

THE RENAISSANCE

1450

MUSIC

The era from about 1450–1600 was featured in the halls of the nobility. Two entertaining forms of secular songs were the madrigal and the villanico, sung by 4 or 5 voices at many special occasions. Instrumental music became popular as new string, brass and woodwind instruments were developed. A form of church music was the motet, with 3 or 4 independent vocal parts. New forms of church music developed. In the new protestant churches, the entire congregation sang chorales: simple HARMONIZED melodies in even rhythms like the hymns we hear today. Important Renaissance composers were:

- Josquin des Prez (c. 1450-1521) *Tu pauperum refugium**

- Giovanni da Palestrina (c. 1529-1594) *Alma redemptoris mater**
- Orlando di Lasso (c. 1532-1594) *Tutto lo di mi dici "Canta"**
- Tomas Luis de Victoria (c. 1549-1611) *Vere languores**
- Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi (c. 1550-1622)
- Thomas Weelkes (c. 1575-1623)

- *In Pride of May**

- Protestant church music

- First printed music
- Madrigals

**music featured in Essential Repertoire*

1450

ART & LITERATURE

- Leonardo da Vinci, scientist/artist
(Mona Lisa, The Last Supper)

- Michelangelo, artist
(Sistine Chapel, David)

- Machiavelli,
author *(The Prince)*



- Shakespeare, author
(Romeo and Juliet, Hamlet)

1600

1450

WORLD EVENTS

- Gutenberg invents printing press (1454)

- Columbus travels to America (1492)

- Magellan circles globe (1519)

- Copernicus begins modern astronomy (1543)

- First European contact with Japan (1549)

- Elizabeth I becomes Queen of England (1558)

