

# Baroque

1600 - 1750



# Baroque

- Baroque [buh-*roh*k] in french means “misshapen pearl”
- It was first used as a derogatory term for the architecture because it was very ornate
- It is also a good description of the music of the period that used a great deal of ornamentation



# Baroque

- The World
- Art
- Architecture
- Music





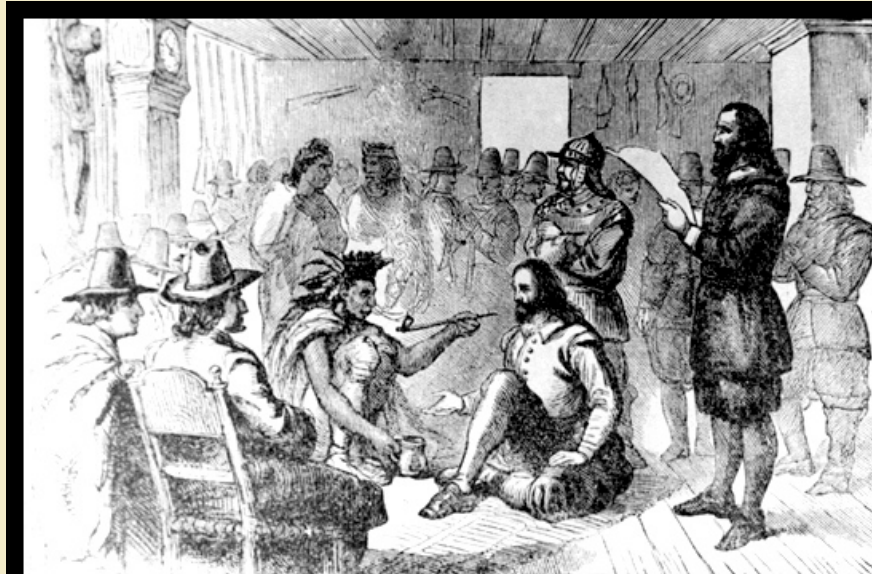
# The World

## Social



- It was the post-Elizabethan period in England
- Queen Elizabeth brought England from being very rough and uncultured to being one the most populated countries of the world





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Engraving. Library of Congress.

# The World

Social

The Pilgrims came to the New World



# The World

## Science

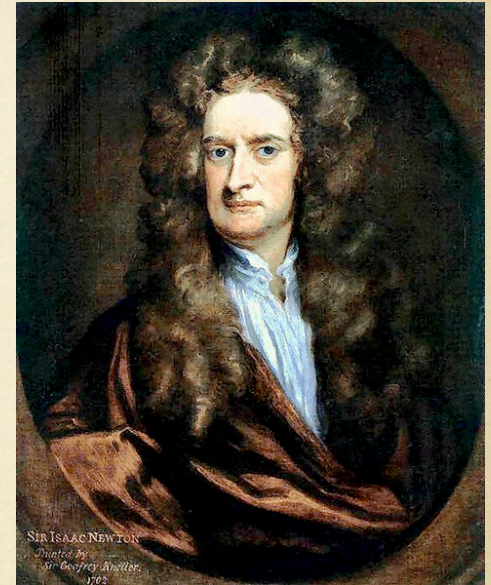


- Johannes Kepler
  - Studied mathematics and astrology
  - His calculations proved that the planets have elliptical orbits, move faster nearer the sun and he could calculate the time of each planets' orbit



# The World

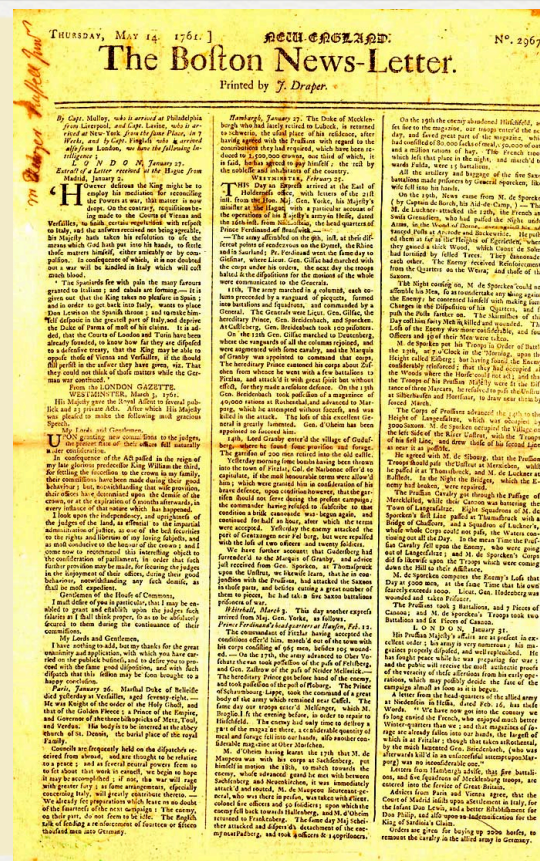
## Science



- Isaac Newton
  - Discovered the gravitational pull of the earth
  - Discovered the three laws of motion
    - These laws combined with the law of gravity proved Keplers theories of planetary motion



The first American  
newspaper was  
established April 17, 1704





# The World

Exploration

Vitus Bering  
discovers Alaska





# Art

- Baroque art developed around 1600
- It was a reaction against the *Mannerism* of the late Renaissance
- Mannerism is very intricate, over sized and formulaic



# Art

The Marriage of the  
Arnolfini's by Jan Van Eyck  
of the Renaissance period

This is one of the 7 mirror  
paintings





# Art

As you can see, the mirror in the painting shows the back of the entire scene

This is a good example of how complex paintings of the Renaissance could be





# Art

- Baroque painting is more realistic, less complex and more emotional than paintings of the late Renaissance
- Famous painters included Rembrandt, Bernini and Vermeer



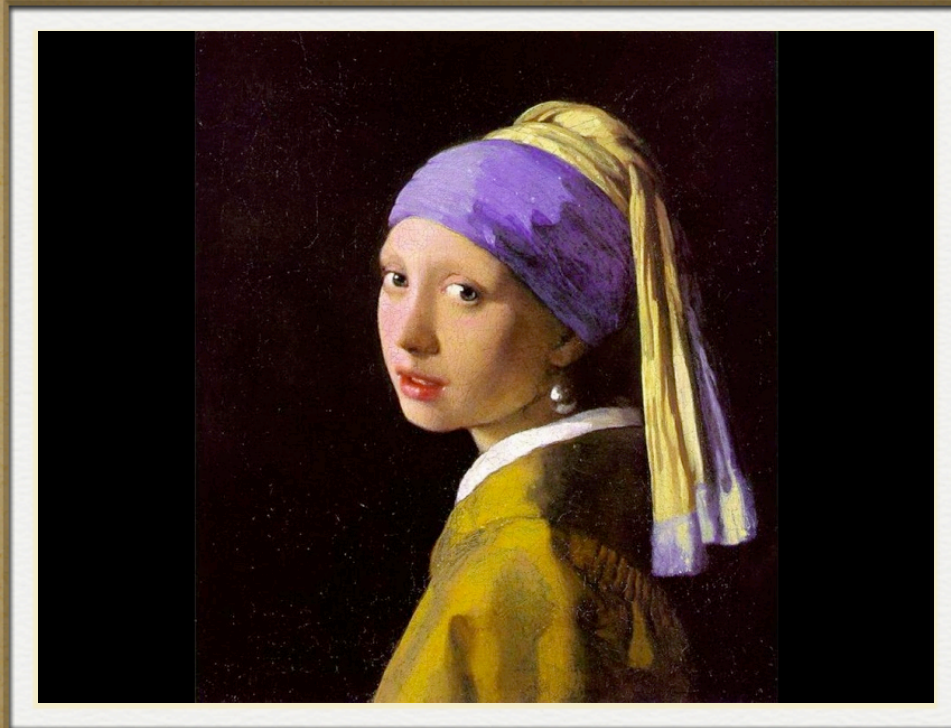
# Art

Mes a by Rembrandt

Notice that the painting  
appeals to the emotions







# Art

Girl with a Pearl Earring  
by Vermeer

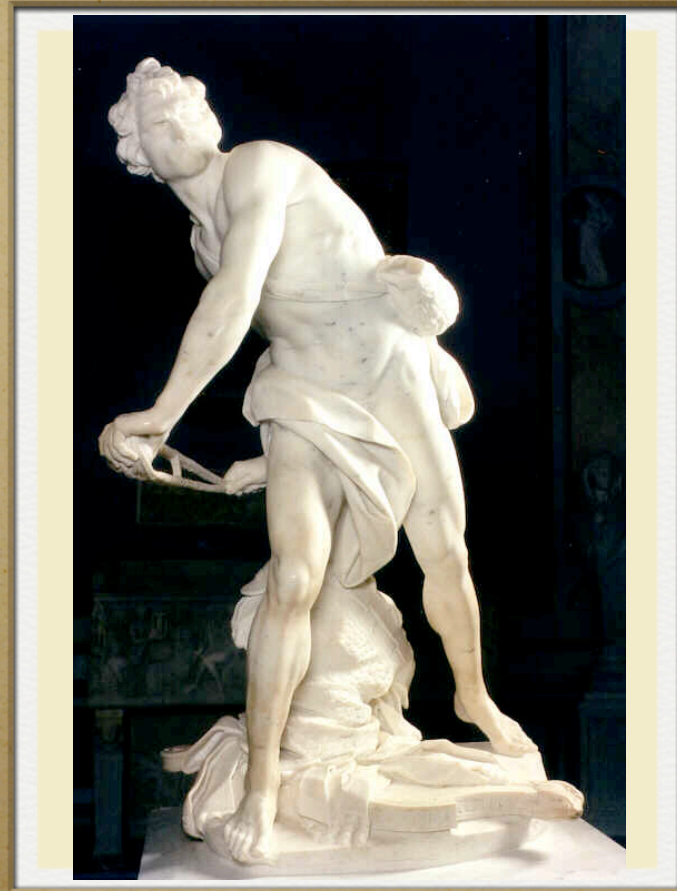
Notice that the figure looks more  
realistic than in the Van Eyck



# Art

David, a sculpture by  
Bernini

You can see the  
determination of David as  
he prepares to slay the  
giant





# Architecture

- Like art, baroque architecture got away from the balance and order of the Renaissance
- Architecture was very ornate





# Architecture

The Rialto Bridge  
in Venice, Italy



# Architecture

The church of  
San Benedetto





# Music

- Just as Art and Architecture rebelled against the formula types of the Renaissance, Music also became very ornate and appealed to one's emotions



# Music

## Polyphonic

- Polyphony
  - Polyphonic music is made up of different layers of voices or instruments
  - polyphonic music include music for singers and / or instruments



# Music

## Improvisation

- Improvisation is making up music as you are playing it
- Many organists would use a hymn as a theme and improvise adding to the melody and harmony
- Improvisation is still done today and is very important in jazz music



# Music

## Patronage system

- Patronage System
  - When a composer worked for a wealthy person, that person would be the composer's patron
  - A patron decided what music the composer would write and for what occasion - the composer was paid by the composition
  - This system limited a composer's creativity



# Music

## Opera

- Vocal Music
  - The biggest thing to happen in vocal music was Opera.
  - Opera combines music, acting, scenery, costumes and props.



# Music

## Opera

The first opera was  
"Orfeo"  
by Claudio Montiverdi





# Music

## Opera

- In opera, the text or *libretto*, is sung rather than spoken
- “*Orfeo*” is based on a Greek Myth about Orpheus who tries to save his dead wife, Euridice, from the underworld after she has been bitten by a deadly snake.





# Music

## Opera

Orpheus is unsuccessful  
in his quest, but his  
father, Apollo, brings  
Orpheus to heaven where  
he can see Euridice in the  
stars forever

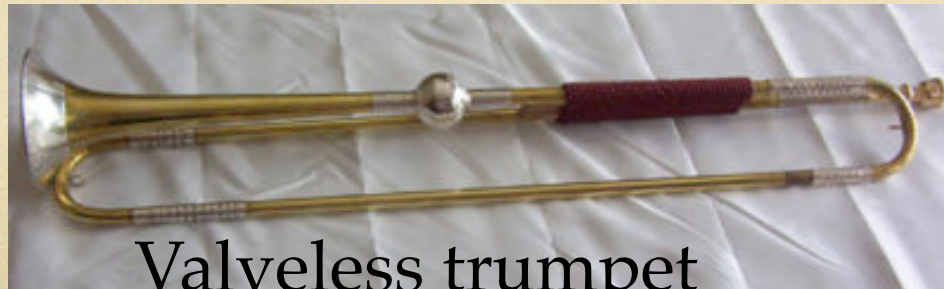




# Music

## Intruments

- Instrumental music during the Baroque period became as important as vocal music.
- the Baroque Period saw a rise in music for flute, oboe, bassoon, trombone, valveless trumpets and horns, harpsichord, and organ
- Tympani was the only percussion instruemnt in the orchestra



Valveless trumpet



# Music

## Instruments

Viols were being replaced  
with violins, violas and  
cellos







violins, viola and cello

# Music

Instruments



# Music

## Instruments

- Much of the music written for instruments contained several contrasting sections or movements
- One example is the *concerto grosso*
- Concerto grossos were written for a group of solo instruments and orchestra, and usually contained three movements fast, slow, fast



# Music

## composers

- Some of the most important composers include George Fredrick Handel, Antonio Vivaldi, and Johann Sebastian Bach



# Music

## Composers

George Fredric Handel  
wrote the famous  
Oratorio, "The Messiah"  
which contains the  
'Halleluiah Chorus'





# Music

## Composers

Antonio Vivaldi was a violinist and composer

He wrote the “Four Seasons”, a suite where each piece represents a different season





# Music

## Composers

Johann Sebastian Bach  
was known as the most  
important composer of  
the Baroque period

He was an organist and  
composer

