

CONTEMPORARY ARTS

LESSON 5:

MUSIC

Good Day Class!

Let's Start...





MUSIC

Music is considered to be the least tangible of the arts. It is defined as an arrangement of sounds to create a continuous and unified composition

Understanding the elements of music and the different musical traditions in the Philippines will help in appreciating that contemporary Philippine music is varied from one region to another. Although popular music can easily be heard in areas that can be reached by radio, television, and the Internet, traditional music and music with influences from America and Europe are still evident in some regions of the country.

Elements of Music

Melody

This refers to a succession of consecutive notes or tones changing in pitch and duration. It is also considered to carry the overall theme of music. Melody is inseparable from rhythm.

Rhythm

This has something to do with the patterns in time. It has three qualities: tempo, meter, and rhythmic pattern. Tempo describes how fast or slow the music is. On the other hand, meter refers to the unit of time that is made up of a group of accented and unaccented beats or pulses.

Harmony

This may refer to a combination of different tones or pitches played or sung together. These notes played or sung together at the same time is called a chord. Harmony may also involve playing chords successively.

Elements of Music

Texture

This element refers to the relationship of melodic and harmonic lines in music. Music is considered to have thicker texture if it has more melodic lines.

Dynamics

This refers to the degree of softness and loudness of music. This may also include the way of changing from soft to loud or vice-versa.

Timbre

Also known as tone color, this refers to the quality of sound generated by an instrument or by a voice.

Form

This element refers to how the other elements of music are organized. Music can be described if there are repeating sections or melodies, if there is contrast among musical instruments and rhythm, or if there is variation of the musical composition.

FORMS AND TYPES OF PHILIPPINE MUSIC

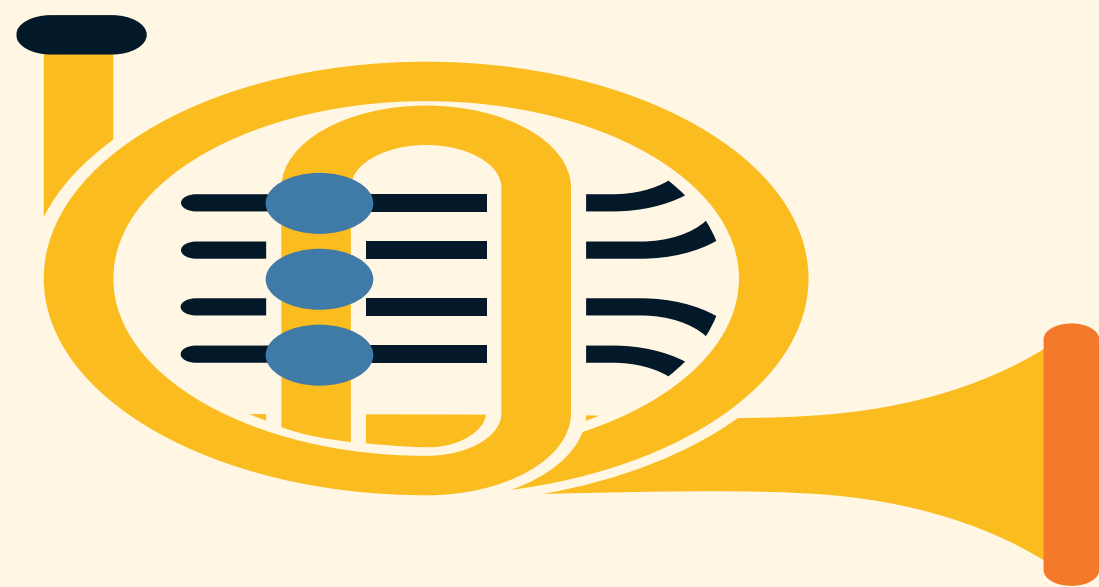
There are three kinds of music in the Philippines. These are ethnic traditional music, European-influenced religious and secular music, and American-inspired popular, classical, and semi-classical music. Although these three musical traditions have different characteristics, they have brought influences during the contemporary period.





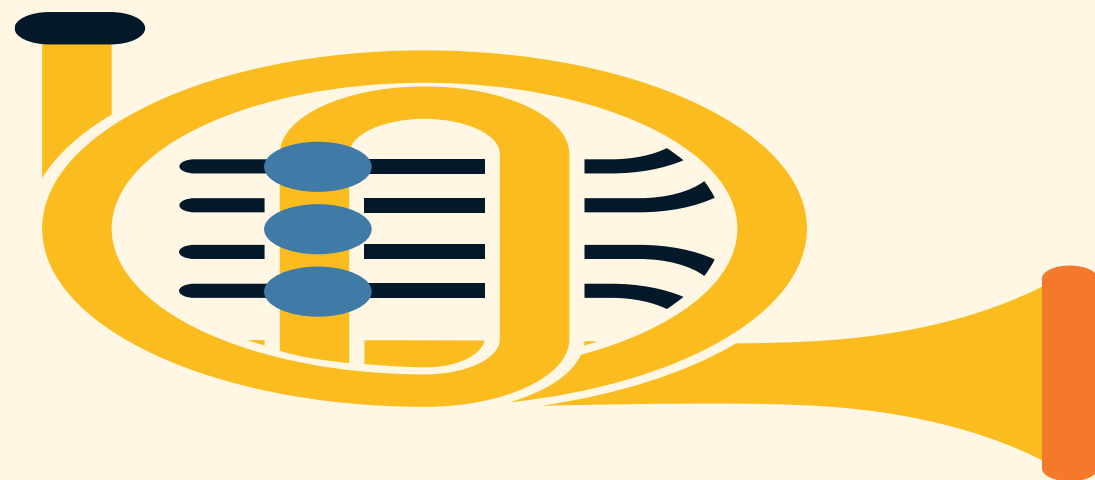
Ethnic Traditional Music

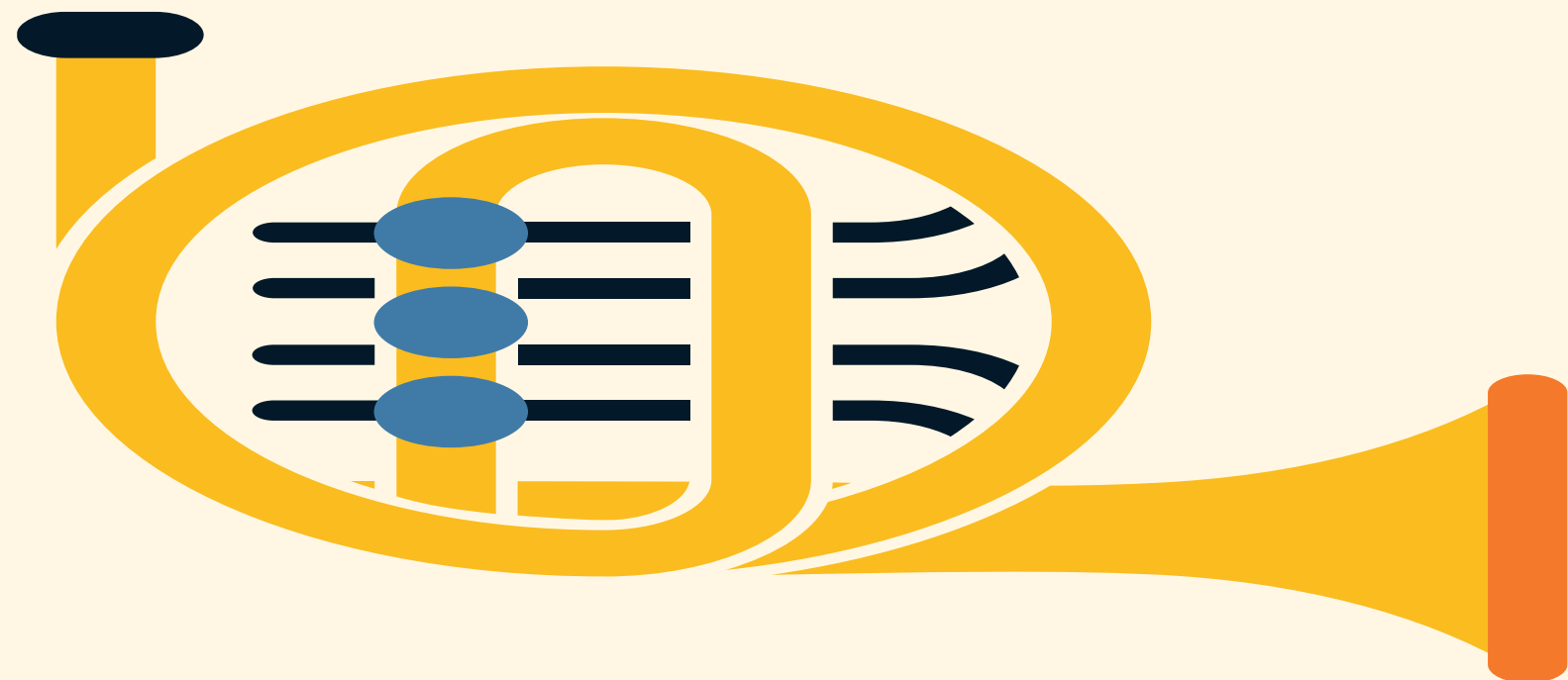
Philippine music in ethnic tradition is described to be music that has similar elements with music from our Southeast Asian neighbors. This kind of music can still be heard in Northern Luzon, Mindanao, Palawan, and Sulu, where about 10% of the Filipino population had avoided Spanish influence.



Ballad

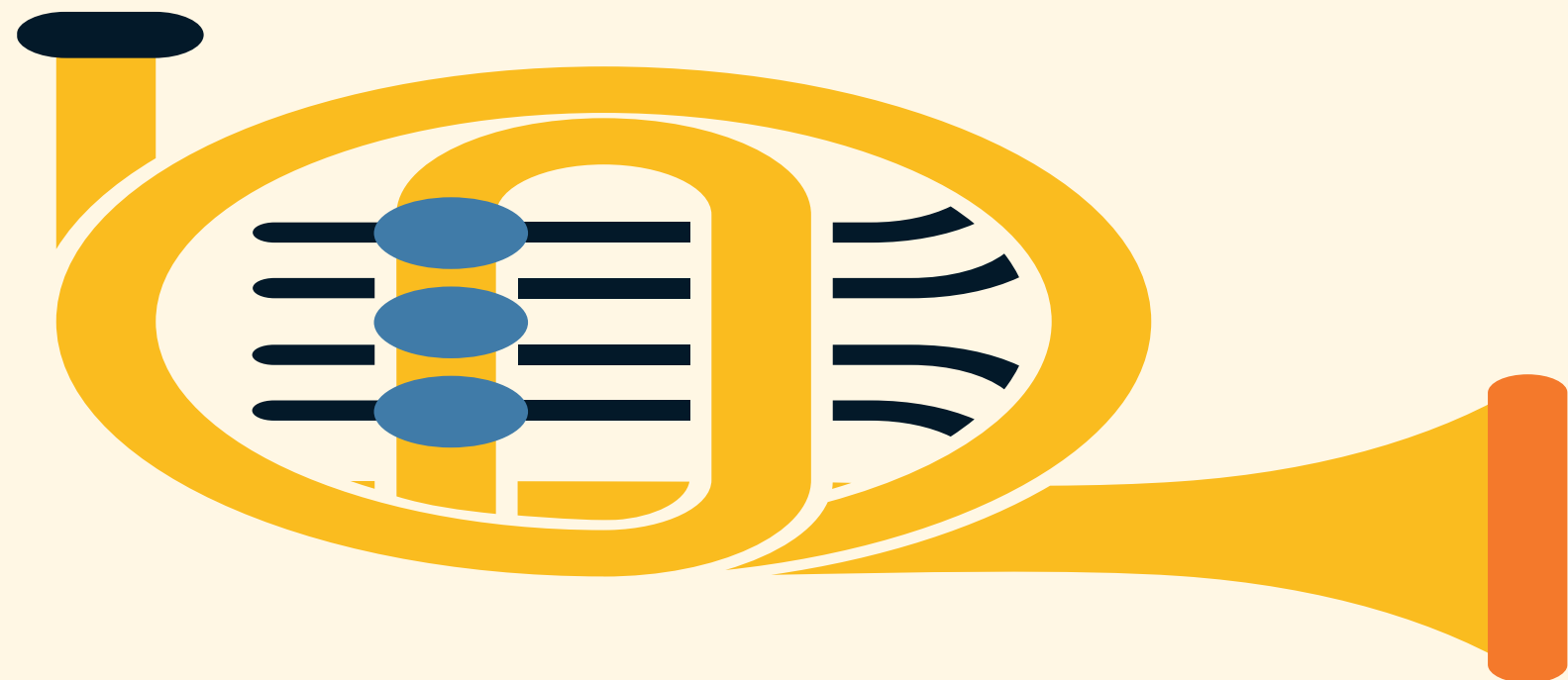
A ballad refers to a song that explains an event occurring in a community. Some of these ballads include the *idangdang* from Bukidnon and the *liyangkit* parang sabil of the Tausug. Some ballads were influenced by the Spaniards, such as the *composo* and Pampanga's "*Ing Bangkeru*." Nowadays, the term "ballad" is loosely described as a popular romantic song in the urban areas.





Chant

This refers to a song with an unaccompanied melody and variable rhythm. This is usually found in epic songs.



Song Debate

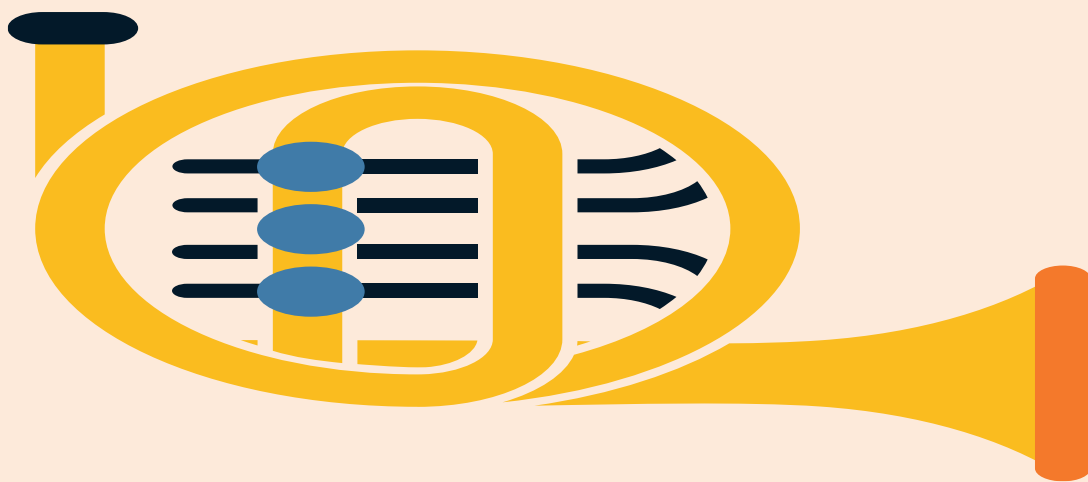
The song debate is a song involving male and female singers who try to outsmart each other about a certain topic. Themes usually include love, courtship, and marriage.

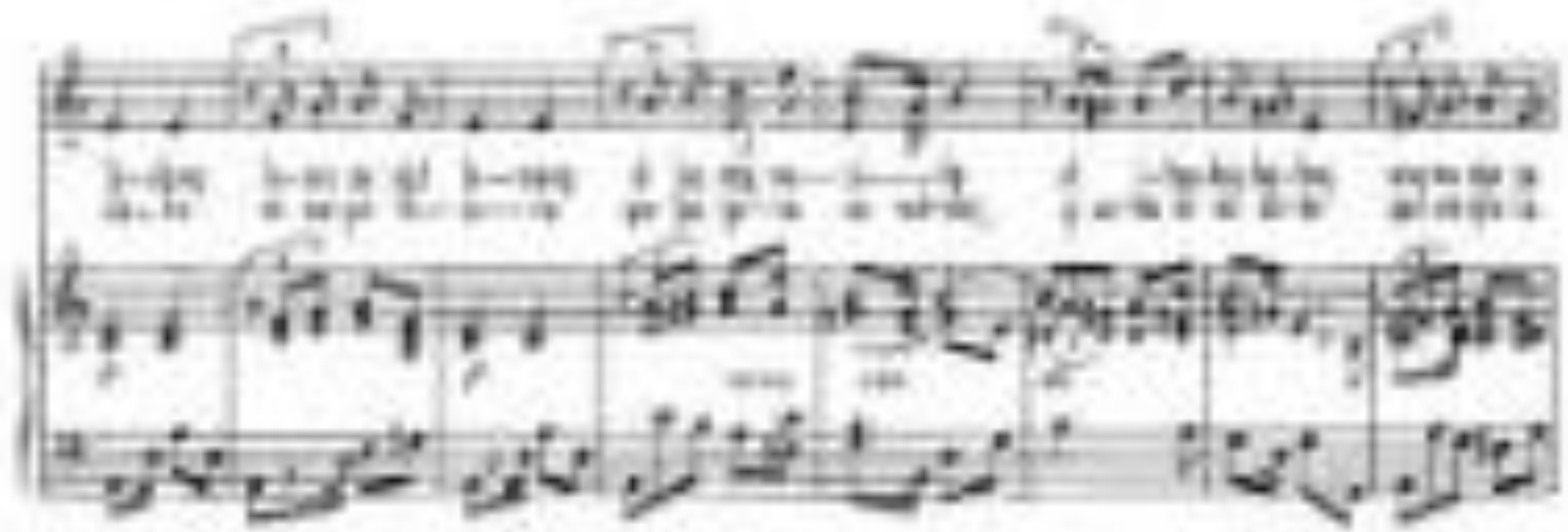
**EUROPEAN-
INFLUENCED
RELIGIOUS AND
SECULAR MUSIC**



Art Song

An art song is a composition characterized by merging the voice part, lyrics, and the accompaniment together "to achieve an artistic musical whole." Singing an art song requires skill, especially when performed during a concert or recital. A kundiman, which is considered as the signature love song of the Philippines, is an example of an art song. It is written in triple time, and played starting in the minor key. Its usual theme is about "the faithful and true, but often forlorn, pleadings of a lover who knows nothing but sacrifice in behalf of his beloved" (Padilla de Leon, as cited in CCP, 1994) Later, themes may also revolve on self-pity, sentimentality, desire for freedom, and wishing for a better future. However, the term "kundiman" nowadays is also used to denote a particular musical style.





Habanera/Danza

This refers to a social dance in duple time. Originally from Cuba, this is usually performed on a stage or in a ballroom. The habanera is influential as its tempo is used in some contemporary compositions like Nicanor Abelardo's "Ikaw Rin!" and Antonio Molina's "Hatinggabi."

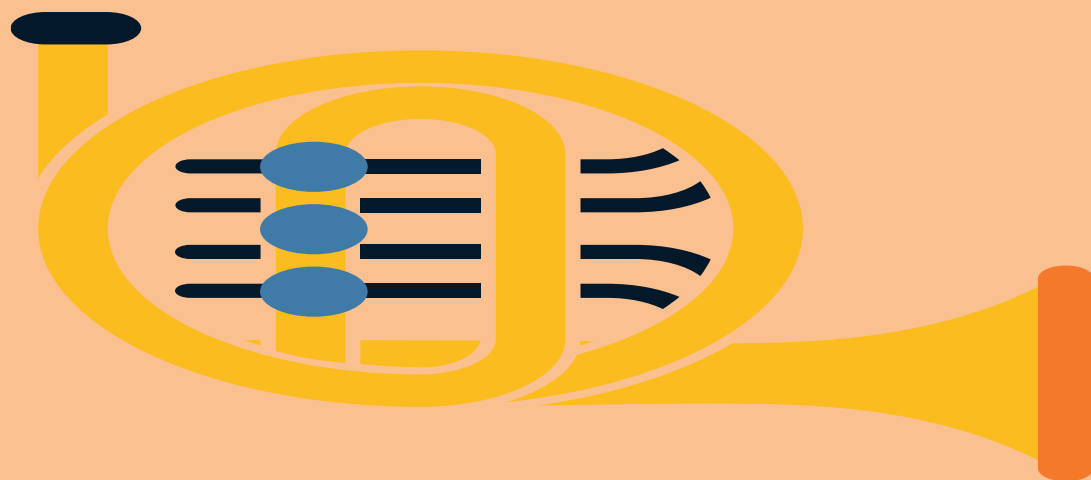


Liturgical Music

Liturgical music refers to vocal and instrumental compositions that go together with the official rites of Christian churches. This began as early as the Spanish colonial period and the rise of Roman Catholicism. However, it was during the later 19th century when vernacularization of the liturgical rites began. During the 20th century, musicians employed more innovative styles and forms, including fusion of Asian and indigenous elements to church music. The birth of Pentecostal churches and charismatic groups in the 1980's also brought changes in church music. Simple repetitive songs were used during prayer meetings, while there were some instances when people in these churches sang Gospel music, which refers to a group of contemporary musical styles with religious lyrics.

Tinapay ng
Buhay

Sa yo ay sumacamba't
mananlig





Kumintang

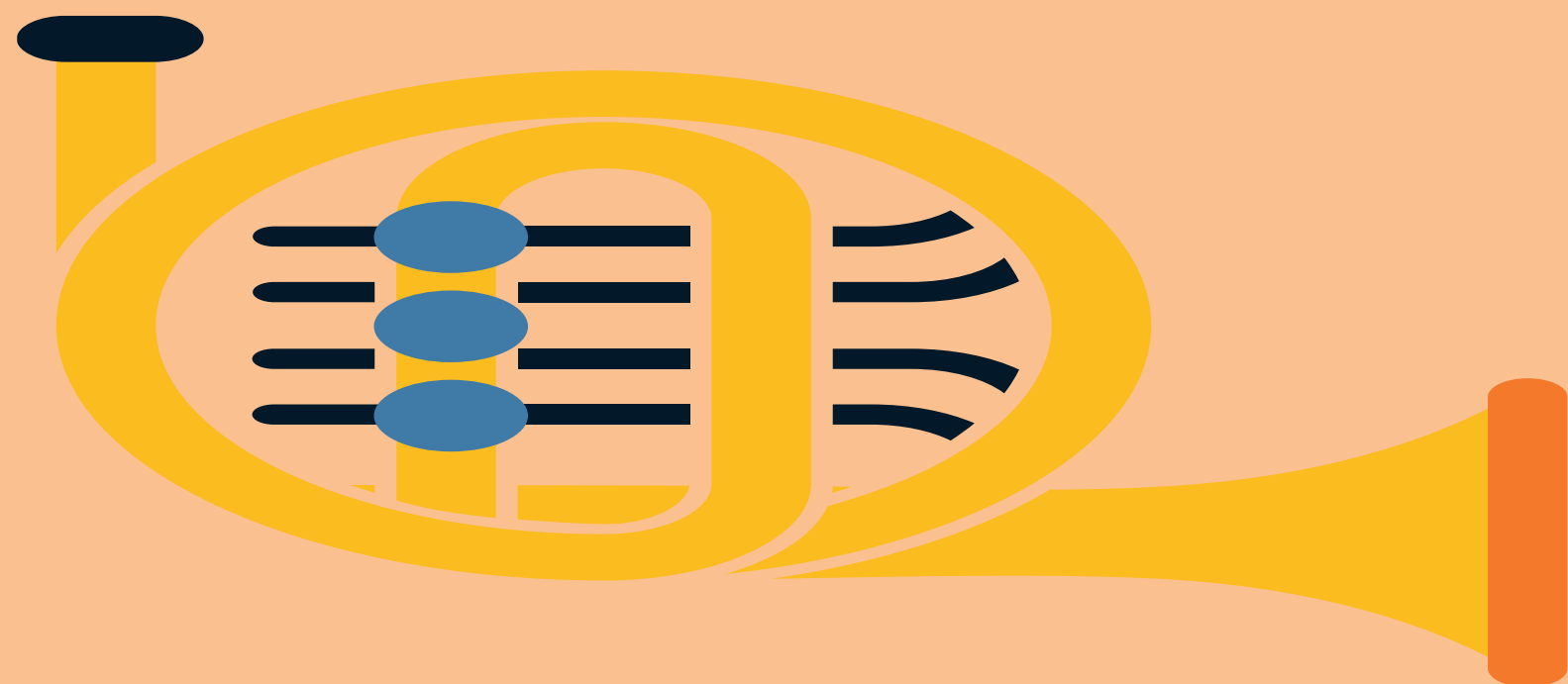
Originally documented as a war song the kumintang is a dance of love accompanied by a guitar and bajo de uñas (string bass).

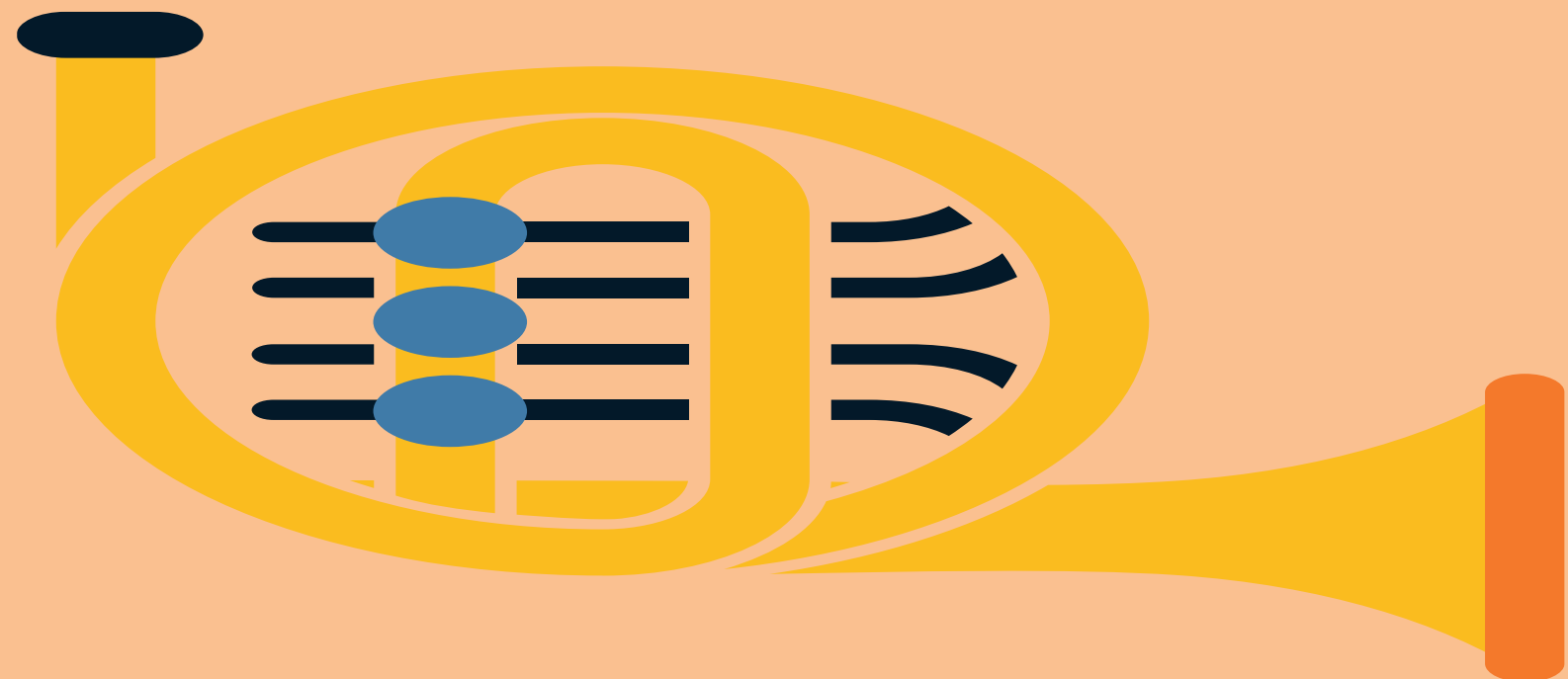
Its quasi-recitative melody is played by these instruments is in 3/4 time. The elements of the kumintang are utilized in some compositions such as Nicanor Abelardo's "Mutya ng Pasig" and Lucio D. San Pedro's "Lahing Kayumanggi."



Pasyon Chant

The pasyon chant refers to the various styles used throughout the country for the singing of the pasyon. It is typically performed in two group formations: the first involving two persons or groups singing alternately, and the second involving each person taking his or her turn in singing.





American- Inspired Music

This tradition can be further classified into three: classical music, semi-classical music, and popular music. It is important to note that these three categories are not mutually exclusive with one another.



CLASSICAL MUSIC

This category of American-influenced music includes classical music from the Western world, and classical and modern music composed by Filipinos. These include the following:

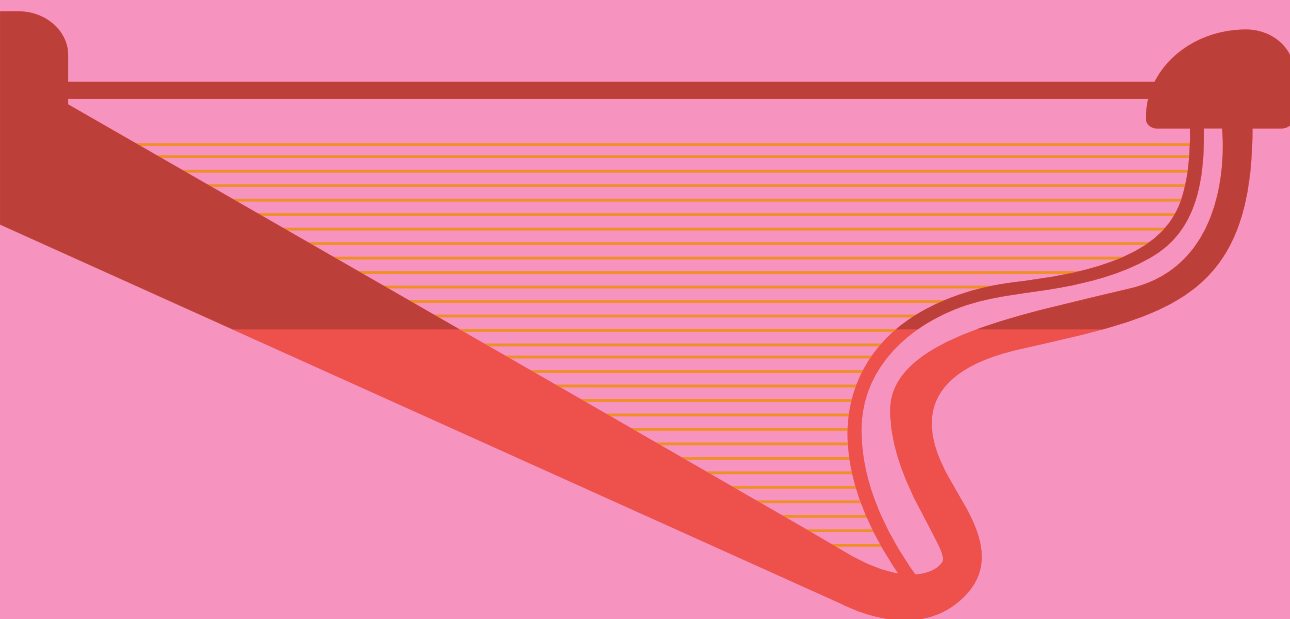


Chamber Music

This refers to instrumental music played by a small ensemble. Each part of the music is played by one performer. This makes chamber music different from orchestra music because the latter involves several instrumentalists playing one part.

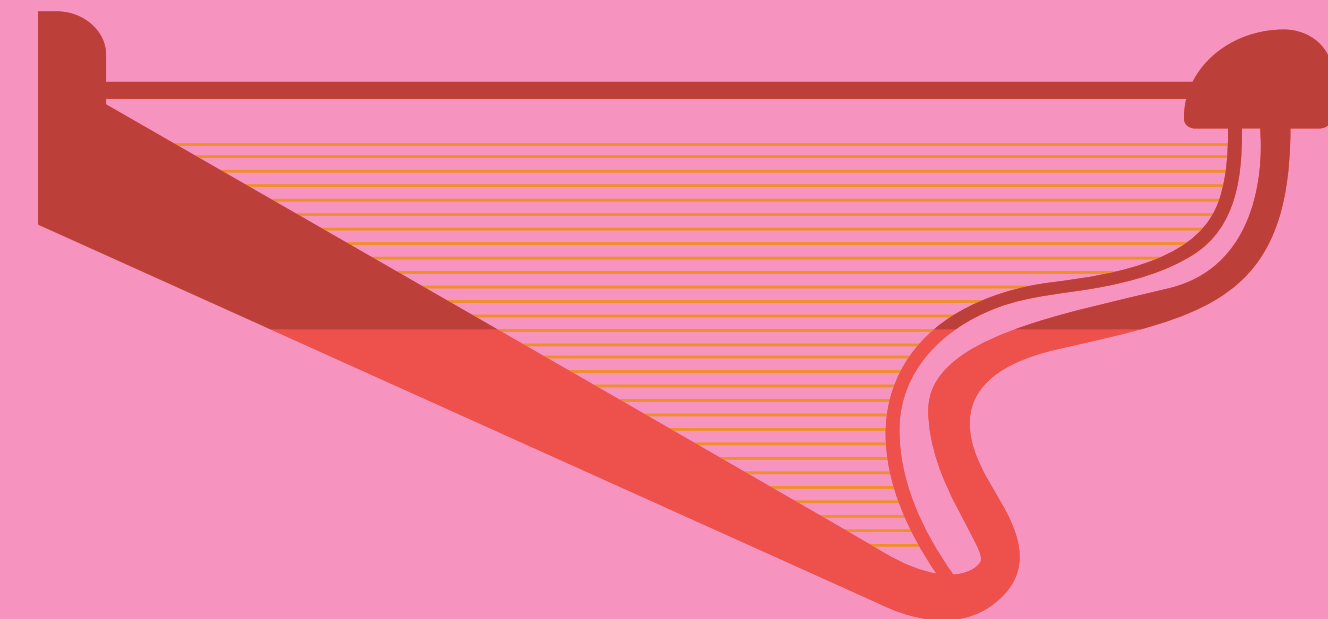
Starting from the American period up to present, composers has blended other elements and sources to chamber music.

Some of these elements include using local sources of sound, using non-Western musical structures, and other innovations.



Choral Music

This involves music written for a group of singers. Choral compositions can be monodic, meaning to be sung together or in unison without accompaniment; homophonic, which consists of one melodic line that is accompanied by chords or instrumental accompaniment; or polyphonic, which entails two or more distinct and equally significant melodic lines at the same time.

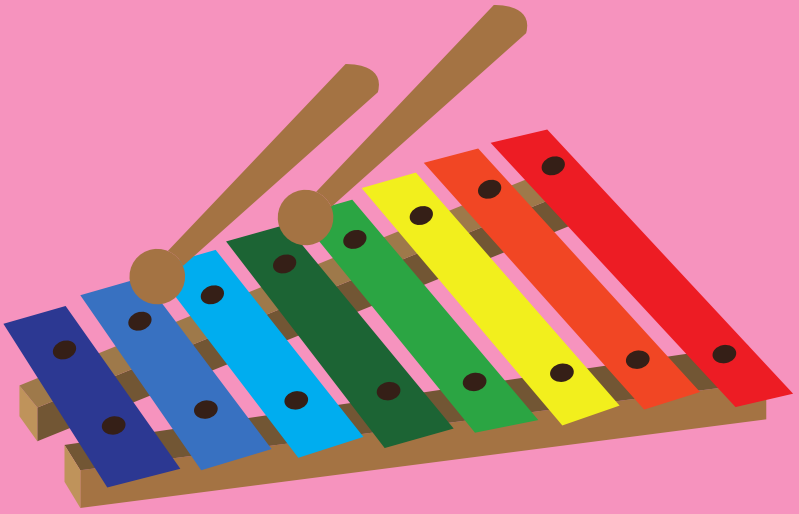


Opera

The opera is essentially drama that is sung and accompanied by instruments. It has a set structure, consisting of an overture, songs for a variety of number of singers, other vocal combinations, and interludes. A librettist, composer, and often a choreographer are all involved in creating an opera. It also entails a lot of work from other persons helpful in staging a grand theatrical production, such as the director, conductor, and set, costume, and lighting designers.

Filipinization of opera began before the early 1900s. Some foreign libretti were translated into Tagalog, such as Lucia di Lammermoor, La Traviata, and Rigoletto. Original Filipino operas were then created during the early 1900s.





SOLO INSTRUMENTAL LITERATURE

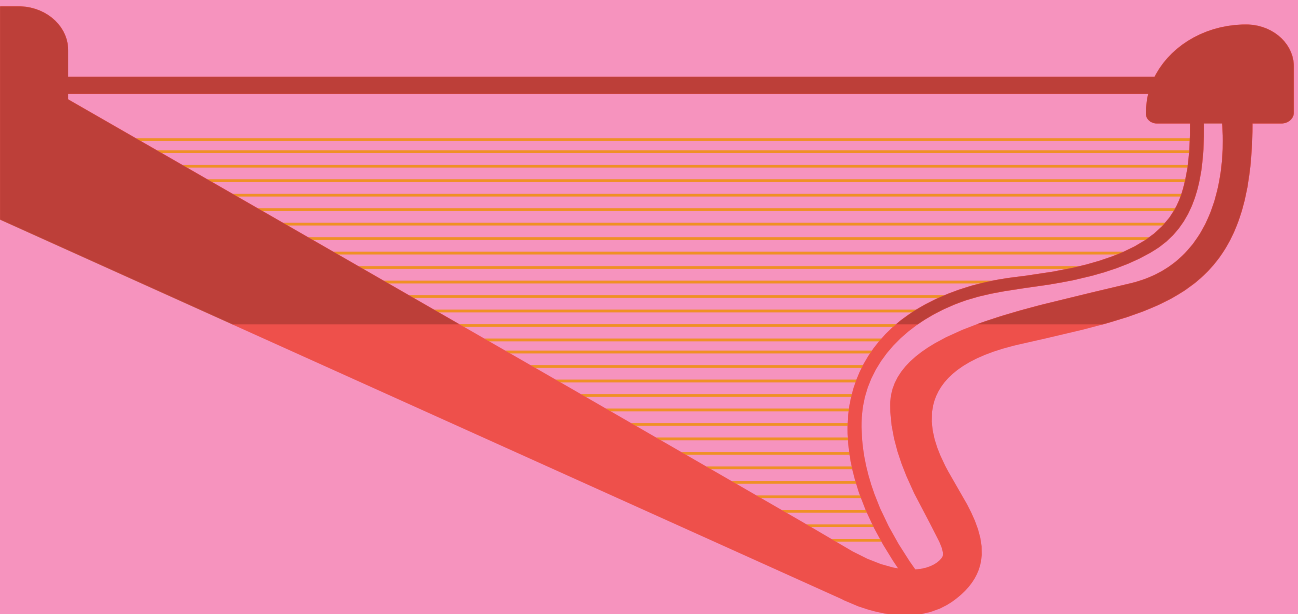
This type of music highlights a solo instrument. This solo instrument may also be accompanied by another instrument or by a number of instruments. The concerto and the sonata are examples.



Concerto

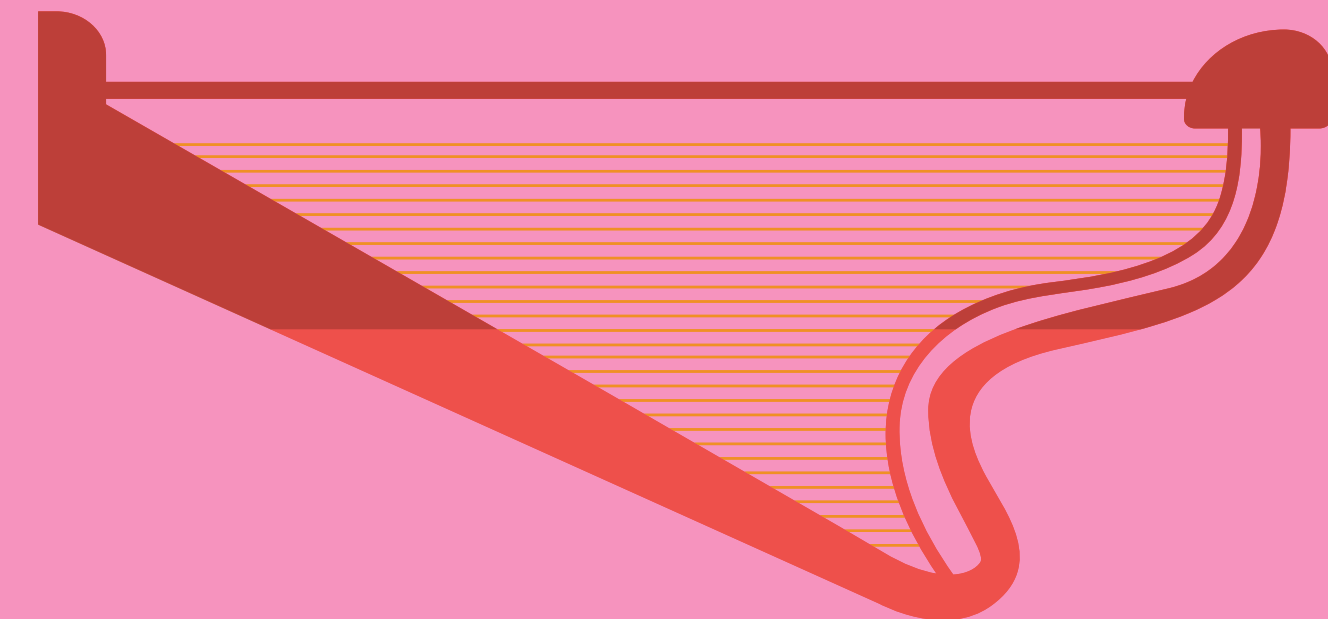


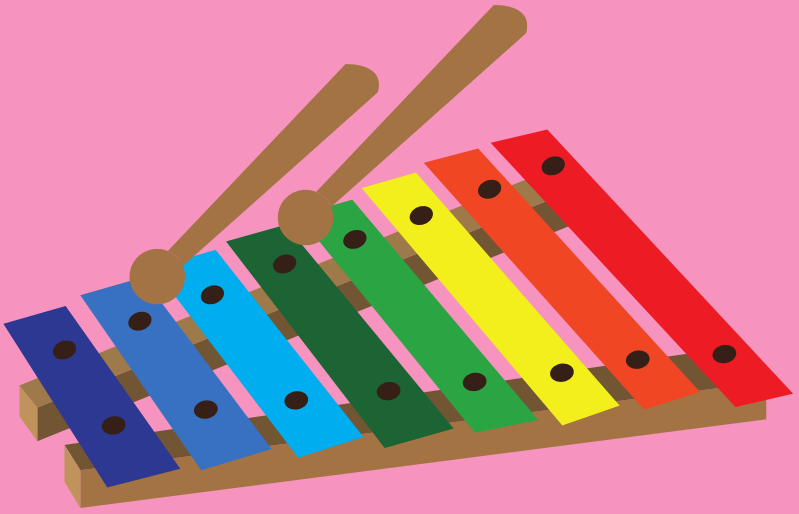
The concerto refers to a piece for a solo instrument, or a group of solo instruments, and an orchestral ensemble. Although the concerto is derived from the four-movement sonata form, it has distinguishing features, particularly omitting the third movement called minuet or scherzo.



Sonata

The sonata is a work for solo instrument with four movements. The typical sequence of movements is allegro-andante-minuet (or scherzo-allegro). However, the minuet or scherzo is often omitted. The result is a fast-slow-fast order of movements. The popularity of the sonata form has declined, especially among younger composers who prefer newer experimental techniques. However, Jeffrey Ching is one musician who has composed sonatas for piano, flute, and violin during the 1980s.





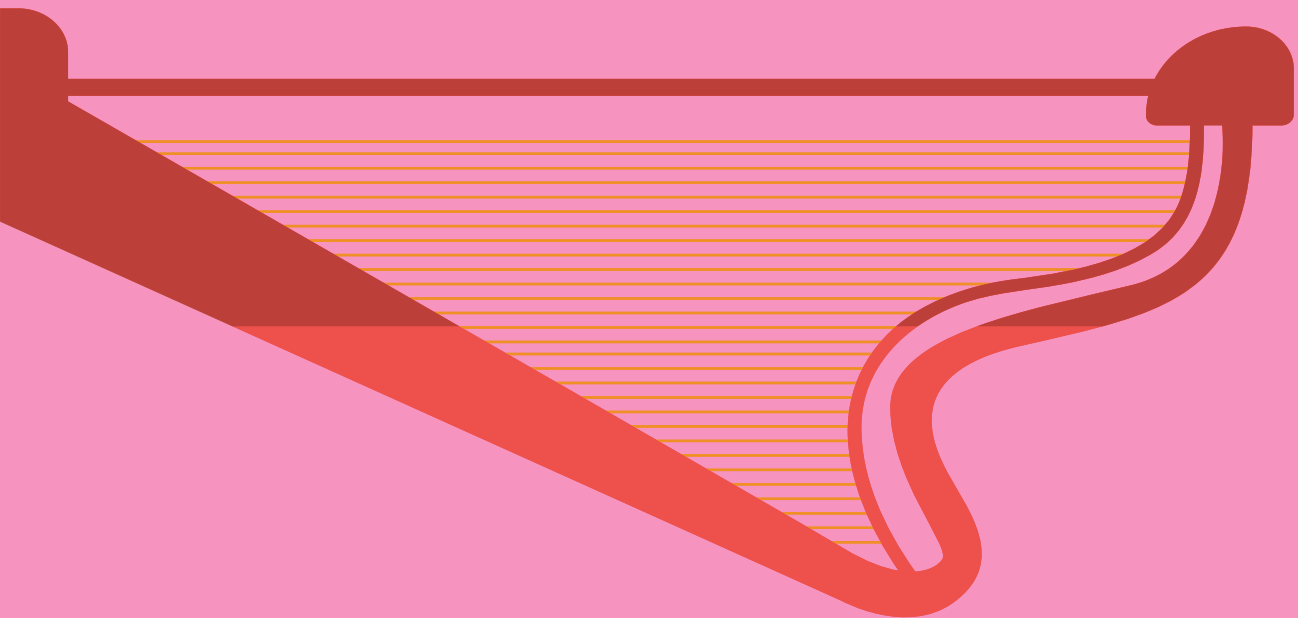
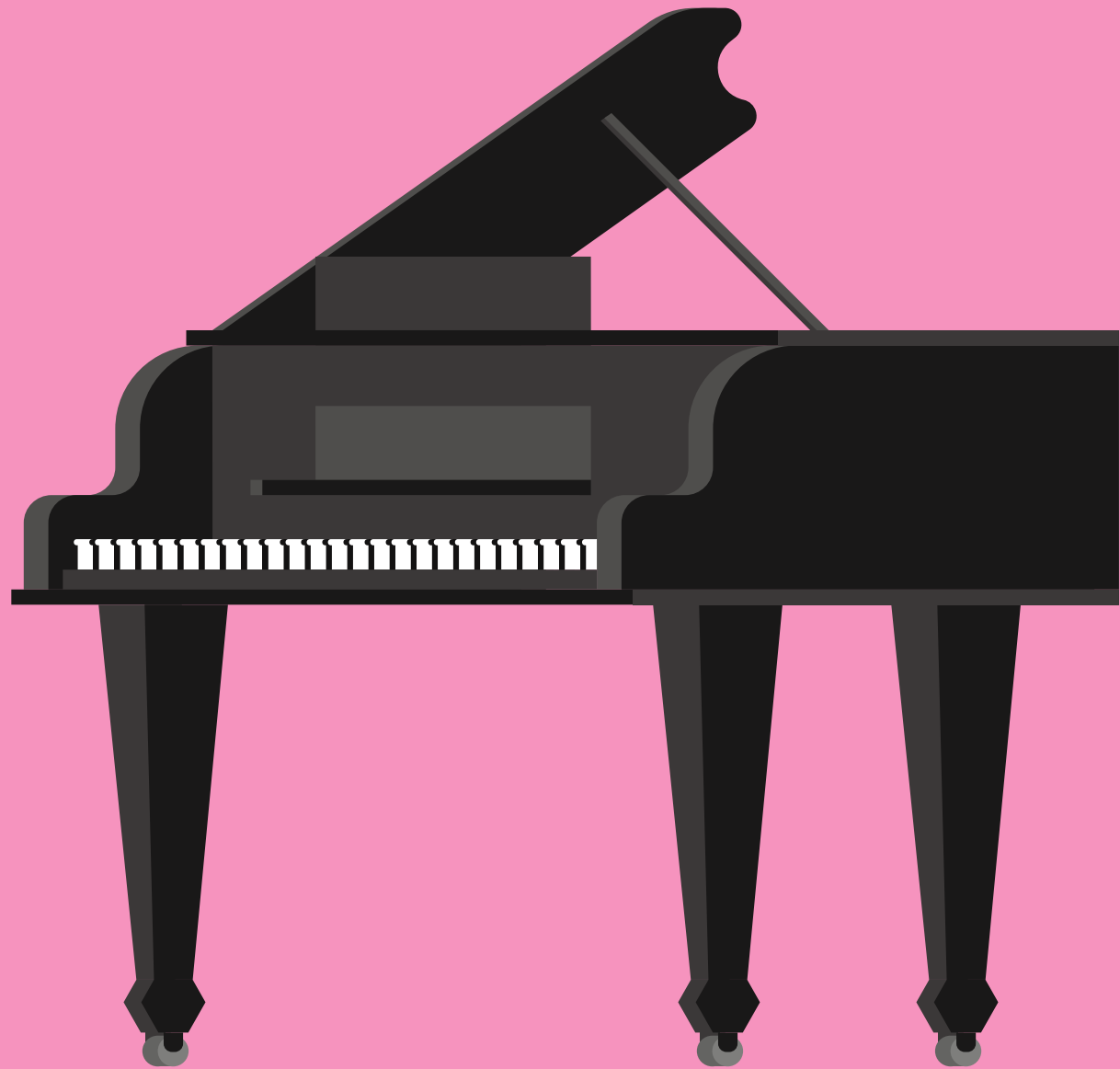
SYMPHONIC LITERATURE

These refer to lengthy orchestral compositions, A composition for an orchestra may contain several movements, or may contain one movement with many sections. Works that fall under symphonic literature include the following:



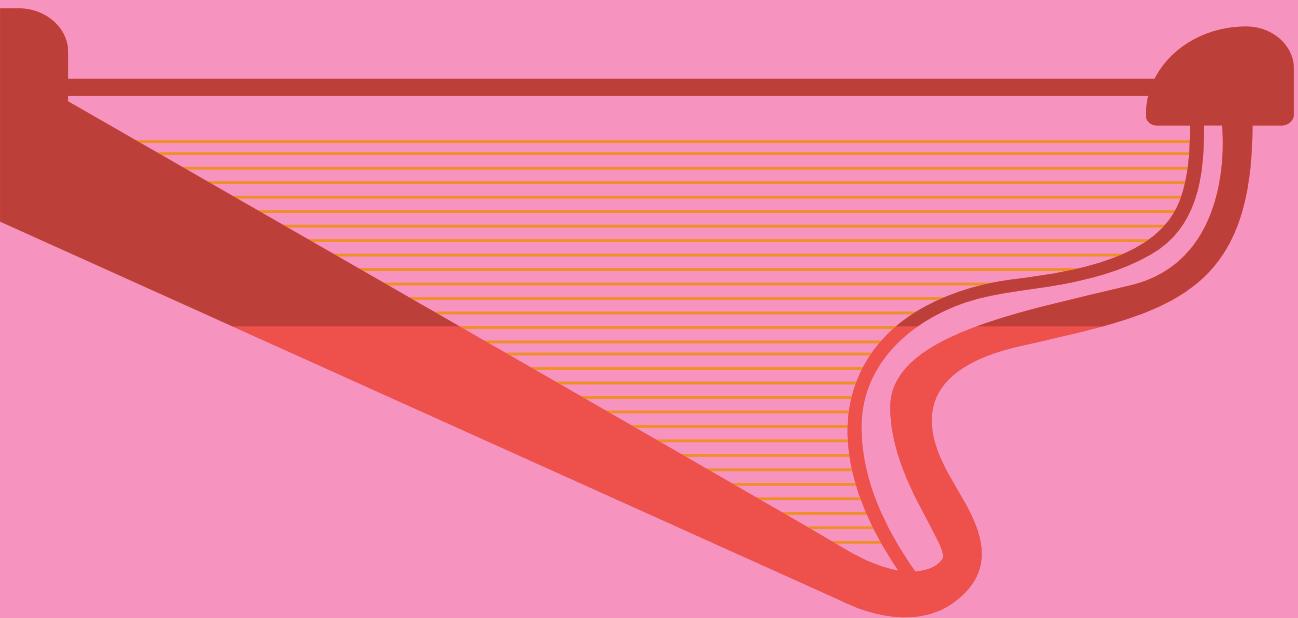
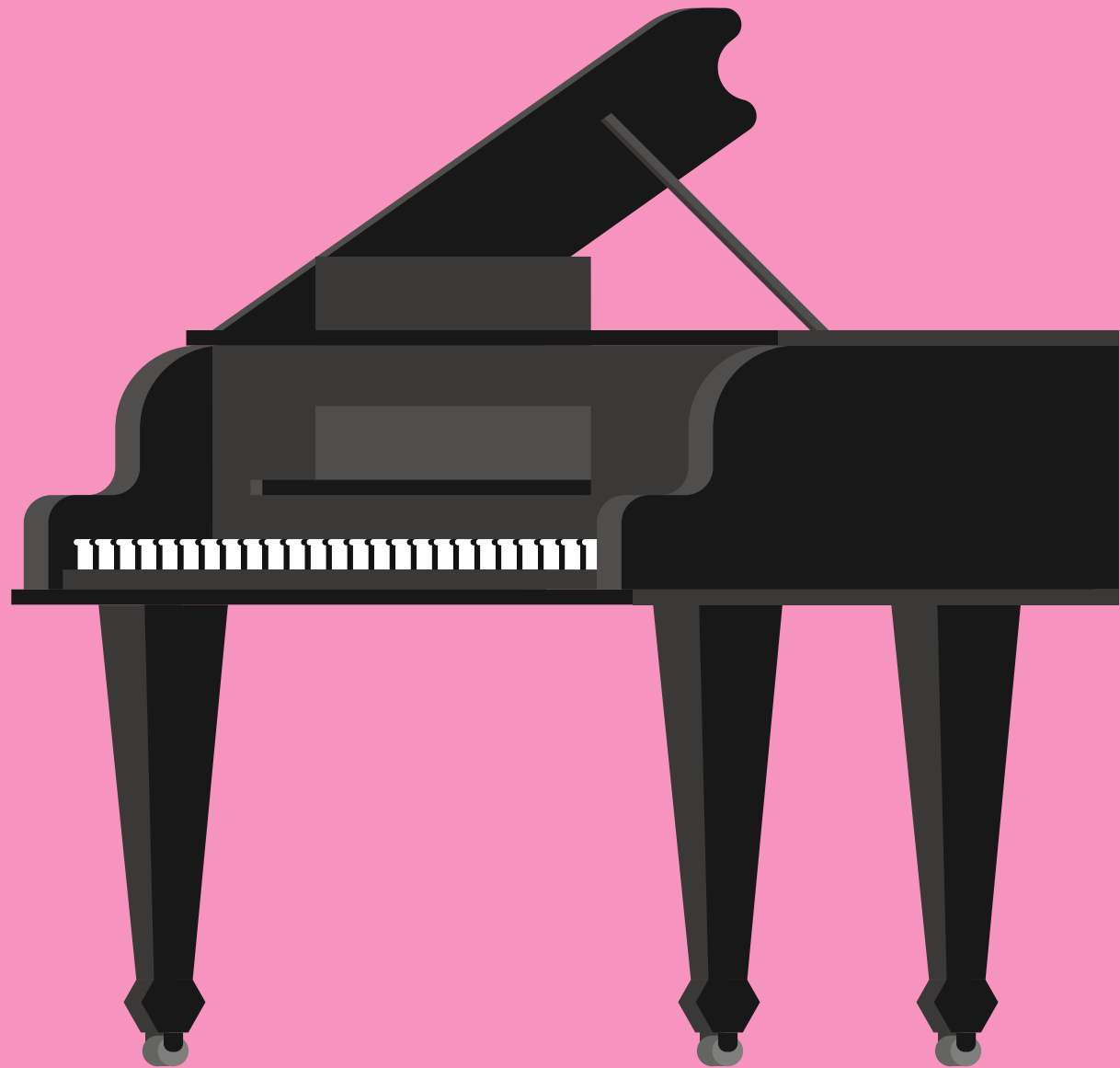
Symphony

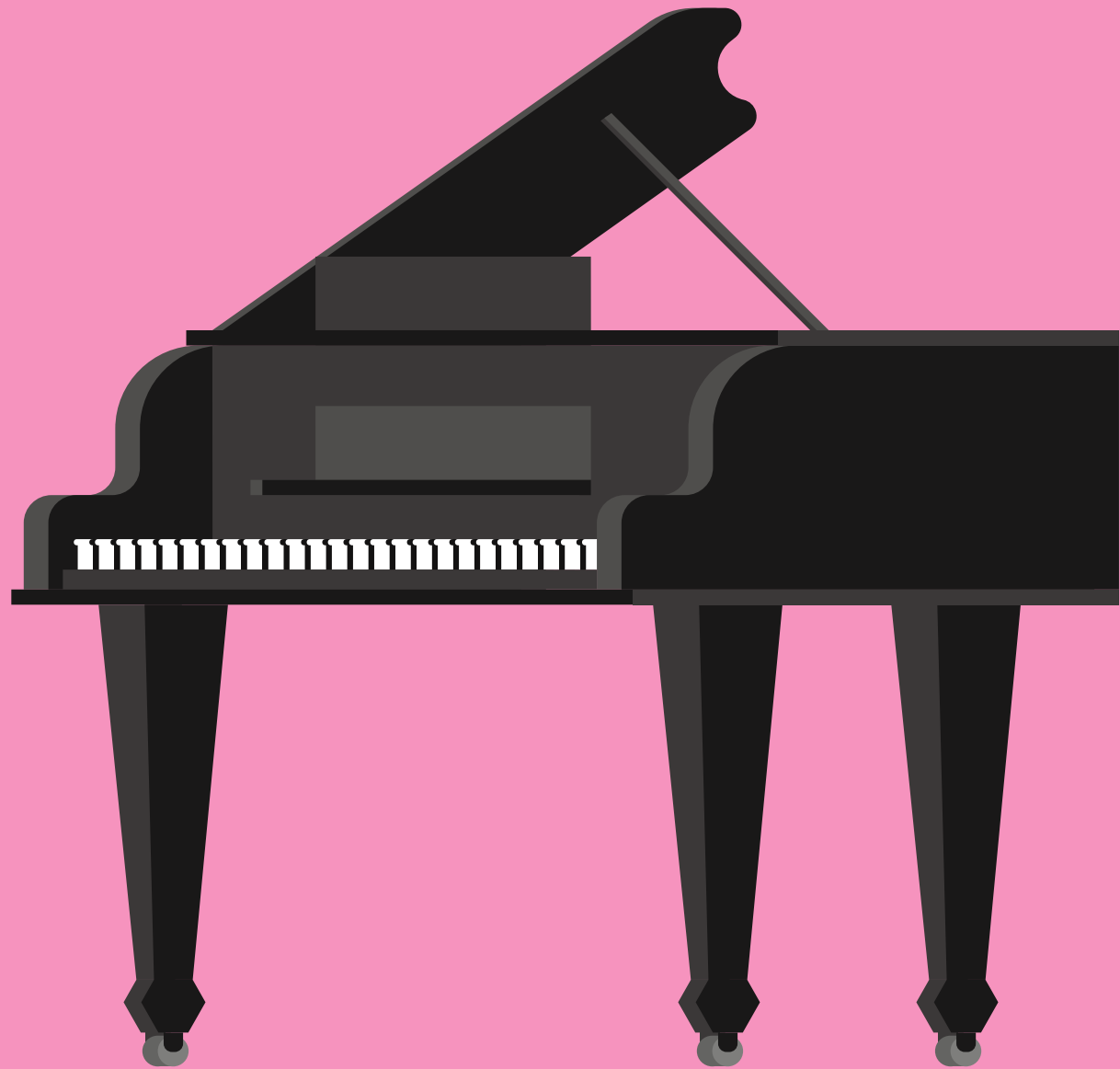
The symphony is considered as a sonata written to be played by an orchestra. Just like a typical sonata, the symphony has three or four different movements. Composing symphonies started as early as the American period. However, there were no symphonies documented from 1981 to 1990.



Suite

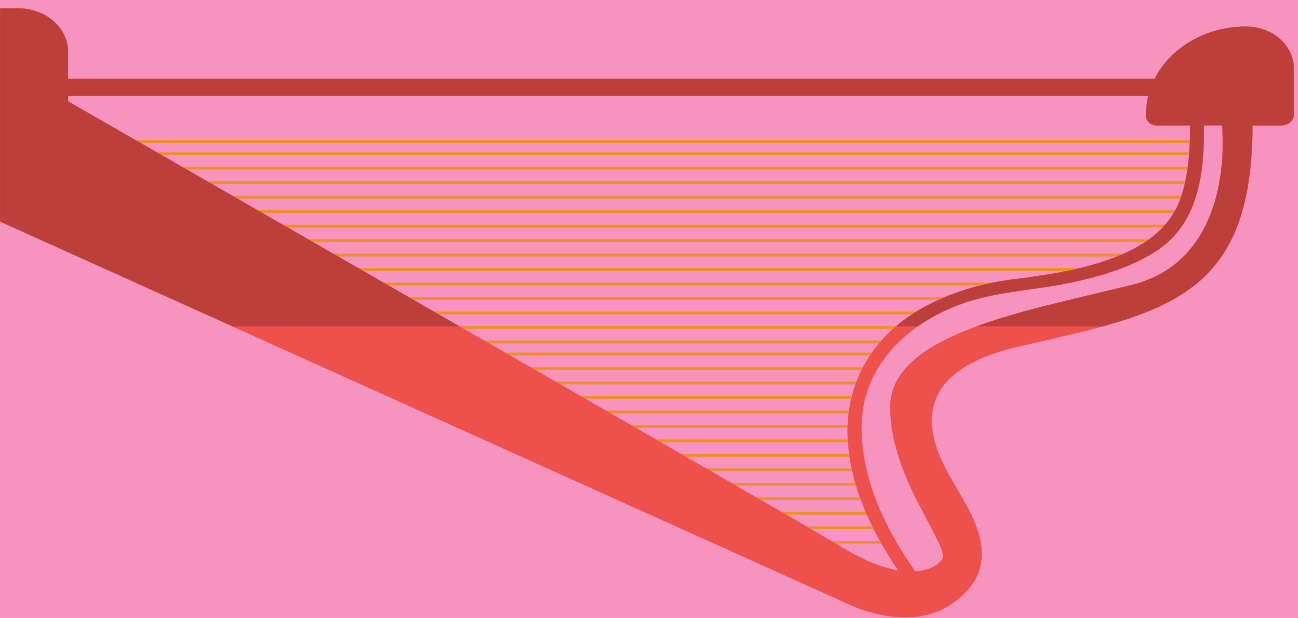
A symphonic suite, on the other hand, refers to a well-arranged set of individual movements, which are unified because of using either a common form or key, or a nonmusical element. The usual themes include scenery and folk songs.

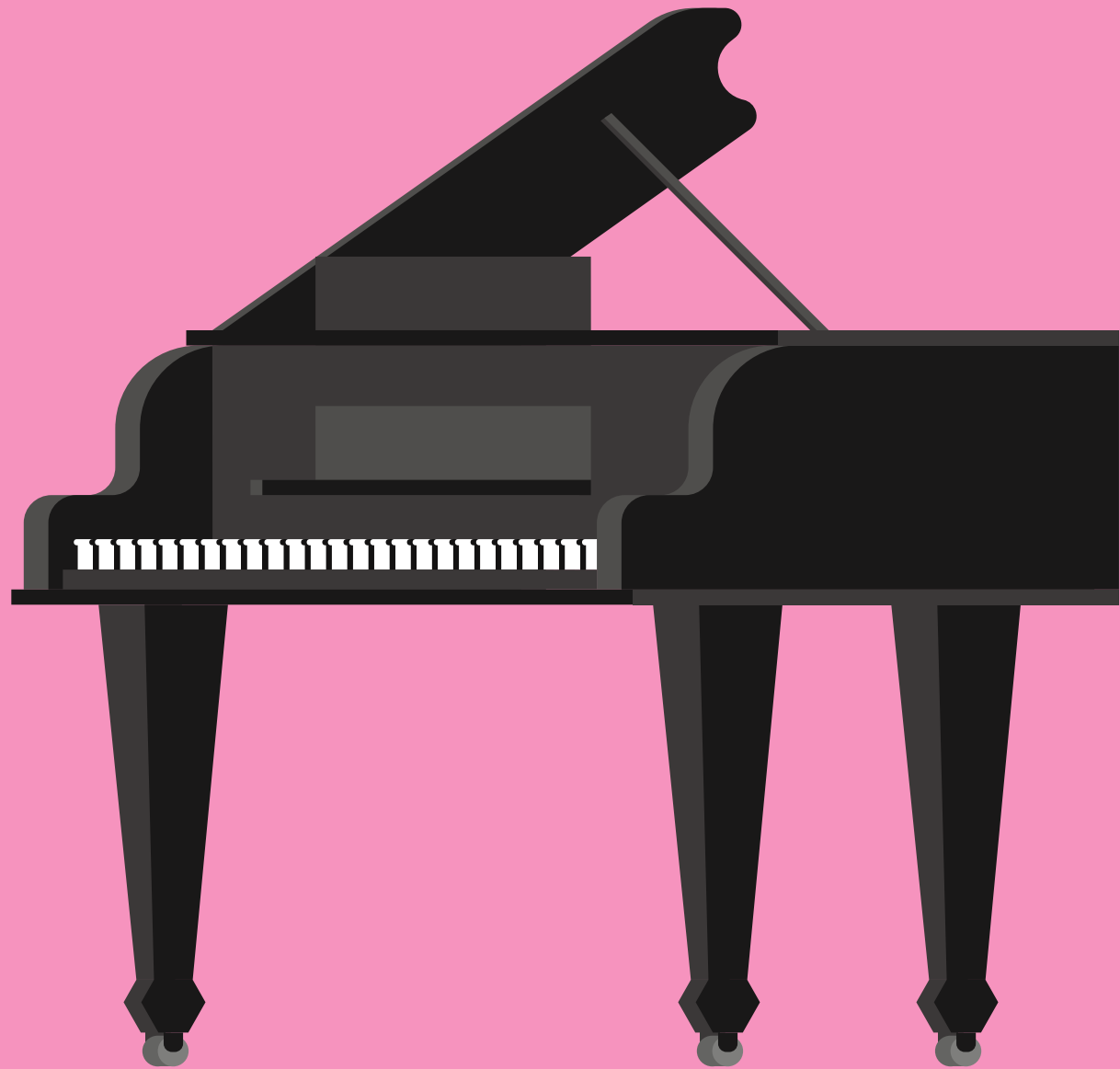




Concert Overture

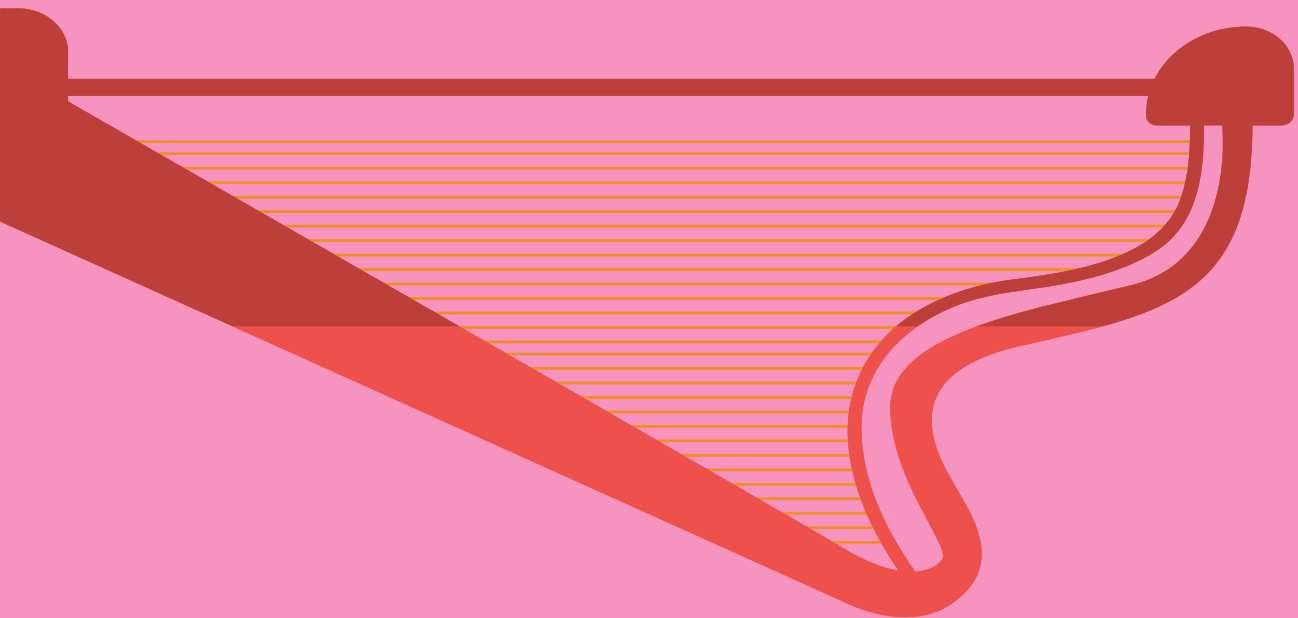
A concert overture is a composition that is typically written in a sonata-allegro form. This has one movement with many sections.





Symphonic Poem

The symphonic poem is also called the tone poem, based on a nonmusical poetic or realistic idea. Themes for symphonic poems include biblical themes and personalities, historical events, literary works, and local scenery.



SEMI- CLASSICAL MUSIC

Musical forms under this category include band and rondalla music, hymns and marches, sarswela music, and stylized folk songs.





Band Music

This refers to compositions created for the band, which is a group of brass, percussion, and woodwind instruments. Examples of a band are brass band, symphonic band, military band, and jazz band. A band may also refer to groups of instruments such as an accordion band or bamboo band. Band music became a very important medium for Filipino composers. Most, if not all, contemporary Filipino composers produced band music. Band music is still popular and has gained national attention after the Marcos regime.





Marcha/March

This refers to a composition with music played in regular phrases and a strongly accented rhythm, usually in a 4/4 time signature. The march is played in some dances or with marching groups.



POPULAR MUSIC

This category includes original music composed by Filipinos, which utilizes Western and local musical influences. During the 1970s, emergence of original Pilipino music (OPM) first began with translation of foreign lyrics into the vernacular. In 1973, Joey "Pepe" Smith and the Juan de la Cruz Band released "Ang Himig Natin" as a result of experimenting with the fusion of rock music with Filipino lyrics. This gave birth to Pinoy pop. There are several forms of Pinoy pop, which include the following:



Protest songs became highly popular during the 1970s, during the time when student activism emerged. These songs were created and sung to express and promote ideas on changing the social and political system at that time. These also aimed to inspire bravery, heroism, and nationalism. Perhaps the most popular protest song during this time was "Bayan Ko" which was written by Jose Corazon de Jesus (lyrics) and Constancio de Guzman (music) in 1928. Later musicians experimented with various musical styles and melodies in creating protest songs.

After the 1986 EDSA Revolution, musicians continued to look back and experiment with a variety of musical forms, including traditional ones. Arrangements of folk songs and popular dance rhythms are blended together in band music and rondallas. However, jazz and classical music remained to be unpopular among Filipinos.

Popular Music

- Pinoy rock, which involves the use of drums, electric guitars synthesizers, and other electronic instruments;
- Safe Pinoy pop or "middle-of-the-road" type of music, as shown the compositions of Apo Hiking Society and Jose Mari Chan;
- Pinoy folk, which is inspired by simple and repetitive tunes made popular by Western folk singers (Pinoy folk music later involved the use of Asian or ethnic musical traditions and instruments);
- Pinoy disco music, which is essentially a Filipino adaptation of Western disco music;
- Rap, which is described as a musical form involving a fast-paced rhythmic narration accompanied by electronic musical instruments. It is usually performed with dancing. Francis Magalona introduced Pinoy rap.

BLOWING

OUT SOMEONE ELSE'S

CANDLE

DOESN'T MAKE YOURS

SHINE ANY BRIGHTER

“BULLYING IS NOT OKAY”

