

Impressionism

1890-1920

Features: unresolved harmony, use of whole tone and pentatonic scales, parallelism, extended use of pedal, relaxed treatment of meter, extension of dynamic range especially the soft end.

Composer: Maurice Ravel. French.

Fact: One of the first composers to make recordings

Composition: *Gaspard de la Nuit*

Contemporary Period

1900-present

Features: tone clusters, polychords, aleatoric composition, prepared piano, electronic and computer influenced composition and performance, pointillism

Composer: John Cage, American

Fact: Pioneer in the avant-garde movement

Composition: *Silence*