

Art and Music

1. Maurice Ravel (1875-1937)
 - a. Born in France (Father: Swiss and Mother Basque)
 - b. His own personal style
 - i. One of the most precise and refined composer at that time
 - ii. Profession in form and style
 - 1) Igor Stravinsky : [Ravel is] the most perfect of Swiss watchmakers.
 - iii. Delicate
 - c. "Boléro" (1928)
2. Modest Mussorgsky
 - a. A Russian Composer
 - b. One of "The Russian Five":
A group of five Russian composers to incorporate natural and folk music elements into classical music
3. "Pictures at an Exhibition"
 - a. Modest Mussorgsky, "Pictures at an Exhibition", original version for piano (1874).
 - b. Viktor Hartmann
 - i. A Russian artist of Jewish origin
 - 1) A painting exhibition
 - 2) Mussorgsky visited his exhibition
 - a) To express it in music
 - b) A piano soda at first
 - c) 1874 "Pictures at an Exhibition"
 - c. Almost half a century later
 - i. **1922** , Maurice Ravel orchestration of the "Pictures at an exhibition"
 - ii. To orchestrate
 - 1) Each particular instrument has its own color and quality
 - a) Own color and own tone
 - 2) The tune and melody: provided Mussorgsky
 - 3) Rave: provide an entirely different texture to the piece
 - 4) Play more often than original piano one
 - 5) Each sequence represent a painting
 - 6) Link by a short theme: promenade
 - a) The visitor walking from one painting to another
 - 7) 10 in total
 - 8) Start with the promenade, the repeat to the 2nd, 3rd...
 - 9) Same melody with a little variation every time
4. Music Listen
 - a. Promenade
 - b. "Il vecchio castello"
 - c. The Old Castle
 - i. Use a saxophone : unconventional in classical music
 - ii. Saxophone: invented by Adolphe Sax (1846)
 - iii. A Belgium instrument maker
 - 1) Didn't know how to make money
 - 2) Many of his inventions were accepted by French Army beds
 - 3) Sued by other instrumentalist to remove patent
 - 4) Involved in lawsuit for 10 years
 - 5) Die in abject poverty
 - d. Ballet of the Unhatched Chicks
 - i. Little kids performing in children's ballet
5. Maurice Ravel, "Bolero" (1928)
 - a. An exercise in orchestration

- b. He composed by himself, trying different instruments
- c. A piece that last 17 minutes
 - i. A single melody, repeated over and over again
 - ii. By different instruments or instrument sections
 - iii. 17 minutes of orchestra without music
- d. Only the percussionist: never stops

Popular Music

- 6. Edith Piaf (born **Edith Giovanna Gassion**)
 - a. Born in Paris
 - b. Father : street acrobat Mother : street singer
 - c. Abandoned by her mother, so go with her father
 - d. No permit to perform on public space
 - i. Avoid police --- struggle for living
 - e. "The street was my music school"
 - f. 19 years old, she was spotted by a night-club owner and give him her stage name
 - i. La mome Piaf
 - 1) Mome = urchin, waif, kid Piaf = sparrow
 - ii. First big formal show
 - 1) Black dress: Insisting on wearing black for luck from then on
 - iii. Symbolized the poor, successful street kids
 - iv. So conventional to shock the world music pools
 - g. Greatest hit
 - i. "La Vie en rose" (1946) [Life in Pink]
 - ii. Associated with Paris, love, their attitude toward life
 - iii. See the world from rose-color glasses
 - h. Edith Piaf mentored
 - i. Yves Montand
 - ii. Charles Aznavour
 - iii. Francis Lai
 - i. Listen: theme of an American Movie in 1970s.
 - i. Francis Lai, theme of "Love Story" (1970)
- 7. Maurice Chevalier
 - a. Trademark
 - i. French accent
 - ii. Straw head
 - iii. French gentleman
 - iv. Play in many French and Hollywood movies
 - v. Al Jolson: [Maurice Chevalier is] the greatest thing to come from France since Alfayette.
 - vi. "Love in the Afternoon" (1957)
 - vii. "Gigi" (1958)
 - viii. Title song "The Aristocrats" (1970)
 - 1) At the age of 82
- 8. Charles Trenet
 - a. "La Mer" (1950)
 - b. Innocent smile when singing
 - c. Translated into many languages
 - d. Also known for his sense of humor
 - i. "Walking in my funeral march"
 - e. 4000 different versions (musical or language)
 - f. "BEYOND THE SEA"
 - i. A movie on Bobby Darin
- 9. "French Kiss"
 - a. La Vie En Rose