

Music of the Great Britain



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Ancient Times



English music dates back to the culture of Celtic tribes who inhabited the British Isles in the 4th century.

The Celts played the pipe, the flute, the primitive violin, the drum.

In the 6th century the British were converted to Christianity.
Church music dominated at that period.



In the 11th century the Normans who came from the North of France began to invade the British Isles. French culture influenced the development of music in Britain.

New forms of folk music appeared at that time:

epic, romantic, satirical songs.



Bards and minstrels sang them and played the harp, the lyre, the lute, the violin.

Renaissance

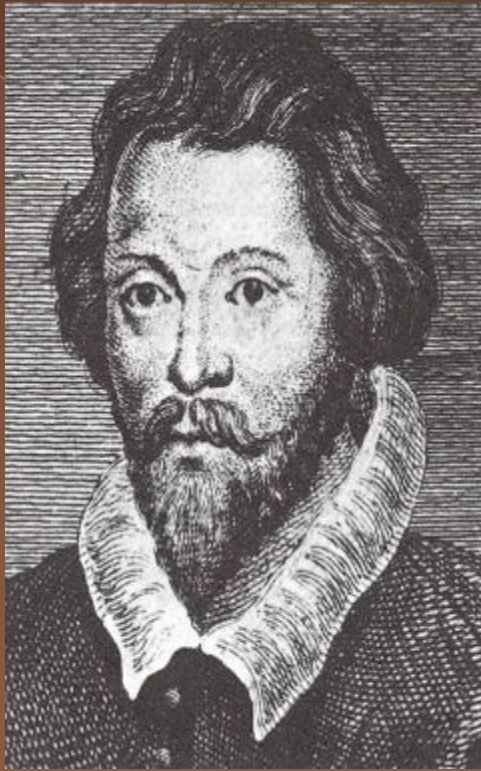
In the 15th century the Renaissance came to Great Britain. At that time professional musicians began to play their music. English music had a great influence on the development of the Continental style.



The first famous composer of that period
was
John Dunstable (1390 – 1453).

“Golden Age” (the 16th -17th centuries)

William Shakespeare created his immortal tragedies and comedies, and music had the great importance in the theatre.



At that time England gave the world the music of William Byrd (1542 – 1623), Orlando Gibbons (1583 – 1625), John Bull (1562 – 1628).

A Low Point in English Native Music (the 18th-19th centuries)

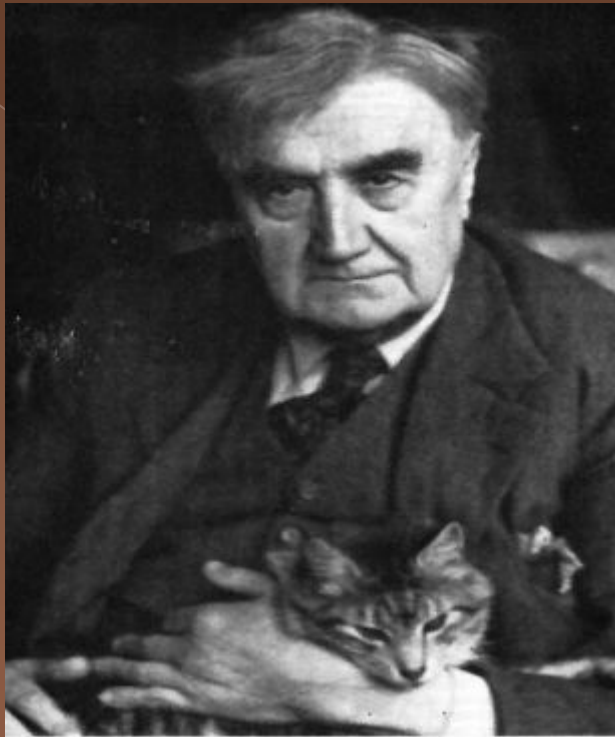
A lot of foreign musicians were attracted by the country's wealth and large public. Among them was George Frederick Handel (1685-1759) who was German by origin, settled in London in 1712 and remained there till his death.



Handel created a great number of organ concertos, operas, which were the most original contribution both to English and the world music.

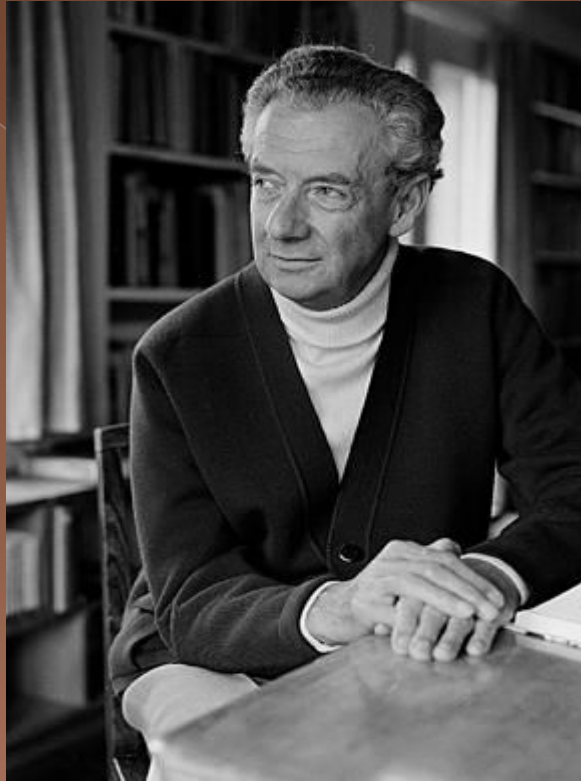


In the 19th century Edward Elgar became an outstanding national composer. He created his own original style and was a great authority as the head of a new school of music. He composed symphonies, concertos and oratorios.



In the early 20th century English music was represented by
Ralph Williams (1872 -1958),
Gustav Holst (1874 – 1934).

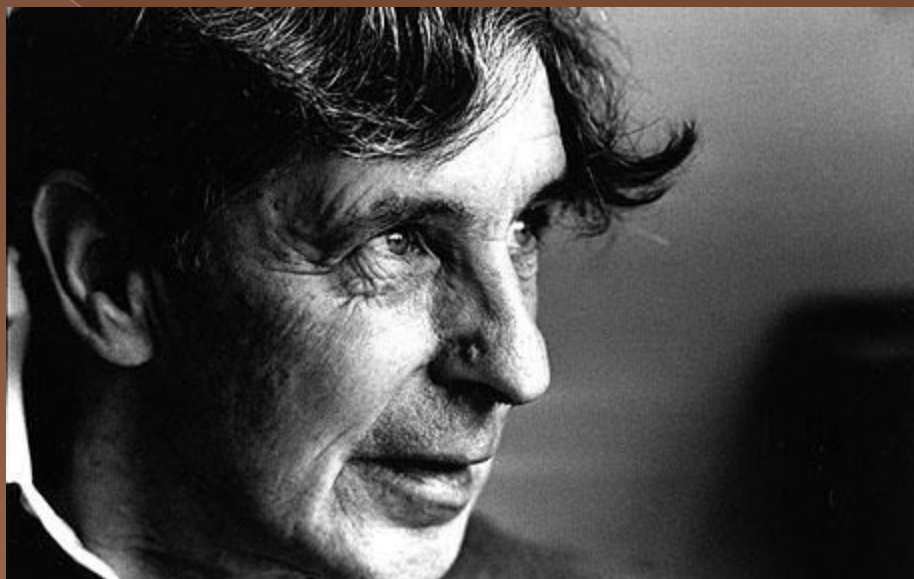
The most prominent composers of the 20th century



Benjamin Britten (1913 -1976)



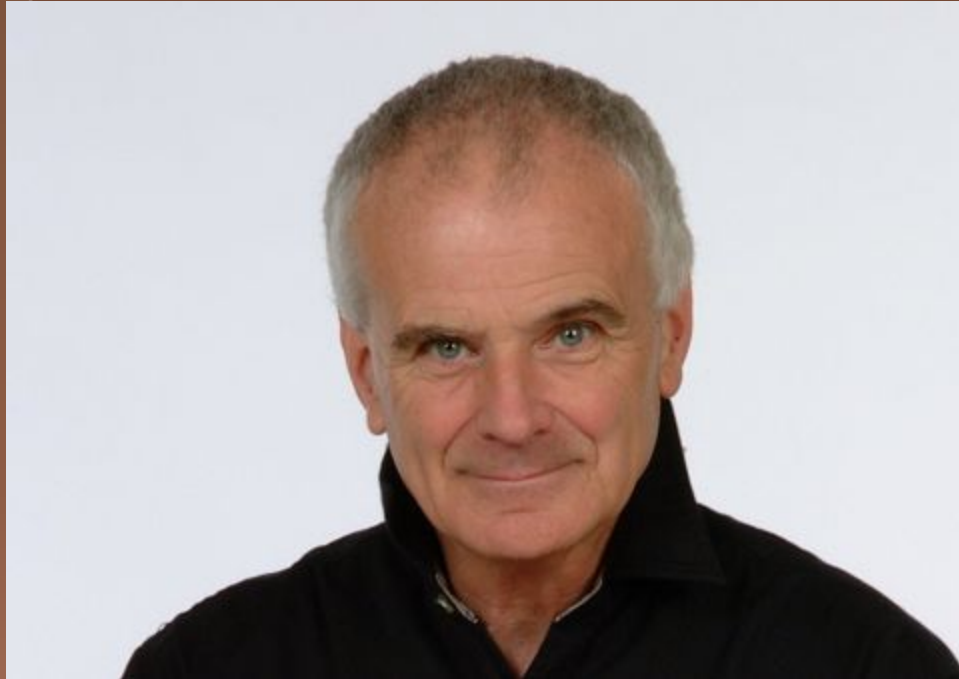
William Walton (1902 -1983),



Michael Tippett (b.
1905)



Richard Rodney Bennett (b. 1936)



Peter Maxwell Davies (b. 1934)



Harrison Birtwhistle (b. 1934)

Rock and Pop Music

Rock and pop music have been very popular in Britain for the last 30 years.

They have become an important part of Britain's youthful pop-culture.

British pop and rock groups have a great appeal to audiences all over the world and often set new trends in music.

In the 1960s and 1970s several groups achieved international success.



The Beatles



The Rolling Stones



The Who



Led Zeppelin



The Animals



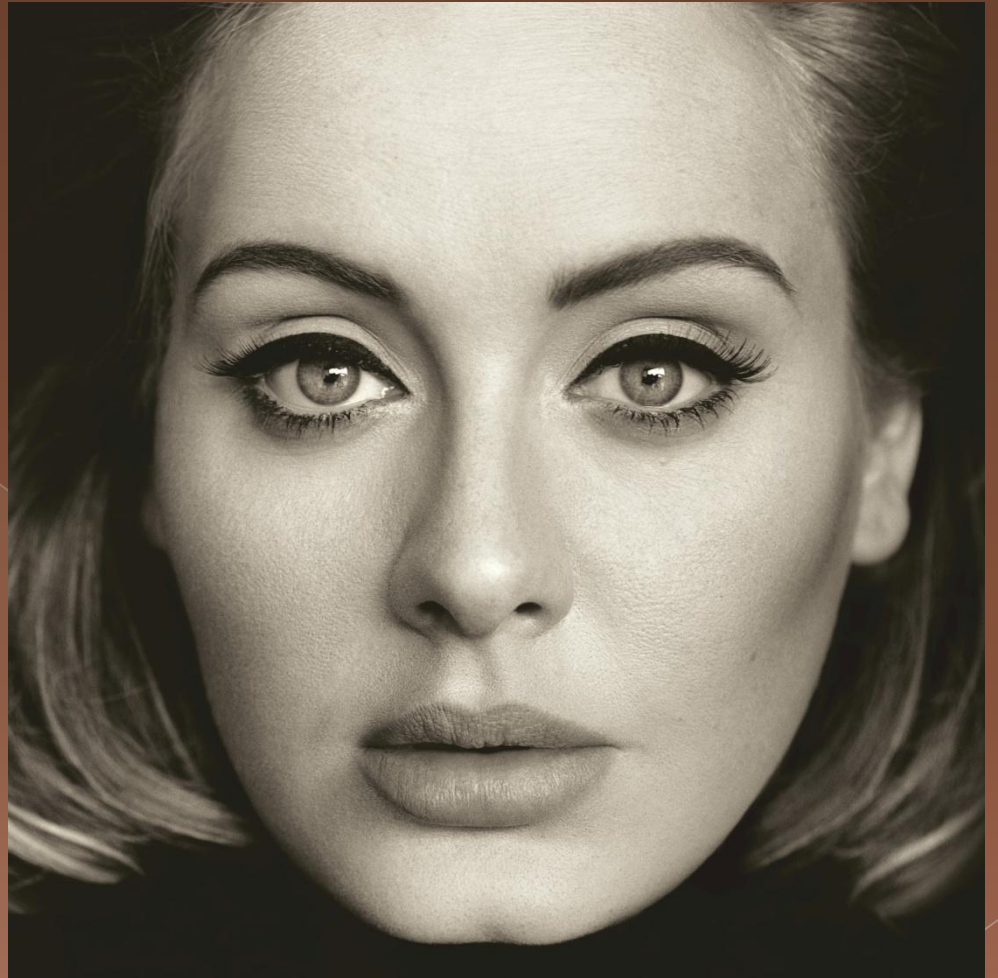
The Queen



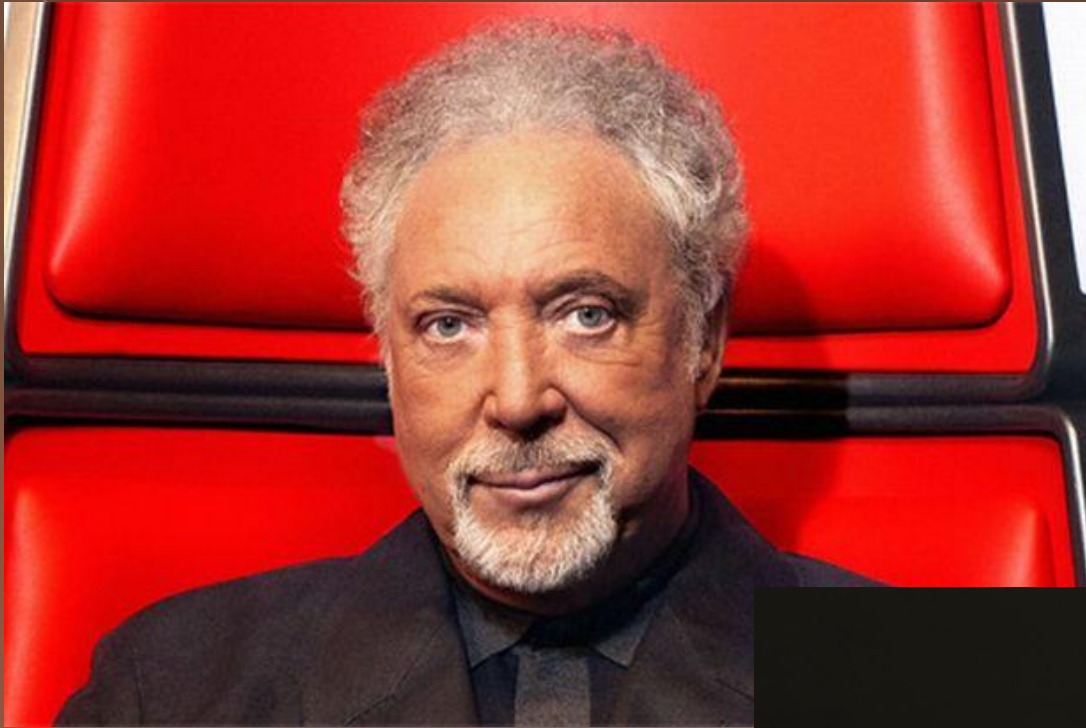
Pink Floyd



Mick Jagger



Adele



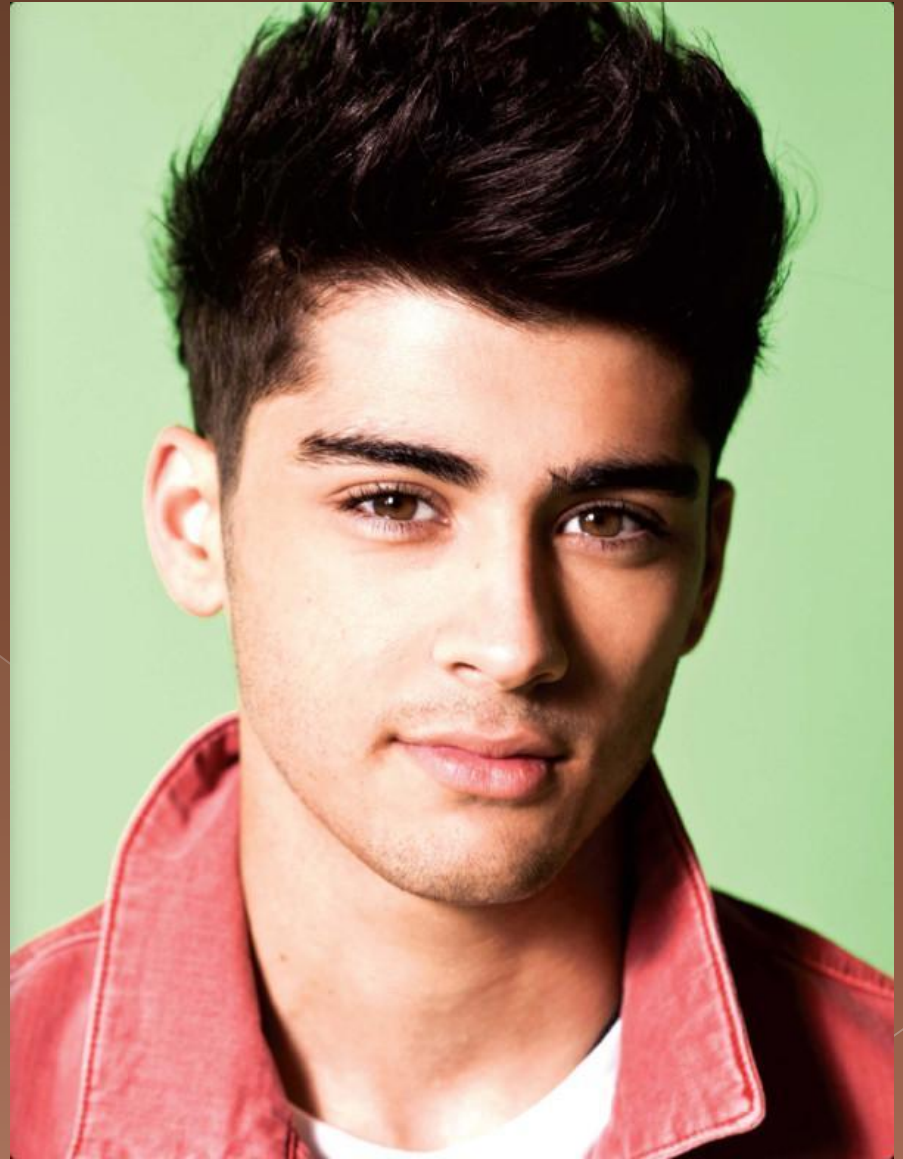
Tom Jones



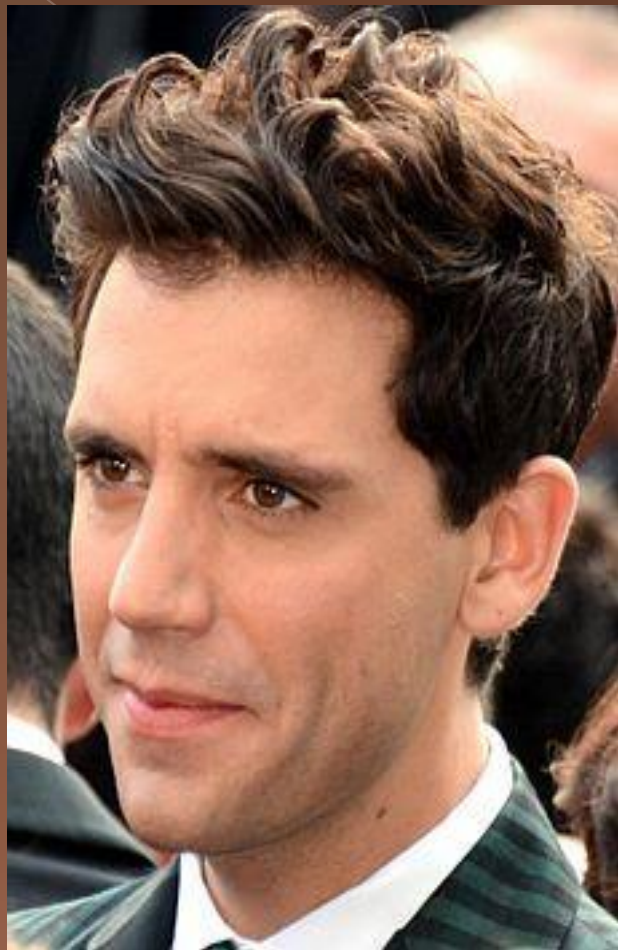
Elton John



George Michael



Zayn Malik



Mika



Ozzy Osbourne



Edward Sheeran