Romantic Images and Icons: The Generation of Chopin and Schumann

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Bard, solitary wanderer, nationalist hero, mad genius, Prometheus, Faust- the Romantic era was awash in idealizations of the artist. Using Chopin and Schumann, as well as various contemporaries, as the basis for an examination of the Romantic generation, this class seeks to bring this most fascinating and unruly epoch into focus. Beyond the historical and social context of the first half of the nineteenth century, this class also explores the continued resonance of this repertory in today's world. Analysis, live performance, and a multitude of relevant DVDs and CDs are presented, in addition to relevant historical and current commentaries.

Week		
1	•	Lecture and selected readings on:
		 Images of the Romantic artist
		 Portraits of Chopin, including by Schumann
	•	The early Chopin (to 1830)
2	•	The early Schumann: a selection of representative works (Davidsbundler et al.)
	•	The literary dimension of Schumann
3	•	Music as autobiography
		 Self-portraits by Berlioz (Harold en Italie, Symphonie fatastique) and Liszt
		(Don Juan Fantasy)
	•	Chopin's maturity, part 1: Etudes and Preludes
4	•	Chopin's maturity, part 2: Noctures, Mazurkas, Waltzes
	•	The poet speaks: Schumann and his songs (with and without words)
5	•	Water imagery:
		 A selection of pieces by Mendelssohn, Chopin, Schumann, and Liszt
		 Water as metaphor
	•	Baccaroles by Chopin and Liszt; Liszt's"Years of Pilgrimage",
6	•	A look at Paganini, Bellini, and lesser contemporaries
	•	Wanderers, eccentrics, and mifits
	•	Personalities in Schumann and Liszt
7	•	Chopin's maturity part 3: Larger Works (Ballades, Sonatas, Polonaise Fantasy)
	•	Schumann's chamber music and romanticism in the domestic realm
8	•	Chopin's historical resonance: Brahms, Tchaikovsky, Scriabin, and Szymanowski
	•	The twilight of romanticism: late Schumann, late Liszt







Book	Author/Editor
Romantic Music	Arnold Whitehall
The Cambridge Companion to Chopin	Jim Samson
Chopin (Master Musicians Series)	
The Cambridge Companion to Schumann	Beate Perrey
Chopin: pianist and teacher as seen by his	Jean-Jacques Eigeldinger
students	
The Age of Chopin: Interdisciplinary Inquiries	Halina Goldberg
Piano notes: the world of the pianist	Charles Rosen
The Romantic Generation	
The Great Pianists: From Mozart to the Present	Harold C. Schonberg
Music in the Nineteenth Century	Richard Taruskin
Franz Liszt: The Virtuoso Years 1811-1847	Alan Walker
Fryderyk Chopin: A Life and Times	
Romantic Music: A History of Musical Style in	Leon Platinga
Nineteenth Century Europe	
Nineteenth-Century Music	Carl Dahlhaus
Schumann on Music: A Selection from the	Robert Schumann (Henry Pleasants, ed.)
Writings	
Berlioz and His Century: An Introduction to the	Jacques Barzun
Age of Romanticism	
Schumann	Eric Frederick Jensen
Schumann: A Chorus of Voices (Interviews and	John D. Tibbets, ed.
Conversations with John C. Tibbets	

