

## **CLASSICAL MUSIC::**

The term Classical has many meanings. It can mean -- 'any western music that happens on a concert music stage' which isn't obviously Jazz or popular music. It can mean 'music from the past which reaches the - 'universal' - and 'transcends its own time' - The great musician Wynton Marsalis (who is centered in the 'Jazz' tradition) uses terms like 'Classical Jazz' for American composers like Duke Ellington or Louis Armstrong. Also - 'the root music of a culture' - I used this definition when teaching 'world-music' - i.e. there is Classical Indian Music, Classical African Music, Classical European Music, etc. For classical European music, which is the center-point for our work, I favor a more complete definition - 'music inspired by the ideals of classical civilization (i.e. early Greece-Rome)'. When teaching a unit titled 'Music and Science', I developed the definition of classical music and art - 'The Science of Human Perception'.

Another common meaning, for use in the discussion of European music history is 'music composed specifically during the time period of approx. 1730 to 1820'. It is then often divided into early classical and later classical periods, every historian has a slightly different take. For our purposes we can think of the specific time period of the lives of Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven. This mighty trio of musicians all lived in the same city (Vienna) for most of their careers and had alot to do with each other. In the history books they refer to them as 'The 1st Viennese School' -- along with the other composers and musicians of their time which contributed to this time-period of music.