Student Study Outline

Chapter 23: Johann Sebastian Bach’s Life and Career

1. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
   1. Bach was a dominant figure who is viewed as embodying Baroque music
   2. Music historians see his work as summing up developments in Western music extending back to the Renaissance.
   3. What are some of Bach’s most notable works?
2. Bach’s Early Life and Career Beginnings
   1. Bach came from a long line of musicians reaching back to the 16th century.
   2. What job did he take in 1708 in Weimar?
3. The Move to Cöthen
   1. What happened to Bach when he asked the Duke of Weimar to release him from service?
   2. How did Bach’s position as music director at the court of Cöthen differ from his job at Weimar?
   3. Which works did Bach compose during his years as music director in Cöthen (1717-1723)?
4. Final Years in Leipzig
   1. In 1723 Bach moved to Leipzig to serve as music director.
      1. What were his responsibilities?
      2. Bach wrote a number of works for weekly church service, including
         1. Organ preludes
         2. Motets
         3. Chorale arrangements
      3. His major contributions were \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, medium-length narrative works for soloists, chorus, and orchestra.
      4. What is the *Collegium musicum*?
      5. What is *The Art of the Fugue*?
      6. During Bach’s final years, he suffered from the loss of which sense?
      7. At the time of his death, he left over 1100 compositions in manuscript that fell into obscurity and were rediscovered a century later.
5. Making Connections: Bach’s Children and Wives
   1. Bach fathered 20 children with two wives.
      1. Which children became musicians with important careers?