

Concise History of Western Music, 4e: Chapter 18 The Early Romantics

Title	Description
Absolute music	Music that is independent of words, drama, visual images, or any kind of representation.
Program music	Instrumental music that tells a story or follows a narrative or other sequence of events, often spelled out in an accompanying text called a program.
Lied	(German, "song"; pl. Lieder) A song with German words, for voice with accompaniment; used especially for songs for voice and piano in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.
Ballad	(1) A long narrative poem, or a musical setting of such a poem. (2) A late-eighteenth-century German poetic form that imitated the folk ballad of England and Scotland and was set to music by German composers. The ballad expanded the Lied in both form and emotional content.
Song cycle	A group of songs performed in succession that tells or suggests a story.
Modified strophic form	A variant of strophic form in which the music for the first stanza is varied for later stanzas or in which there is a change of key, rhythm, character, or material between stanzas.
Mazurka	A type of Polish folk dance (and later ballroom dance) in triple meter characterized by accents on the second or third beat and often by dotted figures on the first beat, or a stylized piano piece based on such a dance.
Polonaise	A stately Polish processional dance in triple meter, or a piece in the style of such a dance.
Nocturne	A type of short piano piece popular during the Romantic period marked by highly embellished melody, sonorous accompaniments, and a contemplative mood.
Recital	Term popularized by Franz Liszt for his solo piano performances and used today for any presentation given by a single performer or a small group.