

Evolution of Concerto, 1680-1750

Issues: 1) form: overall

movmt #1: Q- ritornello?

2) texture: homophony (Italian)

polyphony (German)

3) relation: orchestra (tutti)

w/ concertino → solo.

a) Arcangelo Corelli 1653-1713 (concerto grosso)

1) eclectic; two-part

2) harmonic; rich; homophonic.

3) concertino sounds like orchestra.

b) Antonio Vivaldi 1675-1741 (very modern)

1) tripartite; ritornello

2) pure homophony! virtuoso brilliance.

3) solo contrast

c) George F. Handel, 1685-1759 (reversion)

1) eclectic; unpredictable; entertainer.

2) homophony or polyphony 3) less contrast

d) Johann Sebastian Bach 1685-1750 (synthesis)

1) tripartite; modified, elusive ritornello.

2) strongly polyphonic.

3) great solo color; great complexity!
ingenuity.

e) Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart 1756-91 (classical)

1) tripartite; sonata-allegro form; architectonic.

2) clearly homophonic; highly lyrical.

3) strong contrast, although blended.

Concerto Form - first movements : 1685-1780

a) Arcangelo Corelli - ca. 1685.

Two-part.

Theme 1 — — — — — → close ; (repeat)

Theme 2 — — — — — → close. (repeat)

b) High baroque : Vivaldi > ca. 1700-1750.
Bach

Ritornello

Theme_F - interlude₁ - Th_{v2} - interlude₂ - Th_{v3}
- interlude₃ Theme_F.

where : Theme_F - full statement of theme
Th_{v2}, v₃, etc - subsequent restatements of theme ; usually varied.
interlude - musical material between theme statements, usually featuring solo.

c) Sonata-Allegro Form (principal movements of symphonies and concertos - classical period).

(Introduction) - sets mood ; prepares audience.

A. Exposition

(concerto = orchestra only first)

Subject I - cadence(s) - Subject II -

cadence(s) - Closing Subject.

B. Development = free form ; based on exposition material

eg. fragmentation, variation, modulation, inversion.

A. Recapitulation - repeat of Exposition ; usually abbre-

viated ; with significant small differences.

(concerto only = cadenza [show-off]).

Coda - "tail" - rounds off the movement ; (short in classical period ; extended in romantic).