

Outline – More Materials of Form – Introduction to the Classic Period

Themes and Thematic Development – “Topics”

Motives & building up of themes from motives

Ostinato

Sonata Cycle (symphony, sonata, quartet, trio, quintet)

Sonata-allegro form

Exposition – development – recapitulation

Harmonic progression

Thematic progression

Slow movement

Song Form

Variation form

Rondo form

Minuet & Trio

Compound Ternary (A B da Capo)

aba' cdc'

Finale

Sonata-allegro or rondo form

## Classic Period study guide (Weeks 6.2 – 7.1)

Sonata-allegro form (first movement of most symphonies, sonatas, quartets, trios etc. usually fast or moderately fast)

**Introduction** (optional – not part of sonata-allegro form, per se; introduction most often **slow**)

### **Exposition**

1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> theme (theme group preferred)

Bridge

Modulation

Tonic & Dominant

Cadence

Repeat of Exposition

### **Development**

Modulation

Fragmentation & Sequence of thematic material

Increase of musical tension; leads to:

### **Recapitulation**

Restatement of 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> theme groups

No (permanent) modulation to dominant

Longer symphonies will feature somewhat “developmental” recapitulation (ie. Beethoven 5<sup>th</sup>)

(Recap of 2<sup>nd</sup> theme group in tonic)

**Coda** (optional “tail” or concluding section)

**Sonata** (as a **genre**, ie piano sonata, violin sonata, sonata for flute, violin and piano) – multi-movement solo or chamber work for solo instrument or small ensemble)

**Sonata cycle** (ie symphonies, quartets, sonatas, concertos). Concertos normally omit minuet & trio third movement

distinguish between the terms ‘sonata,’ ‘sonata-allegro,’ and ‘sonata cycle.’

Emergence of 18<sup>th</sup> century “Classical” style

Galant style

Rise of German instrumental music  
replacing Italian opera dominance

Mannheim orchestra

Viennese musical culture

Patronage

Mozart, Haydn Beethoven

Chamber genres & style

Divertimento & Serenade

Trio, Quartet, Quintet

Symphonic genres & style

Symphony, concerto, overture

Emergence of public concerts of  
instrumental music

18<sup>th</sup> century concerto (3-mov't sonata-cycle piece)  
Emergence of technically refined fortepiano  
& woodwind instruments; three competing  
forces on stage: piano; orchestral strings;  
orchestral winds.

Note similarities between concerto and operatic  
scene

### **Concerto form**

- 1<sup>st</sup> mov't – fast (modified sonata-allegro  
form w/ double Exposition)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> mov't: slow – song form (ABA), theme  
& variations, or rondo
- 3<sup>rd</sup> mov't - fast finale: rondo (or sonata-  
rondo) form

Term to know: Cadenza

### Classic Period Opera

Opera seria vs. Opera buffa

Other terms: scene; act; finale; recitative;  
aria; ensemble; overture (frequently sonata-  
allegro form); buffo basso; pant role

Mozart's most important operas: The Marriage of  
Figaro, Don Giovanni (libretti by Lorenzo  
Da Ponte), The Magic Flute ("singspiel")  
singspiel=lighter form of operatic  
entertainment in Germany/Austria w/  
spoken dialogue and libretto in  
German