519) • Church of England broke from the Roman Catholic church (1531-32) • Ireland made a kingdom (1542) • Spanish Armada defeated (1588) 	<p>Gutenberg invented movable metal type for printing (1454)</p> <p>The Treviso Arithmetic was the first published math book in Treviso, Italy (1478)</p> <p>Leonardo da Vinci sketched a humanoid automaton (1495)</p> <p>The beginning of the Scientific Revolution with the Copernicus treatise On the Revolution of Heavenly Spheres (1543)</p>
<p>The Baroque Era 1600 - 1750</p>	<p>L'Orfeo by Claudio Monteverdi (1607)</p> <p>The Night Watch by Rembrandt (1642)</p> <p>Dido & Aeneas by Henry Purcell (1689)</p> <p>Giulio Cesare by George Handel (1724)</p> <p>The Beggar's Opera by John Gay (1728)</p> <p>Covent Garden Opera House opens in London (1732)</p>	<p>Japanese Kabuki first performance (1603)</p> <p>Don Quixote by Cervantes (1605/1615)</p> <p>Shakespeare died in 1616</p> <p>Tartuffe by Molière (1664)</p> <p>Paradise Lost by John Milton (1667)</p> <p>An Essay Concerning Human Understanding by John Locke (1690)</p> <p>Gulliver's Travels by Jonathan Swift (1726)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock (1602) • Plague outbreak in England (1603) • Jamestown, Virginia settlement (1607) and first slaves arrived in Virginia (1619) • Puritans founded Boston (1630) • Taj Mahal began (1634-1635) • Peter the Great crowned in Russia (1682) • Salem Witch Trials in Massachusetts (1692-93) • Rifles introduced to America by Swiss immigrants (1721) • First settlement of Ohio Company (1749) 	<p>Patent for the first telescope (1608)</p> <p>Johannes Kepler wrote Astronomia nova (1609)</p> <p>Galileo Galilei wrote Dialogue on the Two Chief Systems of the World (1632)</p> <p>Sir Isaac Newton wrote Principia mathematica (1687)</p> <p>Innoculation for small pox was introduced to England by Lady Mary Wortley Montagu (1717)</p>

The Classical Era
1750 - 1827

ORCHESTRAL MUSIC
(COMPOSERS & COMPOSITIONS)

[Sinfonia in B minor](#) by [CPE Bach](#) (1773)

[Symphony No. 35](#)
(Haffner) by [Mozart](#) (1782)

[Haydn quartets](#) by Mozart
(1782-5)

[Symphony No. 41 in C major](#) (Jupiter) by Mozart
(1788)

Mozart died (1791)

[London Symphonies](#)
composed by [Franz Josef Haydn](#) (1791)

[Symphony No. 1](#) by [Beethoven](#) (1799)

[The Seasons](#) by Haydn
(1801)

[Fifth Symphony](#) (1807) and
[Ninth Symphony](#) (1823) by
Beethoven

Haydn died (1809)

[Symphony No. 8](#)
(Unfinished) by Franz Schubert
(1822)

Beethoven died (1827)

[Schubert](#) died (1828)

ART, OPERA & CULTURE

[Orfeo ed Uridice](#) by [Christoph Gluck](#)
(1762)

[The Blue Boy](#) by [Gainesborough](#)
(1770)

[La Scala](#) opera house opens in Milan
(1778)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart composes
[The Marriage of Figaro](#) (1786), [Don Giovanni](#) (1787),
[Così Fan Tutte](#) (1790) and [The Magic Flute](#) (1791)

[Fidelio](#) (first version) by Beethoven
(1805)

[Giuseppe Verdi](#) and [Richard Wagner](#) are born (1813)

[The Star Spangled Banner](#) by [Francis Scott Key](#) (1814)

[Giacchino Rossini](#) composes [The Barber of Seville](#) (1816), [La Cenerentola](#) (1817), and [Guillaume Tell](#) (1829)

LITERATURE & THEATER

[Candide](#) by [Voltaire](#) (1759)

[The Wealth of Nations](#) by [Adam Smith](#) (1776)

[Critique of Pure Reason](#) by [Immanuel Kant](#) (1781)

[Washington Irving](#) born (1783)

[The Marriage of Figaro](#) by [Beaumarchais](#) (1784)

[The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire](#) by [Edward Gibbon](#) (1788)

[Kubla Khan](#) by [Samuel Taylor Coleridge](#) (1797)

[Faust](#) (part 1) by [Goethe](#) (1808)

[The Lady of the Lake](#) (1810) and [Ivanhoe](#) (1819) by [Sir Walter Scott](#)

[Sense and Sensibility](#) by [Jane Austen](#) (1811)

[Prometheus Unbound](#) by [Percy Bysshe Shelley](#) (1820)

[The Last of the Mohicans](#) by [James Fenimore Cooper](#) (1826)

AMERICAN & WORLD HISTORY

- [French and Indian wars](#) (1756)
- [George III](#) of England crowned (1760)
- [Joseph II](#) became Holy Roman Emperor (1765)
- The [Boston Massacre](#) (1770)
- [First Continental Congress](#) in Philadelphia (1774)
- [Louis XVI](#) King of France (1774)
- [American Revolution](#) (1775-1783)
- [Daniel Boone](#) blazes trail through Cumberland Gap (1775)
- [Declaration of Independence](#) (1776)
- [French Revolution](#) (1789-1794)
- [Washington D.C.](#) founded (1790)
- The Kingdoms of Ireland and Great Britain merge to form the [United Kingdom](#) (1801)
- [Louisiana Purchase](#) (1803)
- [Lewis & Clark](#) open up the Northwest Territory (1804-6)
- [Napoleon](#) crowned Emperor (1804)
- The [University of Berlin](#) was founded (1810)
- [French invasion of Russia](#) (1812)
- [War of 1812](#) between United States and England (1812)
- Napoleon retreated from Moscow (1812)
- [Congress of Vienna](#) (1814)

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

- [Ben Franklin](#) conducted his famous [kite experiment](#) (1752)
- Eli Whitney born (1765)
- [Watt's steam engine](#) was patented (1769)
- [Whirlpool galaxy](#) discovered by [Messier](#) (1773)
- [Caroline Herschel](#) discovered a comet (1786)
- Eli Whitney invented the [cotton gin](#) (1794)
- Discovery of [ultraviolet light](#) (1801)
- [Fulton](#) built first commercial steamboat (1807)
- Invention of the [metronome](#) (1815)
- The [first blood transfusion](#) using human blood in London (1818)
- [Typewriter](#) invented (1821)
- [Faraday's](#) electric motor and generator (1821)
- [Gregor Mendel](#) was born (1822)

ORCHESTRAL MUSIC (COMPOSERS & COMPOSITIONS)

[*Symphonie Fantastique*](#) by [Hector Berlioz](#) (1830)

[*Hebrides Overture*](#) by [Felix Mendelssohn](#) (1830)

[*Symphony No. 4*](#) (Italian) by Mendelssohn (1833)

[*Roméo et Juliette*](#) by Berlioz (1839)

[*First*](#) and [*Fourth Symphonies*](#) by [Robert Schumann](#) (1841)

[Philharmonic Society of New York](#) (1842)

[*A Midsummer Night's Dream*](#) incidental music by Mendelssohn (1843)

[*Radetzky March*](#) by [Johann Strauss I](#) (1848)

[*Blue Danube Waltz*](#) by [Johann Strauss II](#) (1866)

[*Pictures at an Exhibition*](#) by [Modest Mussorgsky](#) (1874)

[*Symphony No. 4*](#) (Romantic) by [Anton Bruckner](#) (1874)

[*Symphony No. 1*](#) by [Johannes Brahms](#) (1876)

ART, OPERA & CULTURE

[Vincenzo Bellini](#) composed [*La Sonnambula*](#) (1831), [*Norma*](#) (1831), and [*I Puritani*](#) (1835)

[Gaetano Donizetti](#) composed [*Anna Bolena*](#) (1830), [*L'elisir d'amore*](#) (1833), [*Lucia di Lammermoor*](#) (1835), [*La Fille du regiment*](#) (1840), and [*Don Pasquale*](#) (1843)

[Giuseppe Verdi](#) composed [*Nabucco*](#) (1842), [*Macbeth*](#) (1847), [*Rigoletto*](#) (1851), [*Il Travatore*](#) (1853), [*La Traviata*](#) (1853), [*Un Ballo in Maschera*](#) (1859), [*Aida*](#) (1871), and [*Otello*](#) (1887)

[Richard Wagner](#) composed [*Rienzi*](#) (1842), [*The Flying Dutchman*](#) (1843), [*Tannhäuser*](#) (1845), [*Lohengrin*](#) (1850), [*Tristan und Isolde*](#) (1865), and [*The Ring of the Niebelungen*](#) (1854-1876)

LITERATURE & THEATER

[*The Hunchback of Notre Dame*](#) by [Victor Hugo](#) (1831)

[*Fairy Tales*](#) by [Hans Christian Andersen](#) (1835)

[*The Three Musketeers*](#) (1844) by [Alexandre Dumas père](#) and [*La Dame aux Camellias*](#) (1848) by [Alexandre Dumas fils](#)

[*Treatise on Instrumentation*](#) by [Hector Berlioz](#) (1844)

[*Jane Eyre*](#) by [Charlotte Brontë](#) (1847)

[*Communist Manifesto*](#) by [Karl Marx](#) and Friedrich Engels (1848)

[*Oper und Drama*](#) by [Richard Wagner](#) (1850)

Singer [Jenny Lind](#) began her American tour (1850)

[*Moby Dick*](#) by [Herman Melville](#) (1851)

[*Uncle Tom's Cabin*](#) by [Harriet Beecher Stowe](#) (1852)

[*Walden*](#) by [Henry David Thoreau](#) (1854)

AMERICAN & WORLD HISTORY

- [Battle of Waterloo](#) (1815)
- Karl Marx born (1818)
- ["Savannah"](#) becomes the first steamship to cross the Atlantic (1819)
- [Singapore](#) established by the British East India company (1819)
- [Erie Canal](#) opened connecting the Great Lakes to the Atlantic (1825)
- Independence of [Greece](#) (1829)
- [Slavery Abolition Act](#) banned slavery throughout the United Kingdom (1833)
- [Davey Crockett](#) killed at the Alamo (1836)
- [Queen Victoria](#) crowned in England (1837)
- [New Zealand](#) is founded with the Treaty of Waitangi between the British and Maori (1840)
- First [telegraph](#) between Baltimore and Washington (1844)
- [Mormons](#) settle at Great Salt Lake (1847)
- First [gold rush](#) in California (1848)
- [Taiping Rebellion](#) in China (1850-64)
- [Crimean War](#) (1854)
- [Charge of the Light Brigade](#) (1854)
- Consolidation of [Italy](#) (1861)
- American [Civil War](#) (1861-65)
- [International Red Cross](#) founded after the first Geneva Convention (1864)

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

[Louis Braille](#) published the first Braille book (1829)

[Michael Faraday](#) began experiments that lead to discovery of electromagnetic induction (1831)

[Samuel Morse](#) invented the telegraph (1837)

[Christian Doppler](#) published his theory on the Doppler effect (1842)

First use of [ether](#) as an anesthetic (1842)

Morse sent [first telegraph](#) message (1844)

[Isaac Singer](#) invented the stitch sewing machine (1851)

[Sigmund Freud](#) was born in Austria (1856)

[Charles Darwin](#) published [*On the Origin of Species*](#) (1859)

[James Clerk Maxwell](#) published [*A Dynamical Theory of the Electromagnetic Field*](#) (1865)

The Romantic Era
1827 - 1900 (cont.)

**ORCHESTRAL MUSIC
(COMPOSERS & COMPOSITIONS)**

[Marche Slave](#) by [Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky](#) (1876)

[Symphony No. 4](#) by Tchaikovsky (1877)

[The Carnival of the Animals](#) by [Camille Saint-Saëns](#) (1886)

[Scheherazade](#) by [Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov](#) (1888)

[Symphony No. 5](#) by Tchaikovsky (1888)

[Death and Transfiguration](#) by [Richard Strauss](#) (1890)

[The Nutcracker](#) by Tchaikovsky (1892)

[Symphony No. 6](#) (Pathétique) by Tchaikovsky (1893)

[Symphony No. 9](#) (New World) by [Antonín Dvořák](#) (1893)

[Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun](#) by [Claude Debussy](#) (1894)

[Stars and Stripes Forever](#) by [John Philip Sousa](#) (1896)

[Enigma Variations](#) by [Edward Elgar](#) (1899)

**ART, OPERA &
CULTURE**

[Olympia](#) painted by [Manet](#) (1863)

[Carmen](#) by [Georges Bizet](#) (1875)

[Claude Monet](#) paints [Gare Saint-Lazare](#) (1877)

[Eugene Onegin](#) by Tchaikovsky (1879)

[Metropolitan Opera](#) opened (1883)

[Sunflowers](#) painted by [Vincent van Gogh](#) (1888)

[Auguste Rodin](#) sculpted [The Thinker](#) (1889)

[Toulouse-Lautrec](#) painted [At the Moulin Rouge](#) (1892)

[Hänsel und Gretel](#) by [Engelbert Humperdinck](#) (1893)

[La Bohème](#) by [Giacomo Puccini](#) (1896)

**LITERATURE &
THEATER**

[Leaves of Grass](#) by [Walt Whitman](#) (1855)

[A Tale of Two Cities](#) by [Charles Dickens](#) (1859)

[War and Peace](#) by [Leo Tolstoy](#) (1864)

[Peer Gynt](#) by [Henrik Ibsen](#) (1867)

[20,000 Leagues Under the Sea](#) by [Jules Verne](#) (1869)

[Sarah Bernhardt](#) took the European stages by storm beginning in the 1870s

[A Doll's House](#) by [Henrik Ibsen](#) (1879)

[Also Sprach Zarathustra](#) by [Friedrich Nietzsche](#) (1883)

[Treasure Island](#) by [Robert Louis Stevenson](#) (1883)

[George Bernard Shaw](#) first play *Widowers' Houses* performed (1892)

[The Seagull](#) by [Anton Chekhov](#) (1896)

**AMERICAN &
WORLD HISTORY**

- [13th Amendment](#) abolishing slavery passed (1865)
- First successful transatlantic cable (1866)
- [Abraham Lincoln](#) assassinated (1865)
- United States purchased [Alaska](#) from Russia (1867)
- First professional baseball club, [The Cincinnati Red Stockings](#) was founded (1868)
- [Suez Canal](#) opened (1869)
- [Yellowstone National Park](#) founded (1872)
- [Anglo-Zulu war](#) (1879)
- [First Boer war](#) (1880)
- [Krakatoa](#) volcano explosion (1883)
- [Brooklyn Bridge](#) was built (1885)
- [Statue of Liberty](#) unveiled in New York Harbor (1886)
- [Jack the Ripper](#) terrorized London (1888)
- [Paris Worlds' Fair](#) (1889)
- [Wounded Knee Massacre](#) (1890)
- [Nicholas II](#), last Tsar of Russia, was crowned (1894)
- [Olympic games](#) revived in Athens (1896)
- [Klondike gold rush](#) in Canada (1897)
- [Spanish-American War](#) (1898)
- Second Boer War (1899-1902)
- [Boxer Rebellion](#) in China (1899-1901)

**SCIENCE &
TECHNOLOGY**

[Gregor Mendel](#) (the father of modern genetics) published **Experiments on Plant Hybridization** (1865) and **Proceedings of the Natural History Society of Brünn** (1866)

[Levi Strauss](#) patented denim jeans using copper rivets (1874)

Telephone invented by [Alexander Graham Bell](#) (1876)

[Thomas Edison](#) invented the phonograph (1877), and first incandescent light bulb (1879)

[Robert Koch](#) discovered the tuberculosis germ (1882)

[Louis Pasteur](#) began inoculating against rabies (1884)

[Nikola Tesla](#) started Tesla Electric Light & Manufacturing and patented the induction motor (1888)

[Marie and Pierre Curie](#) discovered elements polonium and radium and coined the term radioactivity (1898)

The 20th Century
1900 - 1999

**ORCHESTRAL MUSIC
(COMPOSERS & COMPOSITIONS)**

[Pomp and Circumstance No. 1](#) by Elgar (1901)

[La Mer](#) by Claude Debussy (1903-5)

[The Unanswered Question](#) by [Charles Ives](#) (1908)

[Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis](#) (1910) by [Ralph Vaughan-Williams](#)

Igor Stravinsky's [The Firebird](#) (1910), [Petrushka](#) (1911), [The Rite of Spring](#) (1913)

[The Planets](#) by [Gustav Holst](#) (1914-16)

[Classical Symphony](#) by [Sergei Prokofiev](#) (1918)

[Rhapsody in Blue](#) by [George Gershwin](#) (1924)

[Boléro](#) by [Maurice Ravel](#) (1928)

[Adagio for Strings](#) by [Samuel Barber](#) (1936)

[Peter and the Wolf](#) by [Prokofiev](#) (1936)

[Appalachian Spring](#) by [Aaron Copland](#) (1944)

**ART, OPERA &
CULTURE**

Giacomo Puccini's [Tosca](#) (1900), [Madama Butterfly](#) (1904), [La Fanciulla del West](#) (1910), and [Turandot](#) (1926)

Claude Monet paints [Waterloo Bridge](#) (1902)

Richard Strauss' [Salome](#) (1905), [Elektra](#) (1909), [Der Rosenkavalier](#) (1911), and [Ariadne auf Naxos](#) (1916)

[Pablo Picasso's Three Musicians](#) (1922)

[The Three Penny Opera](#) by [Kurt Weill](#) (1928)

[Mies van der Rohe German Pavilion](#) (1929)

[Porgy and Bess](#) by [George Gershwin](#) (1935)

[Golden Gate Bridge](#) completed (1937)

**LITERATURE &
THEATER**

[The Interpretation of Dreams](#) by [Sigmund Freud](#) (1900)

[The Hound of the Baskervilles](#) by [Sir Arthur Conan Doyle](#) (1902)

[The Three Sisters](#) by [Anton Chekov](#) (1902)

[The Tale of Peter Rabbit](#) by [Beatrix Potter](#) (1902)

[Peter Pan](#) by [James Barrie](#) (1904)

[Anne of Green Gables](#) by [Lucy Montgomery](#) (1908)

[The Great Gatsby](#) by [F. Scott Fitzgerald](#) (1925)

[The Sound and the Fury](#) by [William Faulkner](#) (1929)

[Of Mice and Men](#) (1937) and [The Grapes of Wrath](#) by [John Steinbeck](#) (1939)

[The Hobbit](#) by [JRR Tolkien](#) (1937)

[Our Town](#) by [Thornton Wilder](#) (1938)

[The Glass Menagerie](#) by [Tennessee Williams](#) (1944)

**AMERICAN &
WORLD HISTORY**

- First daily comic strip "Mr. Mutt" (eventually "[Mutt & Jeff](#)") began in the San Francisco Chronicle (1907)
- [Panama Canal](#) opened (1914)
- [World War I](#) (1914-18)
- [Bolshevik Revolution](#) in Russia overthrew Tsar Nicholas II (1917)
- [18th Amendment](#) created Prohibition was passed (1917)
- [19th Amendment](#) ratified allowing US women to vote (1920)
- [Fascist revolution](#) in Italy (1922)
- [Charles Lindbergh](#) flew solo over the Atlantic (1927)
- [Josef Stalin](#) became dictator of Russia (1924)
- [New York Stock Market crash](#); worldwide depression (1929)
- [Japan invaded Manchuria](#) (1931)
- [Franklin D. Roosevelt](#) elected President (1933)
- [Adolf Hitler](#) became Chancellor of Germany (1933)
- [Spanish Civil War](#) (1936-39)
- [World War II](#) began in Europe when Germany invaded Poland (1939)
- United States entered World War II when Japan bombed [Pearl Harbor](#), Hawaii (Dec. 7, 1941)

**SCIENCE &
TECHNOLOGY**

[Orville Wright](#) makes his first airplane flight in Kitty Hawk, NC (1903)

Ford Motor Company produces the first [Model "T"](#) (1908)

[Robert Peary](#) discovers the North Pole (1909)

[Albert Einstein](#) published the [General Theory of Relativity](#) (1915)

First radio news program broadcast (1920)

First person with diabetes treated with [insulin](#) developed by [Banting](#) and [Macleod](#) (1922)

First [television](#) transmission (1928)

Discovery of the [neutron](#) (1932) and [nuclear fission](#) (1938)

First [experiments with penicillin](#) (1940)

United States developed and dropped two atomic bombs on [Hiroshima and Nagasaki](#), Japan, ending World War II (1945)

The 20th Century
1900 - 1999 (cont.)

ORCHESTRAL MUSIC
(COMPOSERS & COMPOSITIONS)

[Symphony No. 3](#) by Aaron Copland (1946)

[The Typewriter](#) by [Leroy Anderson](#) (1950)

[Music of Changes](#) by [John Cage](#) (1951)

Sergei Prokofiev died 1953

[Symphony No. 6](#) by [Bohuslav Martinů](#) (1953)

[Variations for Orchestra](#) by [Elliot Carter](#) (1954-55)

Cellist [Yo-Yo Ma](#) was born 1955

[A Jazz Symphony](#) by [George Antheil](#) (orig. 1925, revised 1955)

[Poème Électronique](#) by [Varèse](#) composed for the Brussels World Fair (1958)

[Threnody for the Victims of Hiroshima](#) by [Krzysztof Penderecki](#) (1960)

[Variations on a Theme by Hindemith](#) by [William Walton](#) (1962-63)

[Ancient Voices of Children](#) by [George Crumb](#) (1970)

ART, OPERA & CULTURE

[Oklahoma](#) (by [Rodgers and Hammerstein](#)) (1943)

[Benjamin Britten's Peter Grimes](#) (1945), [Albert Herring](#) (1947), [Billy Budd](#) (1951)

[The King and I](#) by [Rodgers and Hammerstein](#) (1951)

[Gian Carlo Menotti](#) composes [Amahl and the Night Visitors](#) (1951)

[Marian Anderson](#) debuted at the Met (1955)

[Maria Callas](#) debuted at the Met (1956)

[Leonard Bernstein](#) composed [West Side Story](#) (1957)

[Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band](#) by [The Beatles](#) (1967)

[Woodstock](#) rock festival (1969)

LITERATURE & THEATER

[Death of a Salesman](#) by [Arthur Miller](#) (1949)

[The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe](#) by [C.S. Lewis](#) (1950)

[Cat on a Hot Tin Roof](#) by [Tennessee Williams](#) (1955)

[The Cat in the Hat](#) by [Dr. Seuss](#) (1957)

[To Kill a Mockingbird](#) by [Harper Lee](#) (1961)

[One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest](#) by [Ken Kesey](#) (1962)

[One Hundred Years of Solitude](#) by [Gabriel García Márquez](#) (1967)

[The Bluest Eye](#) by [Toni Morrison](#) (1970)

[Jonathan Livingston Seagull](#) by [Richard Bach](#) (1970)

[All the President's Men](#) by [Bob Woodward & Carl Bernstein](#) (1974)

[Roots](#) by [Alex Haley](#) (1976)

AMERICAN & WORLD HISTORY

- [Nuremberg Trials](#) (1945-49)
- [Korean War](#) (1950-53)
- [Alaska](#) and [Hawaii](#) become the 49th and 50th states (1959)
- [Berlin Wall](#) built (1961)
- President [John F. Kennedy](#) is assassinated in Dallas (1963)
- [Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.](#) received Nobel Peace Prize (1964)
- [USSR invaded Czechoslovakia](#) (1968)
- Senator [Robert F. Kennedy](#) assassinated in Los Angeles (1968)
- Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. assassinated in Memphis (1968)
- [26th Amendment](#) allowed 18 year olds to vote (1971)
- Beginning of [Watergate scandal](#) (1972)
- [Shirley Chisholm](#) ran for President (1972)
- 19 Israeli athletes and trainers were killed at the [Munich Olympic games](#) (1972)
- End of official United States involvement in [Vietnam war](#) (1973)
- [Frank Robinson](#) became the first African-American to manage a major league baseball team (1974)
- President [Richard Nixon](#) resigned from office (1974)

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

[Crick and Watson](#) publish their discovery of the structure of DNA (1953)

[Mass polio vaccinations](#) began in Pittsburgh (1954)

USSR launched [Sputnik](#) (1957)

[Jane Goodall](#) began her behavioral study of chimpanzees in Tanganyika (1960)

First moon rockets (1959) and [first manned space flights](#) (1961)

American astronaut [Neil Armstrong](#) walked on the moon (1969)

First "[Tommy John](#)" elbow surgery (1974)

[Atari 2600](#) is first successful gaming console (1975)

Discovery that fluorocarbons from spray cans can cause damage to the [ozone layer](#) (1976)

The 20th Century
1900 - 1999 (cont.)

**ORCHESTRAL MUSIC
(COMPOSERS & COMPOSITIONS)**

[Frank Zappa](#) collaborated with Zubin Mehta and LA Philharmonic (1970)

[Mass](#) by Leonard Bernstein and [Stephen Schwartz](#) (1971)

[Air Music](#) by [Ned Rorem](#) (1976)

[Harmonielehre](#) by [John Adams](#) (1984-85)

[Old and Lost Rivers](#) by [Tobias Picker](#) (1986)

[Trailing Vortices](#) by [William Susman](#) (1986)

[Of Reminiscences and Reflections](#) by [Gunther Schuller](#) (1993)

[IN-SCHRIFT](#) by [Wolfgang Rihm](#) (1995)

[Heaven Earth Mankind: Symphony 1997](#) by [Tan Dun](#) (1997)

[Asyla](#) by [Thomas Adès](#) (1997) won Grawemeyer Award (2000)

**ART, OPERA &
CULTURE**

Opening of [Lincoln Center](#) (1966)

[Of Mice and Men](#) by [Carlisle Floyd](#) (1970)

Jim Morrison ([The Doors](#)) (1971), **Janis Joplin** (1970) and **Jimi Hendrix** (1970) and **Elvis Presley** (1977) all die from drugs and/or alcohol overdoses

Rock opera [Tommy](#) by [The Who](#) (1975)

[Star Wars](#) (1977)

[Sweeney Todd](#) by [Stephen Sondheim](#) (1979)

[MTV](#) (1981)

"[Live Aid](#)" (1985)

[Nixon in China](#) by John Adams (1987)

[The Ghosts of Versailles](#) by [John Corigliano](#) (1991)

[Marco Polo](#) by Tan Dun (1996)

[Little Women](#) by [Mark Adamo](#) (1998)

**LITERATURE &
THEATER**

[Watership Down](#) by [Richard Adams](#) (1975)

[A Chorus Line](#) by [Marvin Hamlisch](#) (1975)

[Cosmos](#) (book and TV series) by Carl Sagan (1980)

Musical theater had a resurgence of popularity thanks to [Little Shop of Horrors](#), [Cats](#), [Big River](#), [Les Misérables](#), [The Phantom of the Opera](#) and [Miss Saigon](#) (1982 - 1991)

[La Cage aux Folles](#) (1983)

[M. Butterfly](#) by [David Henry Hwang](#) (1988)

[John Grisham](#) wrote [The Firm](#) (1991) and [The Pelican Brief](#) (1992)

[Jonathan Larson's Rent](#), opened on Broadway and won the Tony for Best Musical (1996)

Disney ventured into musical theater with [Beauty and the Beast](#) (1994), [The Lion King](#) (1997), and [Aida](#) (1999)

**AMERICAN &
WORLD HISTORY**

- United States celebrated the [Bicentennial](#) (1976)
- [Ronald Reagan](#) elected President of the United States (1980-88)
- Egyptian President [Anwar Sadat](#) assassinated (1981)
- [George HW Bush](#) elected President of the United States (1988-92)
- [Nelson Mandela](#) freed from prison (1990) and elected President of South Africa (1994)
- [East and West Germany](#) reunited (1990)
- Dissolution of the [Union of Soviet Socialist Republics](#) (1991)
- [First Gulf War](#) in Iraq (1991)
- The [World Wide Web](#) was launched (1991)
- [William Jefferson Clinton](#) elected President (1992 - 2000)
- [Northridge](#) earthquake in Southern California (1994)
- Bombing of the [Murrah Federal Building](#) in Oklahoma City (1995)
- Israeli Prime Minister [Yitzhak Rabin](#) assassinated (1995)
- [Princess Diana](#) was killed in a car accident in Paris (1997)
- [NATO](#) air strike campaign in Serbia (1999)

**SCIENCE &
TECHNOLOGY**

[Cray-1](#) supercomputer (1976)

First [MRI](#) scanner (1977)

First "[test tube baby](#)" born in England (1978)

First implantation of artificial heart, the [Jarvik-7](#) (1982)

First [Apple Macintosh](#) personal computer (1984)

Wreck of [Titanic](#) discovered (1985)

Launch of the [Hubble Space Telescope](#) (1990)

[Human Genome Project](#) began (1990)

[DVD](#) invented (1995)

[Mars Pathfinder](#) launched (1996)

[Jacques Cousteau](#) died (1997)

Concern over potential [Y2K](#) computer problems (1999)

ORCHESTRAL MUSIC (COMPOSERS & COMPOSITIONS)

[Tempest Fantasy](#) by [Paul Moravec](#) (2002) won Pulitzer Prize in music

[Violin Concerto](#) by [Unsuik Chin](#) (2003) won Grawemeyer award

[Stockholm Diary](#) by [Esa-Pekka Salonen](#) (2004)

[Zodiac Tales](#) by [Bright Sheng](#) (2005)

[Violin Concerto](#) by [Jennifer Higdon](#) (2008) won Pulitzer Prize in music

First performance of [YouTube Symphony](#) (2009)

[Mothership](#) by [Mason Bates](#) (2011)

[IN-SCHRIFT 2](#) by Wolfgang Rihm (2013) won Grawemeyer award

[Totentanz](#) by Thomas Adès (2013)

[Play](#) by [Andrew Norman](#) (2013)

[Become Ocean](#) by [John Luther Adams](#) (2014) won Pulitzer Prize in music

[Mixed Messages](#) by [Nico Muhly](#) (2015)

ART, OPERA & CULTURE

[Cold Sassy Tree](#) by [Carlisle Floyd](#) (2000)

[Dead Man Walking](#) by Jake Heggie (2000)

First American Idol winner is [Kelly Clarkson](#) (2002)

Legendary singer [Johnny Cash](#) died (2003)

[Ainadamar](#) by Osvaldo Golijov (2005)

Police recover stolen Munch painting [The Scream](#) (2006)

[Luciano Pavarotti](#) died (2007)

Illustrator and author [Tasha Tudor](#) died (2008)

[Amelia](#) by Daron Hagen (2009)

[Moby Dick](#) by Jake Heggie (2010)

[Silent Night](#) by Kevin Puts (2011)

[The Shining](#) by Paul Moravec (2016)

LITERATURE & THEATER

Final [Peanuts](#) comic strip is published. Creator [Charles Schultz](#) died (2000)

[Proof](#) opened on Broadway (2000)

[The Lord of the Rings: Fellowship of the Ring](#) (2001)

[Doubt: a Parable](#) opened off-Broadway (2004)

[JK Rowling](#) released final book in the Harry Potter series; [Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows](#) (July 21, 2007)

Science Fiction writer [Arthur C. Clarke](#) died (2008)

[Jurassic Park](#) writer [Michael Crichton](#) died (2008)

[The Hunger Games](#) book trilogy (2008-10) by Suzanne Collins

[The Night Circus](#) by Erin Morgenstern (2011)

[Gone Girl](#) by Gillian Flynn (2012)

[Harry Potter and the Cursed Child](#) play in London's West End (2016)

AMERICAN & WORLD HISTORY

- [Sydney Olympic Games](#) (2000)
- [George W. Bush](#) won Presidential election (2000)
- Terrorists used commercial airplanes to attack the World Trade Center Towers in New York City, and the Pentagon in Washington DC. The fourth plane targeting the White House was brought down in Pennsylvania ([September 11, 2001](#))
- The [Iraq War](#) (2003-11)
- [Tsunamis](#) killed over 200,000 throughout Thailand, Indonesia, India and Sri Lanka (2004)
- [Pope John Paul II](#) died (2005)
- July 7 [London bombing](#) (2005)
- Pakistan's former Prime Minister [Benazir Bhutto](#) was assassinated (2007)
- United States elected the first African-American President, [Barack Obama](#) (2008) and he was re-elected four years later (2012)
- Death of North Korean leader [Kim Jong-il](#) (2011)
- [Syrian Civil War](#) (2011-present)
- Jorge Mario Bergoglio ([Pope Francis](#)) elected (2013)
- [Referendum vote](#) in Scotland kept country in UK (2014)
- [Ebola virus outbreak](#) in West Africa (2014)

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Toyota released the [Prius](#) hybrid car worldwide (2000)

Ginger (the [Segway](#)) invented by Dean Kamen (2001)

[Total artificial heart](#) (AbioCor) and [liver](#) (Dr. Kenneth Matsumura) invented (2001)

[iPod](#) by Apple (2001)

[Millennium Bridge](#) built in Gateshead, UK (2001)

Completion of [Human Genome Project](#) (2003)

[Facebook](#) (2004), [YouTube](#) (2005), [Twitter](#) (2006)

[Pluto](#) re-classified as dwarf planet (2006)

World's largest [Hadron Collider](#) tested (2008)

[Hubble](#) telescope discovered moon orbiting Pluto (2011)

[Rosetta spacecraft](#) landed on a comet (2014)

[New Horizons](#) spacecraft flew by Pluto (2015)