

Lesson 6d introduces “pick-up” notes.

A “pick-up” is an incomplete measure that starts a piece or a section of a piece. A famous example of a “pick-up” (also called an anacrusis) is the “Oh-oh” that begins *The Star Spangled Banner*. In *Baroque Duet*, the pick-up is the “C sharp” that opens the piece. You begin counting with beat four. Notice that the final measure only contains three beats. When there is a pick-up, it is traditional for the first and last partial measures to add up to the meter.

CD TRACK 44

Lesson 6d

Baroque Duet

(Petite Fugue)

M.M.=72

Student

6= Re Teacher

4 i m i m i m i m m i m i m m

4 i m i m a i a m m i m i m i a m i m i m a m i

9 m i m i m i m i m i m i m a m a m i m i m

(6th fr.)

pivot 4

pivot 2

pivot 1

pivot 4

pivot 4

pivot 2



Dance

A Late Baroque (Rococo) Painting

Lancret, Nicolas (1690-1743)

In this scene, a group has come outside for a light hearted afternoon “Dance”. Lancret’s figures are light, graceful, busy, and full of motion. They have even continued dancing after the guitarist has stopped playing! One of the characteristics of late Baroque/Rococo painting is a plethora of ornamentation. If there is a little space left on the canvas, it was filled with a richly shadowed tree, or a fountain, or a statue of Aquarius pouring water on those below. Great care is lavished on the folds of and lighting on the clothing.

The music of the Baroque era (1600-1750) is often ornamented. You can see and hear this in *Baroque Duet* with the little grace notes and trills in the teachers part. Another feature of Baroque music is its busy, perpetual motion, much like the painting above. In *Baroque Duet* there is less concern about clear phrases and more interest in maintaining the continuous “filled space” style.

Incidentally, blue paint was quite expensive in this era. It was made from crushed lapis lazuli, a gem from overseas (or ultramarine, so to speak). Only the aristocracy and the very rich could afford clothing dyed with crushed, exotic gems. It’s quite peculiar that the guitarist is dressed in the most expensive fashion.