

Advanced Music History Trivia

Music History · Answer Key · 8 Questions

1. Which composer, born in 1685, is credited with composing the opera 'Rinaldo', first performed in London in 1711?

- A) Johann Sebastian Bach
- B) George Frideric Handel**
- C) Antonio Vivaldi
- D) Claudio Monteverdi

2. The earliest surviving manuscript of polyphonic music, the Winchester Troper, dates to approximately what year?

- A) 980 AD
- B) 1050 AD**
- C) 1120 AD
- D) 1200 AD

3. The premiere of Igor Stravinsky's ballet 'The Rite of Spring' in Paris on May 29, 1913, famously incited a riot. How many acts does the ballet have?

- A) One
- B) Two**
- C) Three
- D) Four

4. What is the exact year Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart completed his Symphony No. 40 in G minor, K. 550?

- A) 1787
- B) 1788**
- C) 1789
- D) 1790

5. Guido d'Arezzo, an influential music theorist of the Middle Ages, is credited with developing a system of notation that involved lines and spaces for pitch. Approximately what century did he live and work?

- A) 9th Century
- B) 10th Century
- C) 11th Century**
- D) 12th Century

6. The Paris Exposition of 1889 showcased music from various cultures. Which composer's encounter with Javanese gamelan music at this exposition profoundly influenced his later compositions, particularly his orchestral works?

A) Claude Debussy

B) Erik Satie

C) Maurice Ravel

D) Camille Saint-Saëns

7. The first opera, 'Dafne' (now lost), by Jacopo Peri, is generally considered to have premiered in what year?

A) 1597

B) 1598

C) 1599

D) 1600

8. Ludwig van Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 in D minor, Op. 125, famously incorporates vocal soloists and a chorus in its final movement. In what year was it first performed?

A) 1823

B) 1824

C) 1825

D) 1826