



Palace of Versailles

Key points

Italy to France

Absolute monarchy

Nobility

Ballet, Menuetto

Opera, tragedies

Period of Chamber music

Blended style of French and Italian

Concerto, Sonata

Stringed instrument

Basso continuo

Lesson 5 French(+ Italian) Baroque



French Baroque at Versailles Louis XIV's court



Louis XIV(1638 - 1715)

Absolute monarchy is a form of monarchy in which the monarch holds supreme autocratic authority.

Facts You Didn't Know About
King Louis XIV of France

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WFUQ85wUeCQ>



An adherent of the concept of the divine right of kings, Louis continued his predecessors' work of creating a centralised state. He tried to eliminate the remnants of feudalism persisting in parts of France by compelling many members of the nobility to inhabit his lavish Palace of Versailles.

Lully: Le Roi Danse

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=15ouTM7Nx14>



Louis loved ballet and frequently danced in court during the early half of his reign.

The King Who Invented Ballet: Louis XIV and the Noble Art of Dance (BBC Documentary) 1:02

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NTJlIFhg85Q>

Big Producer of the Royal performances: Jean-Baptiste Lully (1632-1687)

Many festivities and entertainment at the big Hall

Ballet de la Nuit of Lully attracted the young Louis XIV.

The *Ballet de la Nuit* : the four Watches (*veilles*) of the night, begin at 6 o'clock in the evening and end at 6 o'clock in the morning: the first watch (sunset) from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.; the second, from 9 p.m. to 12 a.m.; the third, from 12 a.m. to 3 a.m., and the fourth (sunrise), from 3 a.m. to 6 a.m. an extravagant court spectacle featuring forty-five entrees and three ballets within a ballet. It takes about 13 hours to perform. The plot included mythological goddesses such as [Venus](#) and [Diana](#).

L'Orchestre du Roi Soleil. Jean-Baptiste Lully
<https://youtu.be/yKINBLE7Pho>

J.B Lully Ballet de la Nuit 1653 (Ouverture)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PdeqbpfxaK8>



Salle du Petit-Bourbon]
ベルサイユ劇場



Jean-Baptiste Lully,
around 1670

Work with Molière

Jean-Baptiste Lully / Molière: "Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme", LWV 43
– Bremer Barockorchester

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iIYWwuQBZKM>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tnEA97H8OeQ>

Period of chamber music



Organist in the Church of Saint-Gervais-Saint in Paris



Les Concerts Royaux. François Couperin
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gAh8b2jW3hU>

François Couperin (1668 – 1733)

a French Baroque composer, organist and harpsichordist. Known as *Couperin le Grand* ("Couperin the Great") to distinguish him from other members of Couperin family.

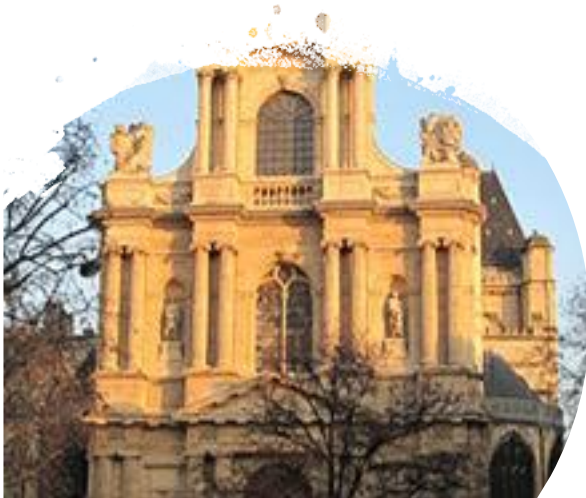
His most famous book, *The Art of Playing the Harpsichord*

Pieces de clavecin Francois Couperin
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gm3Ep0_-cpc

This work was followed by French composer [Jean-Philippe Rameau](#) (1683 – 1764). He also wrote three books of *Pièces de clavecin* for the harpsichord.

Couperin acknowledged his debt to the Italian composer [Corelli](#). He introduced Corelli's trio sonata form to France.

Let us look at Corelli's work.



Arcangelo Corelli (1653 –1713):

an Italian violinist and composer of the Baroque era.
Key person in the development of the modern genres of sonata and concerto, the preeminence of the violin, the pioneer of modern tonality and functional harmony.



Born in Emilia-Romagna
Fusignano



Studied in Bologna

Arcangelo Corelli Sonate da Chiesa Op.3,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MkKiQf13S9s>

Arcangelo Corelli 12 Trio Sonatas Op.1
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k18L5ms73MM>

In 1687 Corelli organized the festival of music performances dedicated for Queen Christina of Sweden.

Christina, Queen of Sweden (1626 – 1689)

Christina is remembered as one of the most learned women of the 17th century.

As a member of the [House of Vasa](#), began ruling the [Swedish Empire](#) when she reached the age of 18. She was fond of books, manuscripts, paintings, and sculptures. With her interest in religion, philosophy, mathematics and alchemy, she attracted many scientists to Stockholm, to transform the city to the "Athens of the North".



what is Baroque style?

- **Affect the soul, bring emotion to the music, Joy, sorrow, love, hate, wonder, and desire.**
- **Influence of scientific and philosophical changes.**
- **Isaac Newton theorized the laws of gravity**
- **Royal courts were growing richer and more powerful**
- **Major and minor tonalities.**
- **Offer clear expression of the affections**
- **Decorate the melodies with the harmonies.**
- **Basso Continuo 通奏低音**
- **the use of ornamentation**
- **Use driving rhythms and dramatic pauses to intensify the music Rhythm**
- **Bach's 'Toccatà and Fugue in d minor**

