

Music 320

Nationalism

Nationalism became a major movement in the later 19th Century, and had a profound influence on music.

Nationalism was (and is) most often found in places where people are dominated by outside influences (political or cultural); if the dominating culture is different from the native one, people look for expression that is different from dominant group, preserving local identity. This is sometimes called "**Defending Nationalism**" since the culture is defending itself from outside domination

This kind of musical Nationalism is often expressed through attention to folklore, customs, national heritage and history, for example as plots for operas, as rhythmic patterns for instrumental dance movements, and so on

Musical Nationalism in the 19th Century is strongest in Russia, Bohemia, Scandinavia

Nationalism should not be confused with National Styles; Nationalism has political and cultural agenda, it is not just the prevailing tendency in a certain location

Another type of nationalism is "Aggressive Nationalism," where a national group is imposing its culture or customs on another national group. Germany in the late 19th Century (and into the 20th) is sometimes accused of "Aggressive Nationalism"