

Characteristics of the Renaissance

- Mostly Contrapuntal
 - Music moves linearly not vertically
- Either church music or dances
- Mostly vocal
- Bar lines are mostly meaningless (esp. earlier)
- Cellular development
- Imitation
- Smaller forces – fewer people
- Instruments are ancient
- Unexpected harmonic shifts
- Few is any dynamics (until very late)
- Mostly middle tessituras
- Instruments include
 - Bagpipe
 - Crumhorn (double reed sound)
 - Sacbut (brass)
 - Cornetto (a “wood-brass” sound)
 - Shawm (oboe family)
 - Viol (String family)
 - Recorder (flute family)
 - Percussion
 - Organ
 - Lute
- Word painting