# The Baroque Era

1600-1750

## From Renaissance to Baroque

- From technical to emotional
  - Tempo changes
  - Terrace dynamics
  - Crescendo, diminuendo
  - Major and minor tonalities
- Opera
  - Monody
- Instrumental Music
  - Large orchestra
  - Larger variety of instruments
  - Wider tone colors
  - Concerto grosso and concertos
  - Keyboard works

## The Term Baroque

- Derived from the Italian barroco meaning
  "bizarre"
- Jean Baptiste Rousseau
  - French Poet
  - Criticized Italian composers
  - "in which harmony is confused"

## Opera

- Development of monody
- Camerata
  - Poets, writers, musicians and composers
  - Revived ancient Greek drama
  - Solo voice with exaggerated speech
    - Stile rappresentativo
  - Le nuove musiche
- Dafne
  - 1597 composed by Jacopo Peri
  - "Drama through music"
  - Opera derived from the Latin word for "work" as in "work of art" came into common use in the early 1600s

### Claudio Monteverdi 1567-1643

- Virtuoso violin player
- Revived the Opera



- Wrote his first madrigals at age 17
- The Fable of Orpheus



- His first Opera
- It was a triumph
- First use of the modern orchestra
- Pizzicato and tremolo

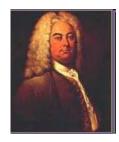
#### Antonio Vivaldi 1678-1741

- Very prolific composer
  - 50 Operas
  - 40 pieces for choir and orchestra
  - 100 works for orchestra alone
  - Nearly 500 concertos
  - Violin concertos
  - Crescendos and diminuendos
- Known as "The Red Priest"
  - Wasn't a priest very long
- Most famous work
  - Four Seasons



## George Frederic Handel 1685-1759

- Well known during his time
- Noted for his explosive temperament
- Wrote 36 operas
- Wrote many oratorios
- Most Famous Work
  - Messiah



## Baroque Keyboard Music

- Germany and northern Europe
  - School of mostly religious baroque music
  - Large pipe organs
  - Dietrich Buxtehude
    - Toccatas
      - Brilliant pieces of rapid music

#### Johann Sebastian Bach

The second secon

- The musical Bachs
- J.S. Bach
  - Studied with Buxtehude
  - Noted organist and organ repairman while alive
  - Reprimanded for his new style of playing
  - Music full of counterpoint
    - Wrote many fugues
  - Most of his works not published during his lifetime
  - Most famous work
    - Brandenburg Concertos
      - Never heard it performed
  - Died July 28, 1750
    - Date marked the end of the Baroque