Romantic Genres and Forms

Trends in Orchestral Music
- Legacy of Beethoven
  - Individual Solutions
- Limitations of Classical “Equilibrium”
  - Form is no longer a mold but a process
  - Blurring of the “grooves” of Sonata Form
- Cyclic Ideas: Movements or Works
- Contraction/Expansion
  - 2-6 Movements
  - Short or Long Movements
- Programs: Stated or Implied
- Self-Sustaining Overtures

Trends in Piano Music
- “The Supreme Romantic Instrument”
  - Technical and Clear
  - Drama and Fullness
- “Character” Pieces
  - National: Polonaise
  - Single Emotion: Nocturne, Ballade
  - Technical Works: Etude
- Transcriptions
- Sonatas
- Concertos
- Virtuosity
Trends in Chamber Music

• Music Closest to the Classical Idiom
• Associated with like Composers
• Variety of Combinations
  – String Quartet
  – Importance of Piano

Trends in Vocal Music

• Opera
  – Increase of Orchestra
  – Psychological
  – Portrayal of Nature
  – Continuous Operatic Act
• Choral Music
  – Concert Mass/Requiem
  – Steady Demand of Works
  – Amateur Societies
  – Continuous Oratorios (like opera)
• Art-Song
  – Germany
    • Lied: Piano=Voice
  – France
    • Romance: Voice with minor accompaniment
    • Mélodie: Piano=Voice

Most of the Innovations of the Romantic