Classical Music History and Theory

Classical Music · Answer Key · 10 Questions

1. In what year did Johann Sebastian Bach complete his 'The Art of Fugue' (Die Kunst der Fuge), which remained unfinished at his death?

A) 1742
B) 1748
C) 1750
D) 1752

2. Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 in D minor, Op. 125, was officially premiered in Vienna on which date?

A) May 7, 1824
B) April 12, 1823
C) June 15, 1825
D) March 20, 1824

3. How many variations make up Johannes Brahms' 'Variations on a Theme by Haydn', Op. 56a?

A) 6
B) 8
C) 10
D) 12

4. Igor Stravinsky's 'The Rite of Spring' (Le Sacre du printemps) premiered at the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées on May 29 of which year?

A) 1911
B) 1912
C) 1913
D) 1914

5. What is the formal opus number assigned to Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's 'Jupiter' Symphony (No. 41 in C major)?

A) K. 550
B) K. 551
C) K. 543
D) K. 552

6. The premiere of Richard Wagner's four-opera cycle 'Der Ring des Nibelungen' took place in 1876 at which specific location?

A) Vienna State Opera
B) Berlin State Opera
C) Bayreuth Festspielhaus
D) Munich National Theatre

7. Frederic Chopin's 'Funeral March' is the third movement of which numbered Piano Sonata?

A) No. 1
B) No. 2
C) No. 3
D) No. 4

8. Claude Debussy completed his orchestral work 'Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune' in which year?

A) 1892
B) 1894
C) 1896
D) 1898

9. Gustav Mahler's Symphony No. 8, often called the 'Symphony of a Thousand', requires how many distinct vocal soloists?

A) 6
B) 7
C) 8
D) 9

10. Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's '1812 Overture', Op. 49, features the prominent use of what specific percussion instrument?

A) Timpani
B) Snare drum
C) Real cannon
D) Bass drum

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