

# Classical Period



*1750 - 1825*



# Classical Period

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- ❖ KLAS-i-kuhl

- ❖ That music which was written in the late 18th and early 19th centuries.
- ❖ Pertaining to, or constituting the formally and artistically more sophisticated and enduring types of music, as distinguished from popular, folk music and jazz. Classical music includes symphonies, operas, sonatas, song cycles, and lieder.



# Classical Period

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❖ World

❖ Art

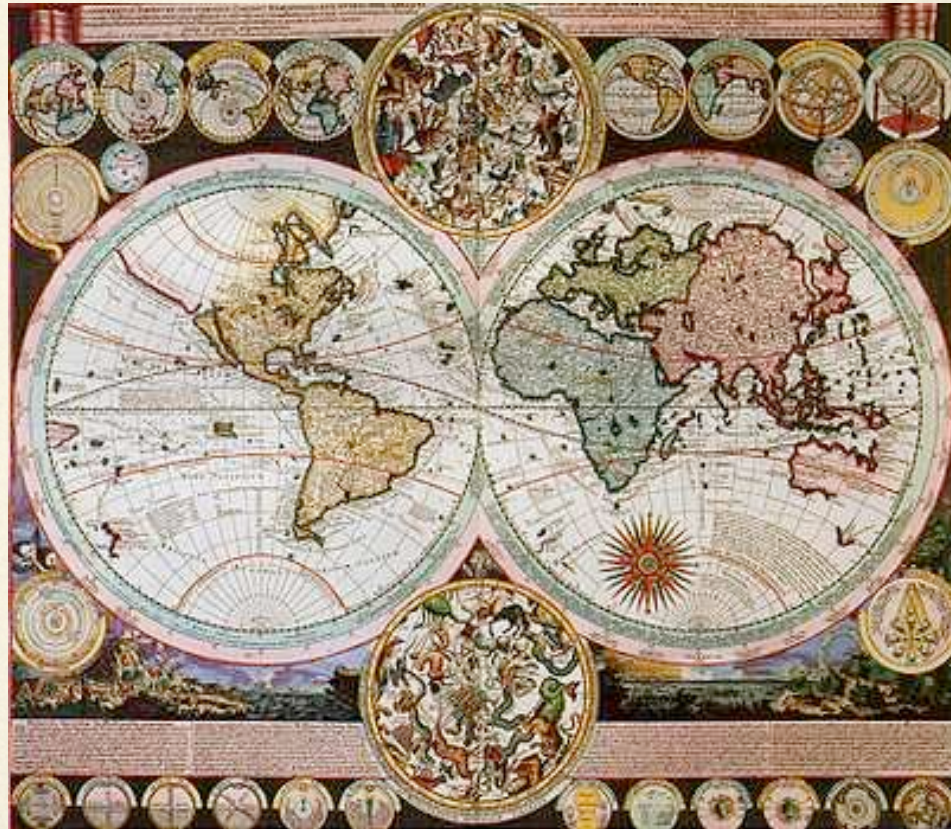
❖ Architecture

❖ Music



# Classical Period

## ❖ The World





# Classical Period

## World

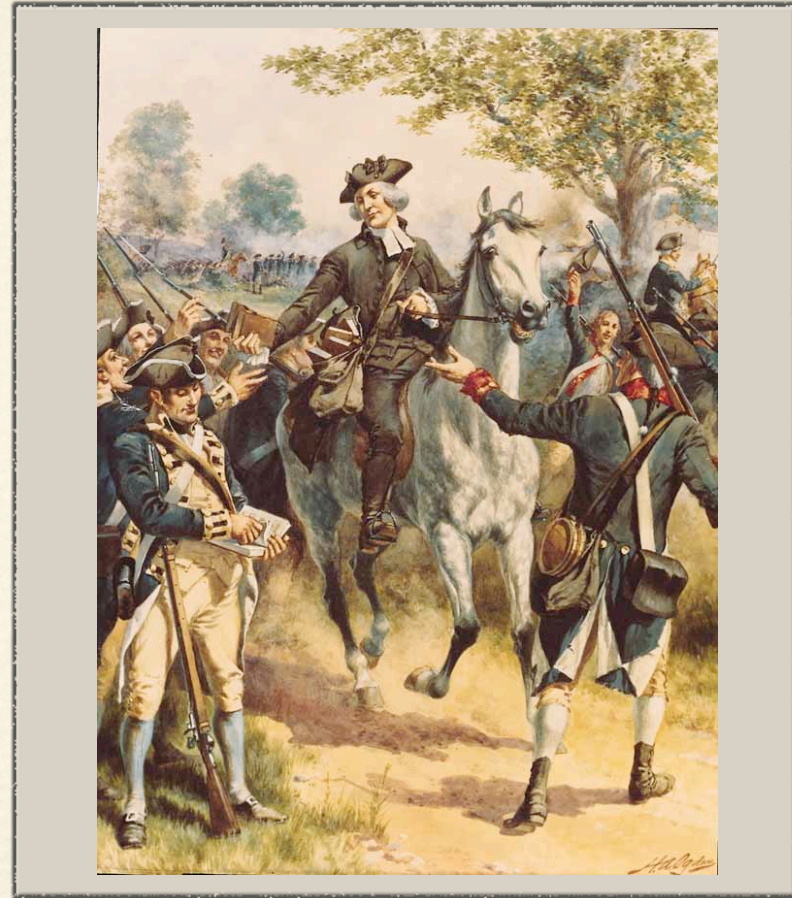
- ❖ The classical period was filled with events that changed the world. They include:
  - ❖ American Revolution
  - ❖ French Revolution
  - ❖ Napoleon and the Napoleonic wars



# Classical Period

World

*The American Revolution*





# Classical Period

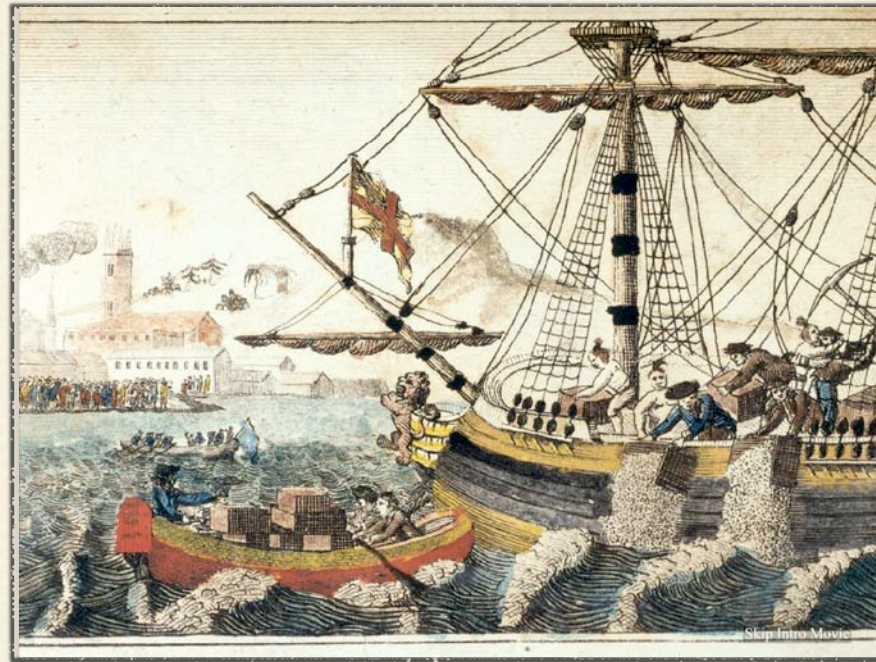
## World

- ❖ First was the sugar tax on imported sugar
- ❖ Then came the paper tax
  - ❖ every piece of paper was taxed
- ❖ Third was the tea tax which led to the Boston Tea Party
- ❖ Colonists were ready to be free from England's tyranny



# Classical Period

## World



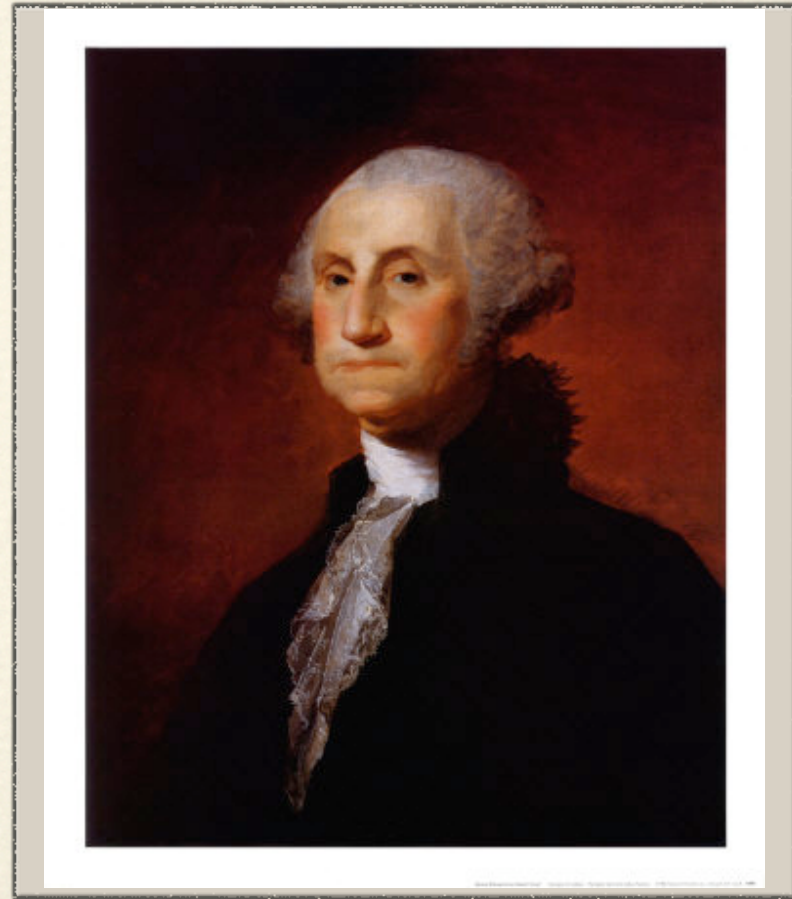
The Boston Tea Party



# Classical Period

## World

- ❖ The war began with the “shot heard around the world” at Lexington in 1775 and ended eight years later in 1783 with the Treaty of Paris



George Washington



# Classical Period World

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*The French Revolution*





# Classical Period

## World

- ❖ Before the French Revolution there were three *estates*
  - ❖ the nobility
  - ❖ the clergy
  - ❖ the peasants





# Classical Period

## World

- ❖ Many people were starving because of failed crops - even bread became scarce among the peasants
- ❖ The economy was failing - France was in a great deal of debt after helping the United States with its revolution and other financial obligations
- ❖ The lower class, or estate, revolted against the King, nobility and clergy to make a new republic.



# Classical Period

## World

- ❖ They kidnapped King Louie XVI and his family and executed him along with his wife Marie-Antoinette



Louie XVI



Marie-Antoinette



# Classical Period

## World

*The first consul of the new  
French government was Napoleon  
Bonaparte*

*Two years later he was made  
Emperor*





# Classical Period

## World

- ❖ Napoleon wanted to rule all of Europe and perhaps more
- ❖ As he won battles all over Europe, Napoleon placed his friends and relatives in positions of authority in Holland, Westphalia, Italy, Naples and Spain



# Classical Period

## World

- ❖ Napoleon was defeated in a battle with Russia in 1812
- ❖ After he was defeated, Napoleon went into hiding
- ❖ Napoleon resurfaced, attacked England, lost the battle of Waterloo and was taken into custody by the British and kept on an island for the rest of his life



# Classical Period

❖ Art





# Classical Period

## Art

- ❖ Art during classical period was influenced by the continued developments in science, philosophy, history and literature as well as christianity
- ❖ Art was going through a neo-classical (*new classical*) period where artists used more exaggerated techniques of previous periods.



# Classical Period

## Art

- ❖ In the 1600's art was concerned with reality but in the 1700's art was influenced more by the mind
- ❖ France was a very important center for European Art in the 1700's
- ❖ All of the art in this presentation is from the Classical Period



# Classical Period

## Art

*This is a painting by Velasquez  
“Ladies in Waiting” is very  
famous. Not only does it depict  
the Spanish court, it includes little  
people in its subject matter*





# Classical Period *Art*

*This painting by Leburn plays to  
the emotional as well as the  
realistic*





# Classical Period

## Architecture

- ❖ There were two main types of architecture
  - ❖ Georgian
  - ❖ Federalist



Here is an example of Federalist style, very common in public buildings in the 1700's



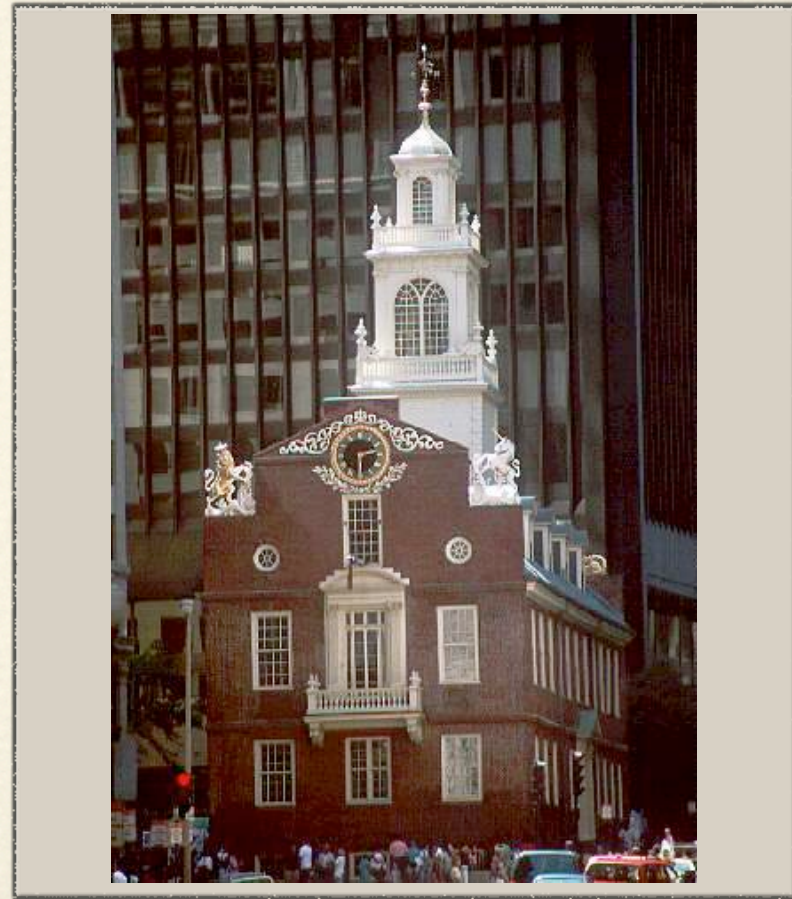
Architecture  
Classical Period



# Classical Period

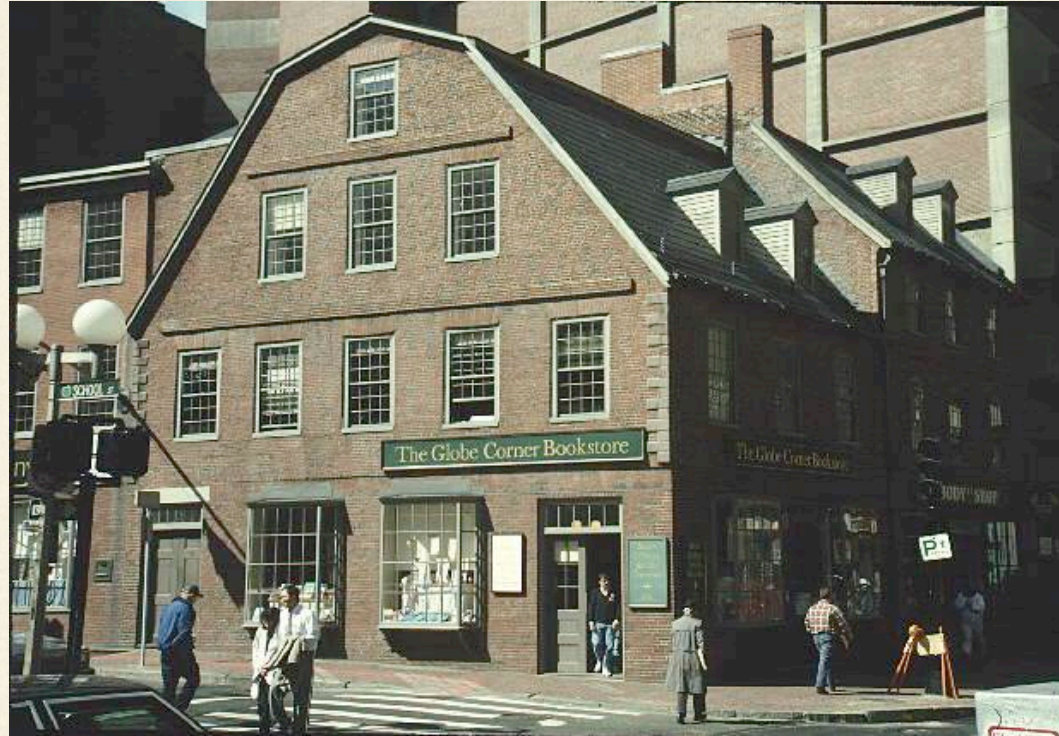
## Architecture

- ❖ This is the Old State House in Boston. It is another excellent example of Federalist style





This bookstore in Boston is an example of Georgian architecture a popular style of the Classical Period



Architecture  
Classical Period



# Classical Period

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❖ Music



Wolfgang Mozart



# Classical Period

## Music

- ❖ Music, like architecture, has very clean lines and is very organized in the Classical Period
- ❖ Music is very organized in its sections or movements in the sonata and symphony
- ❖ Movements themselves were organized such as sonata allegro



# Classical Period

## Music

- ❖ The Symphony

- ❖ The word symphony means to sound together
- ❖ Thus a Symphony Orchestra is many instruments playing together, not just strings





# Classical Period

## Music

- ❖ A Symphony is also a form of music
  - ❖ Like a Sonata, it has at least three large sections called movements
  - ❖ The movements are fast, slow, fast and sometimes a rondo is added as a fourth movement



# Classical Period

## Music

- ❖ Sonata-Allegro form
  - ❖ The first movement of a symphony or sonata is in Sonata-Allegro form
  - ❖ The small sections of sonata-allegro form are:
    - ❖ Exposition - statement of the theme(s)
    - ❖ Development - development of the theme(s) in different keys and modalities
    - ❖ Recapitulation - restatement of the theme(s)



# Classical Music

## Music

- ❖ The sections of Sonata-Allegro form are:
  - ❖ *Exposition* - statement of the themes
  - ❖ *Development* - development of the themes in different keys and modalities (major and minor)
  - ❖ *Recapitulation* - restatement of the theme

For more about Sonata-Allegro form go to: <http://www.musickit.com/resources/son-allegro.html>



# Classical Period

## Music

- ❖ Joseph Haydn
- ❖ March 31, 1732 – May 31, 1809





# Classical Period

## Music

- ❖ Known as the father of both the symphony and the string quartet
- ❖ He founded the classical school consisting of Haydn, his friend Mozart and his student Beethoven



# Classical Period

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## Music

- ❖ Haydn's parents sent him to study music in Hainburg with his Uncle when he was 6 years
- ❖ At the Age of 8 Haydn got a job as chorister and moved to Vienna



# Classical Period

## Music

- ❖ Haydn later became Kapellmeister for Prince Esterhazy (one of the wealthiest families in Austria)
- ❖ After the Prince died, Haydn freelanced for many wealthy clients until his death in 1809 - he was 77
- ❖ Haydn died shortly after Napoleon attacked Vienna



# Classical Period

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*Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart*  
*January 27, 1756 -*  
*December 5, 1791*





# Classical Period

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## Music

- ❖ A friend of Haydn, Mozart was a central figure of the Viennese classical school, he is often considered the greatest musical genius of all time
- ❖ His compositional output is enormous including 16 opera's, 41 symphonies, 27 piano and 5 violin concerti, 25 string quartets, 19 masses and more



# Classical Period

## Music

- ❖ Mozart's father, a composer himself, recognized young Mozart's talent at the age of 3
- ❖ He began composing at the age of 5
- ❖ Mozart began touring Europe as a keyboard and violin performer at the age of 11



# Classical Period

Music

*Mozart as a child on tour*





# Classical Period

## Music

- ❖ At the age of 17, when he completed his last European tour, Mozart took a position as a court musician
- ❖ After that position he became kapellmeister in a church in Salzburg
- ❖ In 1778 Mozart moved to Vienna and became a freelance musician



# Classical Period

## Music

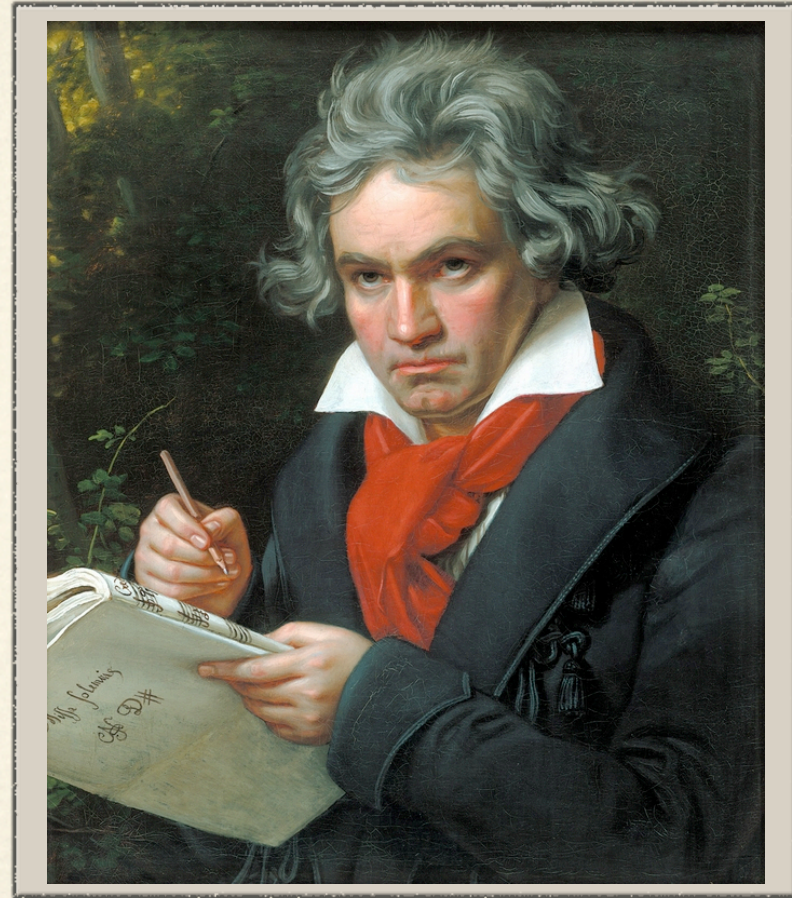
- ❖ While in Vienna Mozart married Constanza Weber much to the disappointment of his father
- ❖ Mozart lived in Vienna until his death in 1791
- ❖ Because Mozart was not good at managing money, he died penniless and was buried in a paupers grave



# Classical Music

*Ludwig van Beethoven*

*December 16, 1770 -  
March 26, 1827*





- ❖ As a child, Beethoven's parents recognized Beethoven's talent and wanted him to be another Mozart.
- ❖ Although he was very talented, he was not the child prodigy that Mozart was



- ❖ When Beethoven was a teen, he traveled to Austria to meet and work with Mozart but the visit was cut short by the death of Beethoven's mother
- ❖ As an adult, Beethoven lost his hearing and was completely deaf.



- ❖ Beethoven's later compositions were more in the Romantic style and he is known for ushering in the Romantic Period
- ❖ Even without being able to hear, he wrote his 9th symphony for orchestra and choir
- ❖ Beethoven composed until his death in 1827