Background dates for Popular Music Studies

Collected and prepared by Philip Tagg, Dave Harker and Matt Kelly

-4000 to -1

c.4000 End of palaeolithic period in Mediterranean

-4000 Sumerians settle on site of Babylon

c.3500-2800: King Menes the Fighter unites Upper and Lower Egypt; 1st and 2nd dynasties

3500-3000: Neolithic period in western Europe (ends 1700 BC)
— Harps, flutes, lyres, double clarinets played in Egypt

3000-2500: Old Kingdom of Egypt (3rd to 6th dynasty), including Cheops (4th dynasty: 2700-2675 BC), whose pyramid conforms in layout and dimension to astronomical measurements. Sphinx built. Egyptians invade Palestine. Bronze Age in Bohemia. Systematic astronomical observations in Egypt, Babylon, India and China

3000-2000 'Sage Kings' in China, then the Yao, Shun and Hsia (-2000 to -1760) dynasties

3000-2500: Chinese court musician Ling-Lun cuts first bamboo pipe. Pentatonic scale formalised (2500-2000). Chinese emperor checked if court and village songs corresponded with the five notes (acc. The 'Shu Ching' (=Book of History)
— Bronze age in Britain
— Moses leads Israelites out of Egypt. Trojan war. Nebuchadnezzar in Babylon. 19th-21st dynasties in Egypt. Tutankhamen's tomb
— Cretan-Mycenaean cultures flourish. Trojan war.
— Foundation of Corinth
— Teotihuacan Sun Pyramid (Mexico)

2200-525: dynasty of Pharaohs (god-kings)

c.-1000 Indian Rigveda (Veda of Humns) and Samaveda (Veda of Chants) developed (forerunners to Jewish & Gregorian chants?)
— Phoenicians main traders in western Mediterranean
— Temple and Song of Solomon
— India: transmigration of souls (Brahminism and Atmanism) and caste system. China: rational philosophy of Chou dynasty gains over mysticism of earlier Shang (Yin) dynasty. Chinese textbook of maths and physics
— Homer's Iliad and Odyssey
— Iron and steel production in Indo-Caucasian culture
— Greeks settle in Spain, Southern Italy, Sicily. First Greek iron utensils
— Kung Tu-tzu (Confucius, b. -551) dies
— Sappho of Lesbos. Lao-tse (Chinese philosopher). Israel in Babylon. Massilia (Marseille) founded

-571 Lao Tzu (founder of Taoism, b. -604, d.)

-550 Pythagoras 'discovers' octave

-550 Indian vina (2 hollow gourds connected by strings and a bamboo reed) - origin of many hollow string instruments?

-500 BC: Celts arrive in Britain

-540 Sophocles 'Theban trilogy

-540 Plato's Republic

-530 Aristotle's Politics and Poetics

-530 Aristoxenos 'Harmonics'. Defines rhythm as tripartite: speech, melody, movement

221 Ch'in dynasty in China

-520. 'Natyasastra' (Indus) codifies Hindu classical music practices (e.g. for epics Ramayama, Mahabharta and Bhagavad-gita) 215 Great Wall of China built (2250 km)

55 Roman invasion of Britain

-510 Emperor Wu founds Imperial Office of Music (Yueh-fu), attached to the Office of Weights and Measures, for standardising pitch and supervising music

-5 Christ born

1-999

30 Crucifixion of Christ

50 Buddhism introduced into China

100 Maya civilization flourishes

240 Christianity official religion of Roman Empire

340 Definite split of Roman Empire in two

350 Foundation of Schola Cantorum for church song in Rome

378 St Ursus builds Ravenna cathedral

385 Roman legions evacuate Britain

386 Hymn singing introduced by Ambrosius, bishop of Milan

410 Alaric and Goths sack Rome

432 St Patrick starts mission to Ireland

440 Jutes, Angles and Saxons arrive and control most of England by 800

450 Responsorial singing (precentor and congregation) after Jewish pattern common in Roman church

476 Goths conquer Rome: end of Western Roman Empire

520 Boethius: De institutione musica - Greek music theory to Latin (letter notation, misunderstanding of modes)

563 St Columba (Irish abbot) on Iona to convert Picts and Scots

570 Muhammad the prophet (b)

596 Pope Gregory dispatches St Augustine of Canterbury as missionary to Britain

600 'Antiphonar' - Pope Gregory's collection of church chants. Refounds Schola Cantorum in Rome

619 Orchestras of hundreds of players in China

622 'Origim sive etymologiarum libri XX' - encyclopedia of arts and sciences by Isidore of Seville

632 Muhammad the prophet (d)

642 Arabs conquer Egypt (642), Byzantium (655), Crete (674), Tunis (700), most of Pain (718)

650 Neumes (notation for groups of notes) used until 1050

685 Founding of Winchester cathedral

687 Sussex, last heathen kingdom in England, convert to Christianity

715 Moslem empire extends from Pyrenees to China with Damascus as capital

725 Court orchestra of Emperor Ming-Huang is high culture of T' and dynasty: no harmony or polyphony, five note scale without semitones: flutes, guitars,
bells, gongs, drums

750 Arab alchemist discovers effect of light on silver nitrate
— Gregorian church music in England, France, Germany

787 Harun al-Raschid caliph of Baghdad (to 809) - golden period of Arabic learning

790 Schools for church music established at Paris, Köln, Soissons & Metz under supervision of Schola Cantorum (Rome)

800 Charlemagne crowned first Holy Roman Emperor
— City of Machu Picchu (Inca, Peru) - rediscovered 1911

814 Arabs take over Indian numerals (incl 0) to multiply by ten

c825 Ishaq-al-Mausili (767-850), Arab singer and music theorist (cf. 900)

841 Vikings invade what is now Normandy
c850 Greek musical theory translated into Arabic and develed (e.g. ‘Treatise concerning the Inner Knowledge of Melodies’ by Al-Kindi (d.874). ‘Al-musiqi’ important subject in Arab universities.

860 Danes sack Winchester. Constant raids until c1010

870 ‘Musica enquiriatis’ - MS using Latin letters for musical notation

900 c. Ibn al-Munajjam (d.912) ‘Risala fī-l’-musiqi’ (=Book about Music) showing Arab classical scales as Pythagorean but ascending

935 Odo de Cluny: Enchoridion musices

940 Postal and news services in the caliph’s empire have at their disposal c. 1000 stations
— Manufactures of linens and woolens in Flanders

942 Arabs bring kettledrums and trumpets to Europe

950 Al-Farabi (d), working at Aleppo and Córdoba, author ‘Kitab al-musiqi al-kabir’ (=The Great Book on Music)

1000-1399

1000 Musical notation improved by Guido d’Arezzo

1015 At Poposa monastery (Ravenna), sight singing is introduced

1026 Guido d’Arezzo introduces solmisation (do re mi fa so la)

1045 Split between Roman and Eastern Orthodox church

1050 Harp arrives in Europe (Arabic). Time values given to notes

1065 Consecration of Westminster Abbey

1066 Battle of Hastings

1071 Constatine the African (1020-1087) brings Greek medicine (via Arabs) to Western Europe

1081 Commercial treaty between Venice and Byzantium

1094 El Cid takes Valencia from the Moors

1096 First Crusade begins

1100 Secular music school of St Martial at Limoges uses polyphonic styles

1119 Bologna University founded

1130 Troubadour and trouvère music evolves

1150 Paris University founded

1151 Leonin and ‘ars antiqua’
c1155: Minnelieder, Minnesinger (e.g. Kurenberg)

1167 Oxford University established

1199 Founding of Liverpool

1200 Cambridge University founded
— Faux bourdon style in GB. Carmina Burana (Latin monastic songs) in Germany

1201 Façade of Notre Dame completed

1215 Magna Carta

1218 Genghis Khan captures Persia

1225 Roman de la rose
— Sumer is icumen in

1233 Coal mined for first time in Newcastle

1237 Mongols capture Moscow

1238 Adam de la Halle (b)

1249 Roger Bacon records the existence of explosives

1250 Establishment of four national colleges at Paris University
— Magister Perotinus (Notre Dame, Ars antiqua)
— c. Music faculty at Salamanca University

1265 Franco of Cologne, Pierre de la Croix writing motets (musica mensurata)

1277 Marco Polo (1254-1324) journeys to China (return 1295)

1277 Roger Bacon imprisoned for heresy

1285 Adam de la Halle (1238-1287) ‘Le jeu de Robin et Marion’

1287 Adam de la Halle (d)

1289 Block printing in Ravenna

1291 Arabs capture Acre. End of crusades
— York Minster nave erected

1307 Dante starts ‘Divina Commedia’ (ends 1321)

1313 German Grey Friar Berthold Schwarz reinvents gunpowder

1322 Pope forbids use of counterpoint in church music

1325 Tournai Mass - first polyphonic mass

1327 Aztec establishes Mexico City

1329 Philippe de Vitry coins ‘ars nova’ (v. contrapuntal style)

1330 Paris Musicians’ Guild (Les ménétriers) formed (ends 1773)

1331 First record of weaving in England (York)

1332 Black Death (bubonic plague) originates in India

1348 Black death sweeps across Europe
— Order of the Garter (1)

1349 Black death kills 1/3 of English population

1351 1347-1351 Black Death kills 75,000,000

1354 Mechanical clock at Strasbourg Cathedral

1360 Lute (via Arabs) playing popular in Europe
— Beginnings of development of clavichord and cembalo

1361 Black Death reappears in England

1365 Guillaume de Machaut (1300-1377) 4-voice Mass

1378 Papal schism (until 1417)

1381 Venice wins 100-yr war with Genoa - flourishing trade
— Peasants’ Revolt under Wat Tyler

1382 Wyclif (church reformer) expelled from Oxford by London synod

1384 Incorporation (Guild) of Fishmongers founded

1387 Chaucer (1340-1400): The Canterbury Tales

1400

1411 London Guildhall built (finished 1426)

1414 Medici of Florence bankers to papacy (until 1476)
— First German peasants’ revolt

1437 fl. John Dunstable (1369-1453)

1440 Henri Arnault de Zwolle describes technique of, but does not construct, the piano (see 1709)

1450 Gutenberg prints the ‘Constance Mass Book’
— Battista’s camera lucida (lense & prism)

1451 Glasgow University founded

1453 Turks take Constantinople, coverting St Sophia Basilica into a mosque

1455 Venetian Cadamoto explores Sénégal river

1456 Turks conquer Athens (burning Acropolis in 1458)
1463 Turks conquer Bosnia (also Herzegovina in 1467)
1465 First music printing
1470 Portuguese navigators reach the Gold Coast
1471 Jakob Obrecht: St Matthew Passion (Latin text)
1472 Start of Portuguese Empire (Fernando Po)
1473 Woodcut music printing (Eslingen, Germany)
1474 William Caxton prints first book in English (at Bruges)
1477 Torquemada (1420-1498) in full swing with the inquisition
1483 Botticelli paints 'Birth of Venus'
1484 Portuguese navigator Diego Cam discovers mouth of Congo river
— Johannes de Tinctoris (1436-1511): 'De inventione et usu musicae'
1492 Columbus's voyage to Caribbean
— Spanish conquer Granada and extinguish Moorish kingdom in Spain
— Turks invade Hungary
— da Vinci draws flying machine
1493 Pope Alexander VI divides lands found in Americas between Spain and Portugal
— Peasants' revolt in Alsace and S W Germany
— Turks invade Dalmatia and Croatia
— Heinrich Isaac court composer in Bavaria
1495 Greek and Latin classics published by Aldine Press, Venice
— da Vinci paints 'The Last Supper'
— Bosch paints 'The Garden of Worldly Delights'
— Josquin des Près (1450-1521) appointed organist at Cambrai
1498 Vasco da Gama, Portuguese navigator (1469-1524) reaches India
1499 Oxford University institutes degrees in music

1500

1500 Josquin des Prés at court of Louis XII
— da Vinci's Camera Obscura
— Petrucci's movable type music printing (Venice)
1502 Petrucci publishes 1st Book of Masses by J d Prés
1503 da Vinci paints 'Mona Lisa'
1505 Thomas Tallis (b)
1506 Niccolò Machiavelli at 37 creates Florentine militia, first national army in Italy
1509 Beginnings of slave trade; Bartolomé de las Casas, bishop of Chiapas, states that each Spanish settler should bring a certain number of Negro slaves to the New World
1511 Portuguese reach Malacca
— Diego de Velasquez de Cuellar occupies Cuba
1512 Royal Navy builds double-deck ships with 70 guns, 1,000 tons
— Copernicus states that earth and other planets turn around sun
1513 Portuguese under Jorge Alvarez reach Canton. Spanish reach Florida
— 1st known popular printed song published in GB: John Skelton's 'Ballade of the Scottyshe Kynges'
1515 Spanish under Diaz de Solis reach mouth of Rio de la Plata
1517 Luther's 95 Theses
— Archduke Charles grants monopoly of slave trade to Flemish merchants. License to import 4,000 African slaves to Spanish American colonies granted to Lorenzo de Gomino
1518 Spanish reach Yucatán and Mexico
1521 Luther imprisoned
1522 Magellan sails round the world
1524 Johann Walther (1496-1570) produces, in collaboration with Martin Luther, the hymnal 'Geystlich Gsang-Büchleyn'
1525 Juan Luis Vives demands state help for the poor
1527 Adrian Willaert (1490-1562) maestro di capella at St Mark's, Venice
1528 Erasmus: 'Ciceronianus' - satire on Latin scholarship
— Attignant 1st book published
1530 Portuguese colonise Brazil
1531 Halley's comet arouses wave of superstition
1533 Henry VIII excommunicated
— Pizarro executes the Incas of Peru
1534 Luther completes German bible
— Jesuit order founded by Ignatius Loyola
— Susato starts publishing in Antwerp
1535 Jacque Cartier's second voyage: Québec et Montréal
1536 Jean Calvin: 'Christianae religionis Institutio'
— Pedro de Mendoza founds Buenos Aires and sends expeditions in search of Peru
— First song book with lute accompaniment published in Spain
1537 Gerardus Mercator produces first map of Flanders
— Conservatoires of music founded in Naples for boys, in Venice for girls
1539 Spain annexes Cuba
— Olaus Magnus produces map of world
1541 John Knox (1505-1572) leads Calvinist Reformation in Scotland
1543 Parliament Act restricts ballad printing
— Calvin, Geneva Psalter
1545 Council of Trent (Concilium Tridentinum) meets to discuss Reformation and Counter Reformation (-1564)
1546 Mercator states that earth has magnetic poles
— Abortive attempts to find El Dorado in Venezuela
1548 Louis Bourgeois (1510-1561): Psalter
1549 Jesuit missionaries to South America
— Thomé de Souza founds S<176>o Salvador (Bahia)
1551 Palestrina made music director at St Peter's, Rome
1555 Aztec dictionary published
1556 Lassus publishes his first book of motets
1557 State bankruptcy in Spain and France
— Stationers' Guild mus print monopoly GB
1558 English lose Calais; Elizabeth I ascends throne
— Pieter Breughel paints 'Children's Games'
— Gioseffo Zarlino (1517-1590): 'Istituzioni armoniche' defines modern major and minor scales
1560 Church of Scotland founded
— Lassus made court Kapellmeister in München
1562 John Hawkins makes first journey to New World; starts slave trade between Guinea and West Indies
1563 Breughel paints 'The Tower of Babel'
1564 English Merchant Adventurers granted new royal charter
— Scots' Psalter (Dunfermline?)
— First of Andrea Amati's violins
1565 Palestrina: 'Missa Papæ Marcelli'
1572 William Byrd and Thomas Tallis organists at the Chapel Royal
1574 Portuguese found S<176>o Paolo and colonise Angostura
1575 Paris pop. 300,000; London 180,000; Cologne 35,000
1580 Francis Drake returns from world circumnavigation
— Jan Pieterszoon Sweelink organist at Dude Kerk, Amsterdam
1581 'Greensleeves' mentioned for first time
— Vicenzo Galilei (Galilei's Dad, 1520-1591), lutenist and scientist, engraves music examples. Publishes 'Dialogo della musica antica e della moderna'
1583 English merchant expeditions to Mesopotamia, India and Persia
1585 Bartholomew Newsam constructs first English travelling and standing clocks
1588 Spanish Armada defeated. English Guinea Company founded
1590 First Shakespeare plays performed
1591 Coal mining starts in the Ruhr
1592 Portuguese settle at MObasa
1593 Saint Ambrogio Bank founded in Milan
1594 English navigator James Lancaster breaks Portuguese trade monopoly in India
1595 G P da Palestrina (b. 1525) dies
1596 Orlando di Lasso dies (b. 1532)
1599 Shakespeare’s Julius Caesar, As You Like It and Twelfth Night
1600 Dutch start colonising East Indies
1601 French occupy the Antilles and Cayenne
1602 Dutch East India Company founded with capital of £540,000 in Batavia: first modern public company
1603 Santa Fé (now New Mexico) founded
1604 Spanish defeat Portuguese off coast of Bombay
1605 Barbados claimed as English colony
1606 G Galilei invents proportional compass
1607 Jamestown landing: Virginia Company of London, granted royal charter, sent 120 colonists
— Monteverdi’s Orfeo
1608 O’Dogherty rebellion in Ireland fails
1609 Gallelio Galilei’s telescope
1610 Parthenia printed & published
1613 Violins invented (see 1650)
1612 Athanasius Kircher (see 1650) constructs first lateranica
1613 Antwerp Academy of Sciences founded
1614 Virginian colonists prevent French from settling Nova Scotia, Maine and Maryland
1615 English fleet defeat Portuguese off coast of Bombay
— G Galileio faces Inquisition
1616 Sir Walter Raleigh released from tower to lead expedition in Guiana to find El Dorado. James I sells peerages to improve disastrous financial position
— William Shakespeare dies (b. 1564)
— Collegium musicum founded at Prague
1618 Thirty years war starts (ends 1648)
1619 First African slaves on North American continent arrive in Virginia
— Fitzwilliam Virginal Book (see 1816)
1620 Michael Praetorius dies (b. 1571)
1622 New Netherlands (from Chesapeake Bay to Maine) formally organised as Dutch province
— William Byrd dies (b. 1542)
1624 Monteverdi’s Il combattimento di Tancredi e Clorinda
1625 French occupy the Antilles and Cayenne
— Orlando Gibbons dies (b. 1583)
1626 Knighthoods for all Englishmen with property over £40/yr to help royal revenue
— Peter Minuit (director-general of Ducth West India Company’s N Amer. settlement) buys the entire Is-land of Manhattan from Native Americans for 60 guilders’ worth of goods. New Amsterdam founded
— Professorship of music at Oxford
— John Dowland dies
1629 Heinrich Schütz: Symphoniae Sacrae
1630 Gustavus Adolphus of Sweden marches his army into Germany (30 yrs war)
— Beginning of public advertising in Paris
1633 Galileo forced by inquisition to abjure theories of Copernicus
1634 Frescobaldi’s Fiori musicali di toccate (influential on J S Bach)
1635 Welsh Puritan Roger Williams (1603-1683) banished from Massachusetts; establishes Providence (Rhode Island); proclaims complete religious freedom
1636 Extermination of Christianity in Japan; prohibition of foreign books and of contact with Europeans (Portu-guese, Spanish, Dutch, English)
1637 Antwerp Academy of Sciences founded
1638 English Civil War begins (ends 1646)
1639 Académie Française compiles first dictionary of French language
1640 John Bull dies
1641 Rembrandt paints The Night Watch
1642 UK Civil War begins (ends 1646)
1643 Girolamo Frescobaldi dies (b. 1583)
1644 René Descartes ‘Principia philosophica’ (incl. ‘Cogito, ergo sum’)‘
1645 Schütz: Die 7 Worte Christi am Kreuz
1646 English Civil War ends with defeat of royalists
— Athanasius Kircher (see 1650) constructs first laterana magica for projection purposes
— Kircher’s Ars Magna Lucis et Umbrae (Rome)
1648 Peace of Westphalia ends thirty years war (started 1608). German population shrinks from 17 million (1618) to 8 mill due to war, famine and plague
1649 Republic in England until 1660. Charles I beheaded
— Cromwell invades Ireland, sacking Drogheda and Wexford
— Free enterprise receives state support in support in England
— Anti ballad singers Act of Parliament. Magistrates instructed to flog and imprison them at sight and to confiscate their stock
— Cyrano de Bergerac’s Voyage dans la Lune
1650 Beginning of Japanese ‘No’ drama
— Quaker movement starts
— Extermination of Native Americans starts
— German mathematician and humanist Athanasius Kircher (1601-1680) completes Musurgia universalis, in which he describes rudiments of musical acoustics, categories current musical styles (incl non-European) and prefigures Theory of the Affects (see 1646)
1651 Dutch settle Cape of Good Hope
— John Playford starts music publishing
1652 John Hilton publishes ‘Catch as Catch Can’ (collection of rounds, etc.)
1653 Lully director of les petits-violins du roi
1655 Cromwell dissolves Parliament, prohibits Anglican services and readmits Jews into England
— English capture Jamaica
1656 Thomas Tomkins dies
1657 Dutch scientist Christianna Huygens (1629-1695) designs pendulum clocks
1659 Alessandro Scarlatti born
— Henry Purcell born

1600

— Beginning of public advertising in Paris
1599— Thomas Morley (1557-1603): ‘A Plaine and Easy Introduction to Practicall Musick’
— Dowland: ‘First Booke of Songs’
1598 4th world circumnavigation by Olivier van Noort
1597 English pacification of Ireland
1600— English East India Company founded. Amsterdam Bank founded
— Dutch opticians invent telescope
— Approximate populations (in millions): France 16, Germany 14.5, Poland 11, Spain 8, Hapsburg dominions 5.5, England and Ireland 5.5, Holland 3
1602 Dutch East India Company founded with capital of £540,000 in Batavia: first modern public company
1603 Santa Fé (now New Mexico) founded
— Barbados claimed as English colony
— English government farms all customs revenue to a London consortium for merchants for an annual rent (~1671)
1606 G Galilei invents proportional compass
1607 Jamestown landing: Virginia Company of London, granted royal charter, sent 120 colonists
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— Professorship of music at Oxford
— John Dowland dies
1628 Ignácio Loyola canonised by Gregory XV (!)
— Pilgrim Fathers, leaving Plymouth (Devon) in the Mayflower, land at New Plymouth (Massachusetts) to found Plymouth colony
1629 Heinrich Schütz: Symphoniae Sacrae
1630 Gustavus Adolphus of Sweden marches his army into Germany (30 yrs war)
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1600
1660 Dutch peasant farmers (Boeren) settle in South Africa
1661 With Long Parliament dissolved (1660), Charles II is crowned. He gets Tangier, Bombay and £300,000 from Portugal as dowry of Catherine of Braganza (marriage 1662)
  — Académie Royale de Danse founded by Louis XIV
1663 Danish physician Nicolaus Steno determines that the heart is a muscle
  — Sir Roger L'Estrange sole ballad licenser GB. Position lasts till 1694
1664 British annexe New Netherlands and rename New Amsterdam (surrendered by Peter Stuyvesant) New York
  — French horn (cor de chasse/Walthorn) first used as orchestral instrument
1665 Molière writes Don Juan
1666 Great fire of London: plague wiped out. First Cheddar cheese
  — Stradivari labels his first violin
1667 Johann Kuhnau born
1668 English trumpeter John Shore (1662-1752) said to have invented the tuning fork
1670 First major British settlement in Carolina at Charles-town
  — Minute hands first added to watches
1672 Heinrich Schütz (b. 1585) dies
1673 Matthew Locke: 'The Present Practice of Music Vindicated'
1675 Paris population 0.5 mill (1800 650,000; 1930 3 mill)
1677 Spinoza, Dutch-Jewish philosopher, dies
1678 Thomas Britton (1644-1714) introduces weekly concerts in Clerkenwell (London)
  — First German opera house in Hamburg
1680 French organise colonial possessions from Québec down to mouth of Mississippi
  — Purcell organist of Westminster Abbey
1681 Female professionals appear for first time in Paris Opera
1682 Versailles becomes royal residence
1683 Turks, having helped Emeric Tökölyi to become king in Hungary (after rebellion against Hapsburgs), besiege Vienna
  — Newton explains gravitational attraction of sun, moon and earth
1685 Johann Sebastian Bach, Georg Friedrich Händel, Domenico Scarlatti born
1686 Roman Catholics readmitted to English army
1687 Venetians, in war against Turks, damage the Athens Acropolis. Turks already at war with Russia
1688 English lords invite William of Orange to be king. William and Mary crowned 1689. Declaration of Rights
1689 Dido & Aeneas (Purcell)
1690 John Locke: An Essay Concerning Human Understanding
  — English population c. 5 mill (1600 was 2.5 mill)
1691 Leibniz: 'Protagæa' on geology
1694 Bank of England founded
1695 State control of mus printing lapses (GB)
  — Henry Purcell (b. 1659) dies
1696 Johann Kuhnau (1660-1722): Frische Clavier- Früchte, oder sieben Sonaten (the sonata as piece in several contrasting movements)
1697 Last remains of Maya civilisation destroyed by Spanish in Yucatán
1698 Savery's Water Pump (see 1690)
1700

1701 Music publisher Henry Playford (1657-1709) establishes weekly concerts at Oxford
1703 Samuel Pepys (b. 1663) dies
1705 J S Bach walks 320 km to hear Buxtehude's Abendmusik in Lübeck
1706 Marlborough conquers Spanish Netherlands
  — Henry Mill invents carriage springs (GB)
1707 Union between England and Scotland under name 'Great Britain'
1709 14,000 inhabitants of the Palatinate emigrate to North America (c. 100,000 Germans during C18, 5 mill during C19)
  — Malbrouck s’en va-t-en guerre becomes popular after battle of Malplaquet
  — First Copyright Act in Britain
1710 English South Sea Company founded
  — 1st copyright law enacted in England
1711 Clarinet in opera orchestra for 1st time (J A Hasse's 'Cr<180>sus')
  — English trumpeter John Shore (1662-1752) said to have invented the tuning fork
1712 Slave revolts in New York
  — Arcangelo Corelli: 12 Concerti Grossi
  — Händel's first London opera ('Il pastor fido')
1715 Rising of Native Americans in S Carolina
  — First Liverpool dock built
  — Vaudevilles appear in Paris as popular musical comedies
1716 Hapsburgs drive Turks out of Hungary (1716) and Croatia (1717)
  — Couperin: L’art de toucher le clavecin
  — Marius’ piano (France); Schröter’s piano (Germany) (see 1709)
1717 School attendance made compulsory in Prussia
  — Mother Grand Lodge of Freemasons established in London
  — J S Bach: Orgelbüchlein
  — Händel: Water Music
1718 Banknote introduced in England
1719 Ireland declared as inseparable from Britain
  — Daniel Defoe (1661-1731): Robinson Crusoe
1720 South Sea Bubble
1721 Swiss immigrants introduce rifles into N America
  — Bach: Brandenburg Concertos
  — Georg Philipp Telemann arrives in Hamburg as director of music
  — Public concerts held at Boston (MA) and Charleston (SC)
1722 Rameau: Traité de l’harmonie
  — Bach: Das wohltemperierte Klavier, I
  — Johann Mattheson: Critica Musica
1723 Bach appointed Thomascantor after Telemann's death
1725 Alessandro Scarlatti (b. 1659) dies
1726 Jonathan Swift: Gulliver's Travels
  — Voltaire flees to GB; stays until 1729
  — Lloyd’s List published twice weekly
  — Händel becomes British subject
1728 John Gay: Beggar’s Opera
1729 Bach: St Matthew Passion
1730 John and Charles Wesley form Methodist sect at Oxford
1732 Covent Garde Opera House opened
   — J G Walther: Musik-Lexikon (first of its kind)
1733 Pergolesi’s ‘La serva padrona’ opera performed in Naples
1735 Hogarth draws ‘The Rake’s Progress’
1736 Hard rubber (caoutchouc) (India rubber) comes to England
   — Musschenbroek’s Magic Lantern
1737 Antonio Stradivari dies (b. 1644)
   — John Wesley’s ‘Sacraments and Hymns’ published in Charleston
1738 Papal bull ‘In eminenti’ against freemasonry
   — John Wesley’s evangelical conversion
   — Bach: B minor Mass
1739 Johann Matthias: Der vollkommene Kapellmeister
1740 Frederick the Great introduces freedom of press and worship in Prussia
   — Thomas Augustine Arne (1710-1778) writes masque ‘Alfred’ containing ‘Rule Britannia’
1741 Linnaeus founds botanical garden in Uppsala
   — Laurence Sterne published first two volumes of Tristram Shandy
   — Händel composes the Messiah in 10 days. 1st perf in Dublin 1742
   — Johann Joachim Quantz becomes court composer to Frederick the Great

1750

1750 Pergolesi’s ‘La serva padrona’ 1st performed in London
   — Johann Sebastian Bach (b. 1685) dies
1751 La guerre des bouffons between French and Italian music fans
   — The minuet becomes Europe’s fashionable dance
1752 Great Britain adopts Gregorian calendar on Sep 14 (Sep 3-13 omitted)
   — French Encyclopédie starts to be published (ends 1772)
1753 Linnaeus ‘Species plantorum’ after ‘Philosophia botanica’ (1751)
1754 1st iron rolling mill at Fareham (Hampshire)
1755 Dr Samuel Johnson starts his Dictionary of the English Language (ends 1773)
1756 Black hole of Calcutta
   — Seven Year’s War breaks out (Bohemia, Saxony, Prussia)
   — Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart born
1757 Domenico Scarlatti (b. 1685) dies
1758 Sir Robert Clive governor of Bengal
   — George Washington and John Forbes take Fort Duquesne, later renamed Pittsburgh
   — Ribbing machine for manufacture of hose invented by Jedediah Strutt
   — Liverpool - Leeds canal begun (finished 1761)
   — First English manual on guitar playing published
1759 Battle of Québec: British conquer Canada
   — Voltaire: Candide
   — George Friedrich Händel (b. 1685) dies
1760 Johann Matthias Stanele published first two volumes of Tristram Shandy
   — Josiah Wedgwood founds pottery works at Etruria
1762 Jean-Jacques Rousseau: Du contrat social, ou principes du droit politique
   — Benjamin Franklin improves the harmonica, making it into a playable musical instrument
   — Diderot: ‘Le neveu de Rameau’
1763 Voltaire: Treatise on Tolerance
   — Louisiana becomes British
1764 Jean-Philippe Rameau (b. 1683) dies
1765 British colonies in N America start organised resistance against London in protest against Stamp Act and other taxes
   — Horace Walpole: ‘The Castle of Otranto’ - the 1st Gothic novel?
1766 Rousseau: Dictionnaire de musique
   — Georg Philipp Telemann (b. 1681) dies. Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach succeeds him as Kapellmeister in Hamburg
1767 Royal Academy founded under Joshua Reynolds
1768 Sir Richard Arkwright’s Water Frame
   — James Watt invents steam engine (perfected 1775)
1770 James Cook discovers Botany Bay
   — Ludwig van Beethoven born
1771 Spain secedes Falklands to Britain
   — 1st Encyclopédia Britannica
   — Sir Richard Arkwright (1732-1792) produces first spinning mill
1772 Judge William Murray (1705-1773) sets precedent by ruling that a slave is free on landing in England
1773 Herder: ‘Von deutscher Art und Kunst’: manifesto of Sturm und Drang
   — Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart born
   — The waltz starts to become fashionable in Vienna
1775 American Revolution starts (ends 1783). Paul Revere’s victory at Lexington. Britain hires 29,000 German mercenaries
   — Justus Moser: Patriotische Phantasien - plea for one Germany
1776 US Declaration of Independence
   — Charles Burney (1726-1814) completes his musical journeys having published The Present State of Music in Germany, the Netherlands and the United Provinces (1773)
1777 R B Sheridan: The School for Scandal
   — Gainsborough paints ‘The Watering Place’
   — Cooperative workshop for tailors at Birmingham
1778 La Scala opened
1779 Crompton’s Spinning Machine
1780 Serfdom abolished in Austrian dominions
   — 700,000 slaves in USA. cf. 1690, 1820, 1850
   — Bolero said to be invented by Spanish dancer Sebastian Carezo
1781 Warren Hastings deposes Rajah of Benares, plunderers treasure of Nabob of Oudh
   — Franciscan monks settle at Los Angeles
   — Kant: Critique of Pure Reason
   — Serfdom abolished in Austrian dominions
1782 Spain conquers Florida
1780

- London pop. 1m (1900: 4.5m)
  - Population USA 5.3 mill (cf 1840): 80% Brit, 10% Afr, 10% other
  - The Wounded Hussar (Hewitt, US)
- Populations - Paris: 550,000 (2.8 mill 1931); New York 60,000 (7.4 mill 1931)
- Bank of France founded
- Haydn: The Seasons

1781

- (c 1802) E T A Hoffmann (1776-1822) writes for Allgemeine musikalische Zeitung (Leipzig), esp about Mozart & Beethoven. 'Classical' and 'romantic' approx same thing. Influential on Schumann and Wagner

1782

- Louisiana Purchase
- Robert Fulton propels a boat by steam power
- Henry Shrapnel (1761-1842) invents shell
- Napoleon crowned Emperor
- Beethoven: Symphony No. 3 (Eroica)
- Immanuel Kant (b 1724) dies
- Treichvich's steam locomotive
- John Macadam makes roads of crushed stone
- Jane Austen: Pride & Prejudice

1783

- Napoleon's Berlin Decree closes European ports to British vessels
- British cotton industry employs 90,000 factory workers and 184,000 handloom weavers
- Population of Germany 27 mill (65 mill in 1930)
- Britain prohibits slave trade
- Turner paints 'Sun Rising in a Mist'

1784

- USA prohibits importation of slaves from Africa
- Thomas Moore's 'Irish Melodies' 1st ed
- Beethoven: Symphonies Nos 5 and 6
- Ecuador gains independence from Spain
- Franz Josef Haydn (b. 1732) dies
- Broadwood grand piano

1785

- Serfdom abolished in Denmark
- Steam engine with rotary motion installed at cotton-spinning mill in Papplewick (Notts)
- Mozart: Marriage of Figaro (Vienna)
- Guitar stringing & tuning fixed at E, A, D, G, B, E

1786

- Robert Burns: Poems chiefly in the Scottish dialect start Burns vogue
- Mozart: Cosi fan tutte (fan tutte (Vienna))
- First telegraph: Paris - Lille
- England starts exporting iron

1787

- British settlement for freed slaves in Sierra Leone
- Mozart: Don Giovanni (Prague)
- Henry Shrapnel (1761-1842) invents shell
- Robert Fulton propels a boat by steam power
- John Macadam makes roads of crushed stone

1788

- Bread riots in France
- Mozart: Symphonies 39-41
- Napoleon's Berlin Decree closes European ports to British goods in Europe (Decree of Fontainebleau), sells seized US ships, annexes Hannover, Bremen, Hamburg, Lauenburg, Lübeck
- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (b. 1756) dies soon after perf of Die Zauberflöte
- Denmark abolishes slave trade (1st to do so)
- Mary Wollstonecraft: Vindication of the Rights of Women
- Slavery abolished in French colonies. École Normale and École Polytechnique (world's first technical college) open

1789

- First steam-powered rolling mill built in England
- Adam Smith, Scottish political economist (b 1723)
- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (b. 1756) dies soon after perf of Die Zauberflöte
- Emperor Francis II of Austria
- Beethoven: Symphony No. 3 (Eroica)
- Immanuel Kant (b 1724) dies (do the tories know this?)
- Mme de Staël: De l'Allemagne

1790

- First steam-powered rolling mill built in England
- Adam Smith, Scottish political economist (b 1723)
- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (b. 1756) dies soon after perf of Die Zauberflöte
- Emperor Francis II of Austria
- Beethoven: Symphony No. 3 (Eroica)
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1791

- First steam-powered rolling mill built in England
- Adam Smith, Scottish political economist (b 1723)
- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (b. 1756) dies soon after perf of Die Zauberflöte
- Emperor Francis II of Austria
- Beethoven: Symphony No. 3 (Eroica)
- Immanuel Kant (b 1724) dies (do the tories know this?)
- Mme de Staël: De l'Allemagne

1792

- First steam-powered rolling mill built in England
- Adam Smith, Scottish political economist (b 1723)
- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (b. 1756) dies soon after perf of Die Zauberflöte
- Emperor Francis II of Austria
- Beethoven: Symphony No. 3 (Eroica)
- Immanuel Kant (b 1724) dies (do the tories know this?)
- Mme de Staël: De l'Allemagne

1793

- First steam-powered rolling mill built in England
- Adam Smith, Scottish political economist (b 1723)
- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (b. 1756) dies soon after perf of Die Zauberflöte
- Emperor Francis II of Austria
- Beethoven: Symphony No. 3 (Eroica)
- Immanuel Kant (b 1724) dies (do the tories know this?)
- Mme de Staël: De l'Allemagne

1794

- First steam-powered rolling mill built in England
- Adam Smith, Scottish political economist (b 1723)
- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (b. 1756) dies soon after perf of Die Zauberflöte
- Emperor Francis II of Austria
- Beethoven: Symphony No. 3 (Eroica)
- Immanuel Kant (b 1724) dies (do the tories know this?)
- Mme de Staël: De l'Allemagne

1795

- First steam-powered rolling mill built in England
- Adam Smith, Scottish political economist (b 1723)
- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (b. 1756) dies soon after perf of Die Zauberflöte
- Emperor Francis II of Austria
- Beethoven: Symphony No. 3 (Eroica)
- Immanuel Kant (b 1724) dies (do the tories know this?)
- Mme de Staël: De l'Allemagne

1796

- First steam-powered rolling mill built in England
- Adam Smith, Scottish political economist (b 1723)
- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (b. 1756) dies soon after perf of Die Zauberflöte
- Emperor Francis II of Austria
- Beethoven: Symphony No. 3 (Eroica)
- Immanuel Kant (b 1724) dies (do the tories know this?)
- Mme de Staël: De l'Allemagne

1797

- First steam-powered rolling mill built in England
- Adam Smith, Scottish political economist (b 1723)
- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (b. 1756) dies soon after perf of Die Zauberflöte
- Emperor Francis II of Austria
- Beethoven: Symphony No. 3 (Eroica)
- Immanuel Kant (b 1724) dies (do the tories know this?)
- Mme de Staël: De l'Allemagne

1798

- First steam-powered rolling mill built in England
- Adam Smith, Scottish political economist (b 1723)
- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (b. 1756) dies soon after perf of Die Zauberflöte
- Emperor Francis II of Austria
- Beethoven: Symphony No. 3 (Eroica)
- Immanuel Kant (b 1724) dies (do the tories know this?)
- Mme de Staël: De l'Allemagne

1799

- First steam-powered rolling mill built in England
- Adam Smith, Scottish political economist (b 1723)
- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (b. 1756) dies soon after perf of Die Zauberflöte
- Emperor Francis II of Austria
- Beethoven: Symphony No. 3 (Eroica)
- Immanuel Kant (b 1724) dies (do the tories know this?)
- Mme de Staël: De l'Allemagne

1800

- Napoleon at zenith: has Italy, Austria, Spain, confiscates British goods in Europe (Decree of Fon-
— The Elgin Marbles bought for The British Museum
— Lord Byron at Cambridge University (see 1619)
— Rossi: Barbiere di Sevilgia (Rome)
1817 John Constable (1776-1837) paints ‘Flatford Mill’
— Riots in Derbyshire against low wages
1818 Chile declares itself independent
— Internal customs in Prussia abolished
— Francisco de Miranda: ‘Revolución de Venezuela’
1819 British East India Company settlement in Singapore
— The Peterloo Massacre (Manchester)
— US purchase Florida from Spain; Alabama joins the Union
— Simon Bolivar becomes President of independent Colombia
— Maximum 12-hr day for juveniles in England
— Beethoven goes deaf
1820 Sir Walter Scott: Ivanhoe
— Pushkin: Ruslan & Ludmilla
— 1.5 mill slaves in USA (cf. 1690, 1780, 1850)
— Felix Mendelssohn: ‘Paulus’ (Prague)
— (Georg Wilhelm) Friedrich Hegel (1770-1831) doing
— lots of philosophy, e.g. ‘Vorlesungen über Ästhetik’
1821 Venezuela definitively independent. Peru, Guatemala, Panama proclaimed independent
— Constable paints ‘The Hay Wain’
— Sir Charles Wheatstone (1802-1875) demonstrates sound reproduction
— London Cooperative Society founded
— Populations (mill): France 30.4; Britain 20.8; Italy 18; Austria 12; Germany 26; USA 9.6
— Ch M von Weber (1786-1826): ‘Der Freischütz’ (Berlin)
— Factory production of harmonicas by Buschmann (Germany)
1822 Brazil totally independent of Portugal
— E T A Hoffmann, German romanticist (b. 1776) dies
— Royal Academy of Music founded in London
— 1st accordion Buschmann (Germany)
1823 Monroe Doctrine (closes American continent to settlement by European powers)
— Claude-Henri de Saint-Simon (d. 1825): ‘Catéchisme des industriels’
— Charles Macintosh invents waterproof fabric
— Henry Bishop writes ‘Home Sweet Home’
1824 National Gallery founded in London
— Beethoven: Symphony N°9 (Vienna 1824, London 1825)
1825 Pushkin: Boris Godunov; Esaias Tegnér: Frithjofs Saga
— Faraday isolates benzene
— Stockton-Darlington railway (1st to carry passengers)
— Rossini: Barber of Seville 1st perf USA
— The Minstrel’s Return’d (USA)
— 1000-ton steamers start plying Atlantic GB-USA
— Kirkpatrick Macmillan invents bicycle
— Viscount Fitzwilliam (b. 1745) bequeaths Virginal Book to Cambridge University
— Boek to Cambridge University (see 1619)
— Franz Schubert (b. 1797); Rossini: ‘William Tell’ (Paris Opera)
— Daguerre’s Daguerreotypes
1826 France captures Algeria
— Stendahl: ‘Le rouge et le noir’
— Mendelssohn: ‘Songs Without Words’ and ‘Hebrides’
— Stroboscopes (magic discs)
1827 Ohm’s Law (electrical current potential and resistance)
— 1st railway tunnel, on Liverpool-Manchester line
— Babcock cast iron piano frames (USA)
— Jenny Lind’s début in Stockholm in Weber’s Freischütz (Berlin)
— 1000-ton steamers start plying Atlantic GB-USA
— Cyrus Hall invents reaping machine (USA)
— John Ericsson (1803-1889) patents screw propeller
— Somnambula 1st perf USA
— Expression ‘L’art pour l’art’, coined by Fr philosopher Victor Cousin (1792-1867) in general use
— Donizetti: ‘Lucia di Lammermoor’ (Naples)
1828 Thomas Arnold (1795-1842) headmaster of Rugby
— Working Men’s Party founded in New York
— Maria Marten broadside sells 1 mill copies in GB
— Adolf Bernhard Marx (1795-1866): ‘Über Malerei und Tonkunst’
— Franz Schubert (b. 1797) dies
1829 Bach’s Matthew Passion revived by Mendelssohn at Berlin Singakademie, 100 yrs after 1st perf in Leipzig— John Henry (US physicist) constructs an electromagnetic motor
— George Stephenson’s (1781-1848) engine ‘The Rocket’
— Rossini: ‘William Tell’ (Paris Opera)
— Daguerre’s Daguerreotypes
1830 France captures Algeria
— Stendahl: ‘Le rouge et le noir’
— Mendelssohn: ‘Songs Without Words’ and ‘Hebrides’
— Stroboscopes (magic discs)
1831 Charles Darwin starts expedition
— Cholera pandemic starts India 1826, spreads via Russia and Europe to Scotland in 1832
— German emigration to US c 15,000 (in 1841 c. 43,000)
— Population: GB 13.9 mill; US 12.8 mill
— Bellini: ‘La Sonnambula’ and ‘Norma’ (Milan)
1832 Mass demonstrations at Hamburg in favour of liberal and national cause
— Goethe’s ‘Faust’ part II published posthumously
— Manufacture of friction matches well established in Europe
— Blaina works brass band (Wales)
— Hector Berlioz (1803-1869): ‘Symphonie Fantastique’ (revised version)
1833 Abolition of slavery in British Empire
— All German states join the Customs Union (Zollverein)
— Spanish Inquisition (begun C13) finally suppressed
— Victor Hugo’s ‘Hunchback of Notre Dame’ is a bestseller
— Cyrus Hall invents reaping machine (USA)
— Schubert & Weber 1st publ in USA
1834 Expression ‘L’art pour l’art’, coined by Fr philosopher Victor Cousin (1792-1867) in general use
— Donizetti: ‘Lucia di Lammermoor’ (Naples)
— Texas wins independence from Mexico
— The People’s Charter initiates 1st working-class mvt in GB; Chartism demands universal suffrage and vote by ballot
— John Ericsson (1803-1889) patents screw propeller
— Boers start The Great Trek away from Brit rule in Cape to found Natal, Transvaal, Orange Free State
— Colt’s pistol (for prairies!)
1835 John Henry (US physicist) constructs an electro-magnetic motor
— George Stephenson’s (1781-1848) engine ‘The Rocket’
— Rossini: ‘William Tell’ (Paris Opera)
— Daguerre’s Daguerreotypes
1836 Texas wins independence from Mexico
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— Boers start The Great Trek away from Brit rule in Cape to found Natal, Transvaal, Orange Free State
— Colt’s pistol (for prairies!)
1837 Woodman Spare That Tree
1838 Queen Victoria crowned
— Charles Dickens: ‘Oliver Twist’ and ‘Nicholas Nickleby’ are bestsellers
— 1000-ton steamers start plying Atlantic GB-USA
— Holman Hunt, Millais and D G Rossetti found Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood
— Jenny Lind’s début in Stockholm in Weber’s Freischütz
— Prussian army band reorganised
— Morse’s telegraph patent. Covers also digital record- ing
1839 Kirkpatrick Macmillan invents bicycle
— US inventor Charles Goodyear (1800-1860) invents vulcanisation, enabling commercial use of rubber
— Cunard Line starts
1840 Nelson’s Column erected, commemorating Trafalgar (1805)
— ‘Transport of criminals from England to Australia (Van Diemen’s Land / Botany Bay / New South Wales) ends
— 4500 km railway in USA, 2130 in GB
— More than 50% of US immigrants until 1890 are from British Isles (cf 1800)
— Nicolò Paganini (b. 1782) dies
— Swabian Max Schneckenburger writes ‘Wacht am Rhein’
1841 British sovereignty proclaimed over Hong Kong
— New Zealand becomes British colony
— Edgar Allen Poe's 'Murders in the Rue Morgue', his 1st detective story published as serial
— Populations in mill: GB 18.5; US 17; Ireland 8
1842 Riots and strikes in industrial N England
— Orange Free State set up by Boers
— Child labour in mines prohibited (GB)
— Giлина: 'Russian & Ludmila' (St Petersburg)
— New York Philharmonic Society founded
— The polka (Czech origin) becomes fashionable

1843 Tennyson: Morte d'Arthur
— Virginia Minstrels under Dan Decatur Emmett (1815-1904) produce 1st minstrel show
— M W Balle: 'The Bohemian Girl' (London, Drury Lane)
— Wagner: Der fliegend Holländer (Dresden)

1844 1st public bath and wash houses opened in Liverpool
— Rochdale Society of Equitable Pioneers founded (beginning of modern cooperative mvt)
— Potato famine in Ireland
— US defeats Mexicans at Palo Alto, enter Santa Fé and annex New Mexico territories. Spanish-Mexican War starts (end 1848)
— Berlioz: 'Dameron de Faust'

1845 Weber and Florida join the USA
— Friedrich Engels: 'The Condition of the Working Class in England'
— Magdeburg Gessner accordions

1846 David Livingstone explores Zambesi (-1856)
— US defeats Mexicans at Palo Alto, enter Santa Fé and annex New Mexico territories. Spanish-Mexican War starts (end 1848)
— Berlioz: 'Dameron de Faust'

1847 Factory Act (UK) - 10 hrs/day women and children
— Electric arc lighting at the Opéra in Paris
— Mendelssohn: 'Elijah' (Birmingham)
— Adolphe Sax patents saxophone (invented 1841)

1848 Charlotte Bronté: 'Jane Eyre'; Emily Bronté: 'Wuthering Heights'
— First Internationale founded by Karl Marx (London & Paris)
— First Californian gold rush
— Communist Manifesto
— Revolutions (1848-9) in Vienna, Prague, Berlin, Dresden, Paris. Wagner (in Dresden) has to flee to Zürich
— Second Republic in France
— "Austrians Out Of Italy!" but Radetzky beats Victor Emanuel
— Aldeutsch Reichstag
— Johann Strauss, Snr. (1804-1849): 'Radetsky March'

1849 Britain annexes the Punjab
— Dickens: 'David Copperfield'
— Broadside about the execution of James Bloomfield Rush reportedly sold 2.5 million copies in the UK
— Frédéric Chopin (b. 1810) dies

1850 California becomes US state
— Cuba declares its independence
— 7 mill slaves and 0.3 mill slave owners in USA (cf. 1820)
— Ferenc (Franz) Liszt: 'Mazeppea'
— Bachgesellschaft founded
— Jenny Lind tours USA
— Wagner: 'Lohengrin' (Weimar)
— Chappell starts music publishing (GB)
— Francis Day & Hunter mus publish (GB)

1851 Isaac Singer invents the continuous stitch sewing machine
— Populations in mill: China 430; Germany 34; France 33; GB 20.8; USA 22
— Stephen Collins Foster (1826-1864) publishes 'Old Folks At Home'. Sells 20 mill copies by end of 1855
— SACEM starts (France)
— Verdi: 'Rigoletto' (Venice)

1852 David Livingstone explores Zambesi (-1856)
— Second Empire in France
— Stroboscpes with photos

1853 Crimean War starts (ends 1856)
— Verdi: 'Il trovatore' (Rome) and 'La traviata' (Venice)
— Wagner completes text of 'Der Ring'
— Japanese still have no word for 'music' - adopt 'gaku'
— London sewers modernised after outbreak of cholera. Florence Nightingale (1820-1910) introduces hygienic standards into military hospitals

1856 Gastave Flaubert: 'Madame Bovary'
— Wagner: 'Die Walküre'
— Robert Schumann (b. 1810) dies

1857 Halle Orchestra founded
— The Indian Mutiny
— Hohner mass produce harmonicas
— Leon Scott develops phonoautograph (France)

1858 Jacques Offenbach (1819-1880): 'Orphée aux enfers' (Paris)

1859 Charles Darwin: 'On the Origin of the Species by Natural Selection'
— Dan Emmett: 'Dixie's Land'
— Wagner: 'Tristan & Isolde'

1860 Since 1850 424,000 British and 914,000 Irish emigrants to USA
— Industrial production. USA $2 bill ($2 mill 1810); GB $3 bill
— 45,000 km rail in USA (cf 1880, 1930)
— Franz von Suppé: 'Das Pensionat', 1st Viennese operetta

1861 Charles Dickens: 'Great Expectations; George Eliot: 'Silas Marner'
— Krupp starts arms production at Essen
— Populations (mill): Russia 76; USA 32; GB 23; Italy 25
— Civil War starts (USA) (ends 1865)
— Garibaldi's troops win war of Italian Unification ('Victor Emmanuelre Ré D'Italia' = 'VERDI!')

1862 Victor Hugo: 'Les misérables'
— Electric generators in production
— Ludwig Köchel's catalogue of Mozart's works
— Czermak photographs vocal chords (Austria)

1863 French capture Mexico City and proclaim Archduke Maximilian of Austria emperor
— Massacre of Cheyenne and Arapaho Indians at Sand Creek (Colorado)
— Syllabus Errorum issued by Pius IX, condemning liberalism, socialism and rationalism
— Pasteur invents pasteurisation (for wine)
— First Internationale founded by Karl Marx (London & New York)

1865 Lewis Carroll (C L Dodgson, 1832-1898): 'Alice in Wonderland'
— Nottingham pawnbroker William Booth (1829-1912) moves to London to organise the Christian Revival Association, renamed (1878) The Salvation Army
— Civil War (USA) ends (started 1861). Lincoln assassinated. 13th ammendment abolishes slavery
— Droit moral: composer as author in Fr law
1866 First transatlantic cable
— Wars between Prussia, Austria and Italy. Prussia invades and/or annexes Saxony, Hannover, Hessen, Nassau, Frankfurt and Schleswig-Holstein. Venice joins Italy
— Dostoevsky: ‘Crime and Punishment’
— Alfred Nobel invents dynamite
— ‘Black Friday’ on London Stock Exchange
— Offenbach: ‘La vie parisienne’
— Bedrich Smetana (1824-1884): ‘Prodaná Nevestá’ (=Bartered Bride)

1867 Southern African diamond field discovered
— Neue Zollverein (Prussia and North German Confederation)
— Johann Strauss, Jr: ‘Blue Danube Waltz’
— Moussorgsky (1839-1881) finishes ‘Night on a Bare Mountain’

1868 Johannes Brahms (1833-1897): ‘Ein deutsches Requiem’
— Wagner: ‘Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg’
— Edvard Grieg (1843-1907): Piano Concerto No.1 in A minor, Op.16
— Gioacchino Rossini (b. 1792) dies

1869 Suez Canal completed
— Tolstoi completes ‘War and Peace’ (started 1864)
— Suez Canal
— Modest Moussorgsky (1839-1881) completes ‘Boris Godunov’
— Hector Berlioz (b. 1803) dies
— Claribel (Charlotte Allington Barnard, b. 1830) dies
— Hector Berlioz (b. 1803) dies

1870 Franco-Prussian War started by France (see 1871)
— Queen Victoria proclaims Empress of India
— First public telephones (USA)
— Edison invents phonograph. Cylinder wrapped in tin foil, operated by a hand crank
— Charles Cros designs talking machine (France)

1871 German unity after victory in Franco-Prussian war. Wilhelm I proclaimed German Emperor at Versailles, Paris capitulates, France cedes Alsace-Lorraine. Paris Commune lasts 2 moths
— Wagner, having butchered hundreds of thousands of Africans on his way up the Congo, says ‘Dr Livingstone, I presume’ at Ujiji and is later knighted by Queen Victoria. The British Empire later becomes a model of racial supremacy for Hitler in Mein Kampf
— Simon Ingersoll invents pneumatic rock drill (US)

1872 Claude Monet doing impressionism

1874 Britain annexes Fiji
— Moussorgsky’s ‘Boris Godunov’ completed (begun 1866)
— Johann Strauss, Jr: ‘Die Fledermaus’

1875
— Bosnia, Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro, Bulgaria fight to repel Turks (1878)
— Mark Twain: ‘The Adventures of Tom Sawyer’
— London’s main sewerage system completed
— Size of European armies: Russia 3,360,000; Germany 2,800,000; France 412,000; BG 113,000
— Georges Bizet (1838-1875): ‘Carmen’, dies
— Smetana: Vltava / Má Vlast
— Gilbert & Sullivan: ‘Trial by Jury’
— Tchaikovsky: Piano Concerto No.1 (Boston)
— First Vatican Council promulgates dogma of papal infallibility
— First Vatican Council promulgates dogma of papal infallibility
— John D Rockefeller (1839-1937) founds Standard Oil Company
— Hoecht start massproduction
— Suffragettes organised (cf. 1928)
— Bismarck’s ‘Ems’ telegram
— Charles Dickens (d)
— Tchaikovsky: ‘Romeo and Juliet’ overture

1876
— Christian Revival Association (see 1865) renamed Paris World Exhibition
— Electric street lighting introduced in London
— Karl Benz builds motorised tricycle
— Internal combustion engine
— Pianoola first demonstrated at the Philadelphia Exhibition, USA
— Thomas P. Westendorf: ‘I’ll Take You Home Kathleen’
— Bayreuth Festspielhaus opens with first complete performance of Wagner’s ‘Ring des Nibelungen’
— César Franck (1822-1890) ‘Symphonic Variations’
— Suez Canal
— Tolstoi completes ‘War and Peace’ (started 1864)
— My maternal grandmother born (so is Joseph Stalin, cf. 1953)
— Pottier and Pierre Degeyter, two workers, compose ‘L’Internationale’
— Royal College of Music founded (London)
— Metropolitan Opera House opened (New York)
— Richard Wagner (b. 1813) dies
— Germany annexes South-West Africa
— Mark Twain: ‘Huckleberry Finn’
— J.L. Molloy’s ‘Love’s Old Sweet Song’
— Sound put on to film by Bell (Photophone)
— George Eastman manufactures coated photographic paper
— First transatlantic cable
— Wars between Prussia, Austria and Italy. Prussia invades and/or annexes Saxony, Hannover, Hessen, Nassau, Frankfurt and Schleswig-Holstein. Venice joins Italy
— Dostoevsky: ‘Crime and Punishment’
— Alfred Nobel invents dynamite
— ‘Black Friday’ on London Stock Exchange
— Offenbach: ‘La vie parisienne’
— Bedrich Smetana (1824-1884): ‘Prodaná Nevestá’ (=Bartered Bride)

1877
— Queen Victoria proclaims Empress of India
— First public telephones (USA)
— Edison invents phonograph. Cylinder wrapped in tin foil, operated by a hand crank
— Charles Cros designs talking machine (France)
— Wagner: ‘Parsifal’
— British occupy Cairo
— Robert Louis Stevenson: ‘Treasure Island’
— Wagner: ‘Parsifal’
— Italian music copyright organisation founded
— Igor Stravinsky born
— Royal College of Music founded (London)
— Metropolitan Opera House opened (New York)
— Richard Wagner (b. 1813) dies
— Germans occupy South-West Africa
— Mark Twain: ‘Huckleberry Finn’
— J.L. Molloy’s ‘Love’s Old Sweet Song’
— Sound put on to film by Bell (Photophone)
— George Eastman’s 1st Kodak camera
— Bedrich Smetana (b. 1824) dies
— The Congo becomes personal possession of Belgian King Leopold II
— Germany annexes Tanganyika and Zanzibar
— Karl Marx: ‘Das Kapitel’, vol 2 (posth.)
— César Franck (1822-1890) ‘Symphonic Variations’
— George Eastman manufactures coated photographic paper
— Jules Verne: ‘20,000 Leagues Under the Sea’
— First Vatican Council promulgates dogma of papal infallibility
— John D Rockefeller (1839-1937) founds Standard Oil Company
— Hoecht start massproduction
— Suffragettes organised (cf. 1928)
— Bismarck’s ‘Ems’ telegram
— Charles Dickens (d)
— Tchaikovsky: ‘Romeo and Juliet’ overture

1878
— Turks pushed back to Adrianople (Edirne). Berlin Treaty checks Russian advances
— Karl Benz builds motorised tricycle
— Electric street lighting introduced in London
— Paris World Exhibition
— Christian Revival Association (see 1865) renamed The Salvation Army
— Edison invents light bulb
— Booth starts Salvation Army
— Edison takes out patent on phonograph
— Jules Verne: ‘20,000 Leagues Under the Sea’
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1879
— Henrik Ibsen: ‘Ett Dukkehjem’ (=A Doll’s House)
— Albert Einstein (b)
— Julia Levy, on cornet, made first-known musical recording (of ‘Yankee Doodle’)
— Bell laboratories - magnetic tape (USA). Experiiments for a short time
— My maternal grandmother born (so is Joseph Stalin, cf. 1953)
— Pottier and Pierre Degeyter, two workers, compose ‘L’Internationale’
— Royal College of Music founded (London)
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1886 Statue of Liberty dedicated
— R L Stevenson: Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde
— Berne Convention (copyright)
— Wax cylinder graphophone (USA). Chichester Bell and Charles Tainton
— Ferenc (Franz) Liszt (b. 1811) dies

— American Music Publishers’ Association founded in USA
— Rimsky-Korsakov: ‘Capricio Espanol’
— Verdi: ‘Otello’ (Milan)
— Edison and Swan combine to produce Edison electrical lamps

1888 George Eastman perfects ‘Kodak’ box camera
— Vincent van Gogh (1853-1890): ‘The Yellow Chair’
— Gilbert & Sullivan: ‘Yeomen of the Guard’
— Emile Berliner’s flat zinc disc gramophone
— 1st recording by popular pianist. Josef Hoffman (aged 12) at Edison laboratories
— Max Steiner born (d. 1971)

1889 Cecil Rhodes’ British South Africa Company granted royal charter
— London Dock Strike
— Edison’s Cinematograph
— Jessie Walter Fewkes records Zuni and Passamaquoddy ‘Indians’ in USA

1890
— ‘Daisy Bell’ (‘Bicycle made for 2’) by Harry Dacre v pop as sung by Katie Lawrence
— 1st complete ballet performance of Tchaikovsky’s ‘Swan Lake’ (St Petersburg)
— Richard Strauss: ‘Till Eulenspiegel’s Merry Pranks’ (Cologne)
— Lumière: 1st cinema film on screen (Paris)
— ‘Kentucky Babe’ (music by Adam Geibel) is hit as sung by Isadore Rush
— Richard Strauss (1864-1949): ‘Also sprach Zarathustra’
— Giacomo Puccini (1858-1924): ‘La Bohème’ (Turin)
— Marconi invents radio
— Clockwork-driven gramophone invented
— Béla Viktor records ‘folk’ music in Hungary

1891 The Phongram starts monthly publication (New York)
— Edison’s Kinetoscope
— Coca Cola stops marketing itself as a medicine and is advertised as a soft drink
— Munch: ‘The Scream’
— Charles K Harris’s ‘After The Ball’ sells 1 mill units in a year. Earns $25,000 a week as sheet music
— ‘Daisy Bell’ (‘Bicycle made for 2’) by Harry Dacre v pop as sung by Katie Lawrence
— Music hall star Lottie Collins sings ‘Ta-ra-ra Boom-de-ay’ (no authors credited on sheet music)

1892 Karl Benz and Henry Ford each build (independently) a 4-wheel car
— Engelbert Humperdinck: ‘Hänsel und Gretel’ (Weimar)
— Pyotr Ilich Tchaikovsky (b. 1840) dies

1893 Verdi: ‘Hedda Gabler’
— 1st coin-in-the-slot photographs in use
— Borodin’s ‘Prince Igor’ performed (posthumous)
— 1st coin-in-the-slot photographs in use

1894 US industry $10 mill; GB $4.3 mill
— Pyotr Ilich Tchaikovsky (b. 1840) dies
— Harry von Tilzer: ‘A Bird in a Gilded Cage’
— 20 mill exx mus sold in UK: 40,000 new titles
— Henry Russell (b. 1812) dies
— Puccini: ‘Tosca’ (Rome)
— Carbon microphones for telephone
— 2 mill pianos in GB

1895 Japan invades Korea, Manchuria, &c
— First moving picture shows appear in New York
— Alberti: ‘Sangue’ (Lyrics by Emile Macht)
— Edison and Swan combine to produce Edison electrical lamps
— Émile Zola: ‘J’accuse’ (see Dreyfus case, 1894)
— 1st complete ballet performance of Tchaikovsky’s ‘Swan Lake’ (St Petersburg)
— Richard Strauss: ‘Till Eulenspiegel’s Merry Pranks’ (Cologne)
— Lumière: 1st cinema film on screen (Paris)
— British exchanges Heligoland with Germany from Zanzibar and Pemba
— Ibsen: ‘Hedda Gabler’
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1897 March and Schottische ‘A Hot Time In The Old Town’ by Theo A Metz
— Austrian music copyright organisation
— Voyteck pianola Aeolian Co USA
— 1st patent electr-mech sync film-record (F) in USA
— Eugeniya Lineva records polyphonic ‘folk’ music in European Russia
— Johannes Brahms (b. 1833) dies
— Gustav Mahler becomes conductor of Vienna Opera

1898 Spanish-American War
— Émile Zola: ‘J’accuse’ (see Dreyfus case, 1894)
— First coin-operated piano successfully marketed by the Wurlitzer Company of Cincinnati, Ohio, USA
— Johann Strauss Jr (1825-1899): ‘Wienerblut’
— Shellac used in mass prod of 78s (USA)
— HMV & DGG start mass production
— Valdemar Poulsen’s wire ‘tape’ recorder (DK)
— Elbridge Johnson patents long-horn amplifier. USA

1899 Boer War (ends 1900)
— Deutsche Grammophon A.G. founded in Berlin. Later with sub-branches in Russia and Austria
— Compagnie française du gramophone founded. Paris, later subsidiary in Spain
— The ‘Aeriola’ (self-playing piano) marketed by William Tremaine’s Aeolian Organ Company, USA
— Alfvén: Symphony n2 in D
— Edward Elgar (1857-1934): ‘Enigma Variations’
— 1st record-pressing factory (Hannover, D). Gaisberg and Sanders
— Johann Strauss, Jr. (b. 1825) dies

1900 London population 4.5 mill (1800: 1 mill, 1960 8 mill)
— Friedrich Nietzsche dies
— Freud: ‘The Interpretation of Dreams’
— Strindberg: ‘The Dance of Death’, ‘To Damascus’ (1900); ‘A Dream Play’ (1901)
— Bloomingdale’s Graphophone Department (NYC).
— Paris Exhibition Phono - Cinéma - Théâtre
— Poulsen patents magnetic recorder in USA
— Arthur S Sullivan (b. 1842) dies
— Queen Victoria dies
— Oil drilling begins in Persia
— Victor Talking Machine Company founded (US). Johnson and Berliner
— Enrico Caruso records in Milano. UK owned Gramophone Company
— Ragtime becoming popular
— First black artist to go on to have a successful career, Bert Williams, contracted to the Victor Talking Machine Company, USA
— Giuseppe Verdi (b. 1813) dies

1901
— Almost 10.5 million immigrants entered USA from southern and eastern Europe in period 1905-1914

1902
— US Marines invade Mexico
— First dance marathon organised by Sid Graumann of Graumann’s Chinese Theatre, Hollywood
— ‘Laughing Song’ sells 1m copies. Written by black artist George Washington Johnson, recorded by English comedian Burt Shephard
— The tango gains immense popularity in Europe & southern and eastern Europe in period 1905-1914
— In a car factory
— Sinking of the Titanic
— ‘After the Ball’ (see 1892) reaches 10 million sales. Sheet music lyrics translated into many languages in USA. In USA c. 5 million people visit cinemas daily
— Schönberg: ‘Pierrot Lunaire’ Op. 21
— Edison’s diamond disc phonograph in USA
— Cylinder recordings virtually obsolete

1903
— Henry Ford with a capital of $100,000 founds the Ford Motor Company
— Universities of Liverpool and Manchester founded
— GEMA founded
— USA film ‘The Great Train Robbery’: 12 mins, longest to date
— Sweet Adeline
— Caruso recording sells 1m copies. ‘Vesti la giubba’ (=On with the motley) for Victor Records in USA
— 1st electromechanical recorder patented
— 1st ‘unbreakable’ discs produced. Shellac-covered cardboard

1904
— 1 million cylinder- and recorded disc players in USA

1910
— First dance marathon organised by Sid Graumann of Graumann’s Chinese Theatre, Hollywood
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— ‘Carry Me Back To Old Virginny’ 1 million record sales.
— Henry Ford develops a farm tractor
— Gustav Mahler (b.) dies
— Antonín Dvorák (b.) dies
— Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov (b.) dies
— Busoni: ‘Sketch for a new aesthetic of music’ (essay)
— Eduard Hagerup Grieg (b. 1843) dies
— Busoni: ‘Sketch for a new aesthetic of music’ (essay)
— Bertók: 1st string quartet
— Double sided discs become the norm
— Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov (b.) dies
— First black artist to go on to have a successful career, Bert Williams, contracted to the Victor Talking Machine Company, USA
— ‘Laughing Song’ sells 1m copies. Written by black artist James A Bland, sung by Alma Gluck (soprano) with male chorus and orchestra. Is this the 1st million-seller by a female singer?
— 1st US full-length feature film: ‘Birth of a Nation’ (D W Griffiths, Breil)
— ‘L’Assassinat du Duc de Guise’ (mus: Saint-Saëns)
— Automatic phonograph, using discs and coin-in-the-slot, introduced in USA
— Bartók: ‘Sketch for a new aesthetic of music’ (essay)
— Double sided discs become the norm
— Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov (b.) dies
— First regular cinema established in Pittsburgh
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1913
— Henry Ford pioneers new assembly line techniques in car factory
— Stravinsky: ‘Rite of Spring’
— Eduardo Arolas: ‘El Choclo’ recorded in Argentina
— Dance craze sweeps USA (I & V Castle)
— My father (d. 1988) born

1914
— First World War starts
— Almost 10.5 million immigrants entered USA from southern and eastern Europe in period 1905-1914
— US Marines invade Mexico
— Performing Rights Society founded
— ASCAP founded
— My mother (d. 1989) born
— Einstein’s Theory of Relativity
— Henry Ford develops a farm tractor
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— Dada mvt founded in Zürich
— Ottorino Respighi (1879-1936): ‘I pini di Roma’
— George O’Connor, a white Washington attorney, alleged records first-known blues record
— USA joins First World War
— October revolution
— C G Jung ‘Psychology of the Unconscious’
— Chaplin’s yearly salary $1 million
— Music Publishers’ Protective Association formed in USA
— Bartók: String Quartet NY2
— 1st jazz recordings in NYC. ‘Indiana’ b/w ‘The Dark Town Strutters Ball’ by the ODJB. Not the 1st ‘jazz’ record to be released
— New Orleans’ Storyville closed down
— First World War ends. Military casualties: 8.5 million killed, 21 million wounded, 7.5 prisoners and missing. Forces mobilised 63 million. Daily war expenditure (all belligerents) $164.5 million. US pays $179 million in war pension to 644,000 pensioners. In 1919 Belgian war damage estimated at $7,600,000,000
— Women over 30 get vote in Britain
US Post Office burns instalments of James Joyce's 'Ulysses' pub in 'Little Review'
Music Industries' Chamber of Commerce formed in USA
Original Dixieland Jazz Band: Tiger Rag
Kern: 'Rock-a-Bye Baby'
Tri-Ergon's optical sound strip (Germany)
Claude Debussy (b.) dies

1919
Spartacist revolt, Berlin. Karl Liebknecht murdered
Hapsburg dynasty exiled from Austria
Rutherford demonstrates that the atom is not the final building block of the universe
Alcock & Whitten make first non-stop flight across the Atlantic (16½ hrs)
Picasso paints 'Pierrot et Harlequin'
Hammersmith Palais opened in London

1920
Government of Ireland Act (UK): N & S Ireland each to have own Parliament
Hitler announces his 25-point programme at the Hofbräuhaus in Munich
Gandhi (1869-1948) emerges as India's leader in its struggle for independence
Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti unjustly arrested and indicted for murder; both executed 1921
Prohibition starts in USA (ends 1933)
1st commercial radio broadcast. USA, Europe
First US anti-trust action involving music publishers
Columbia starts issuing blues recordings
Gustav Holst: 'The Planets Suite'
1st electro-acoustic recording (London). Recording of Armistice Day burial service for Unknown Warrior at Westminster Abbey, by Guest and Merriman, using remote pickup with microphones and amplifiers developed for military purposes during WW1
Ralph Peer starts recording black artists
Thermionic tubes (valves)
Marconi opens first public broadcasting station at Writtle (UK)
Paul Whiteman tours Europe with his band

1921
Populations (in mill): USSR 136, US 107, Japan 78, Germany 60, GB 42.5
Women get vote at 21 in UK
US record sales reach $106 mill. US production of records exceeds 100 mil units
Berglund's Filmfotofon (Sweden)
Moving coil microphones
Schönberg announces principles of the 12-tone scale

1922
 Mussolini and fascists march on Rome, seize power and form fascist government
Irish Free State officially proclaimed
Max Weber: 'Methodology of the Social Sciences'
James Joyce: 'Ulysses' published in Paris
T S Eliot: 'The Waste Land'
BBC formed
200 commercial radio stations USA
Columbia produce first 'silent' record surface in USA
Films: 'Dr Mabuse' (Fritz Lang); Nosferatu (F W Murnau)
Alban Berg (1885-1935): 'Wozzeck' (written 1914-1921) 1st performed (Berlin)
2 mill radio licenses in GB
1st combi radio-phonographs marketed in USA
3 mill radio sets in USA

1923
Germany declares policy of passive resistance; French army occupies Darmstadt, Karlsruhe, Mannheim to force war reparation
Okeh start separate 'race' catalogue in USA
Anti-ASCAP licensing hearings in USA because of case brought about by National Association of Broadcasters (ends 1926)
STIM (Swedish PRS) founded
Bessie Smith: 'Down Hearted Blues'. +1st million-selling recording by black woman?
Gershwin: 'Rhapsody in Blue'
Honegger: 'Pacific 231'
US pop songs: 'Yes We Have No Bananas'; 'Tea For Two'; 'I Want To Be Happy'

1924
J Edgar Hoover (1875-1972) appointed director of FBI
Relâche (Satie)
Ernö Rápé: 'Motion Picture Moods for Pianists and Organists'
Films: 'The 10 Commandments' (Cecil B De Mille);
'The Thief of Bagdad' (Douglas Fairbanks); 'Entracte' (René Clair, Érik Satie); 'Le ballet mécanique' (Fernand Léger, Georges Antheil)
Western Electric patent electromagn rec.
Warner buy Vitaphone rights from Bell
Tri-Ergon contract Universal-Film-AG

1925
Cyprus becomes British colony
Norway annexes Spitsbergen
John Logie Baird, Scottish inventor, (1888-1946) transmits recognisable human features by television
Adorno & Horkheimer establish 'Frankfurt School'
Walter Gropius moves Bauhaus from Dessau to Weimar
Franz Kafka (1883-1924): 'The Trial' (posth.)
Hitler: 'Mein Kampf' (vol. 1)
E Scott Fitzgerald: 'The Great Gatsby'
Victor Talking Machine Company failed to pay dividends for first time since 1901 (USA)
Films: 'Battleship Potemkin' (Eisenstein); 'The Gold Rush' (Chaplin)
'Show Me The Way To Go Home'
Electromagnetic recording on to market in US. 1st record: two songs from University of Pennsylvania's 37th annual production of the Mask and Wig Club (Philadelphia)
Warner/Western Electric Vitaphone contract
1st electronic recording using microphones
2 mill radio sets in UK
78 rpm record speed standardised

1926
BBC comes under state control: changes name from British Broadcasting Company to British Broadcasting Corporation
General Strike (GB)
I.C.I. founded
694 commercial radio stations in the USA
A A Milne: 'Winnie the Pooh'
Twice as many US homes own phonograms as own radios
John Barrymore/Don Juan (music + 325 wrds)
Fritz Lang's 'Metropolis' released
'Bye Bye Blackbird' popular
RCA forms NBC
Melody Maker founded in UK

1927
Inter-Allied military control of Germany ends; 'Black Friday' in Germany: economic system collapses; Gottfried Feder publishes the N.S.D.A.P. (Nazi) programme
Herman Hesse: 'Steppenwolf'
Selective phonogram machines, offering twenty se-
1928
— Women’s suffrage in GB reduced from 30 to 21
— Chiang Kai-shek elected President of China
— US record sales peak at 104 million units
— Peer records J Rodgers & Carter Family
— Record sales 100m in USA (cf 1932)
— First attempts at overdubbing by ‘montage’
— Victor: 1st automatic record-changer (USA). Takes 12 10-inch or 12-inch records
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1929
— Trotsky expelled from USSR
— Record Company of America (RCA) merges with Victor
— Säng det med toner (Fred Winter, Sweden)
— Edison finally stops producing cylinders
— BPI British Phonographic Industries Ltd. Formed to handle music licensing in USA
— Prohibitions end in USA (started 1920)
— Machtübernahme, Reichstagsbrand, Hitler granted dictatorial powers. First concentration camps
— ‘Sophisticated Lady’ (Ellington); ‘Smoke Gets In Your Eyes’ (Kern); ‘Stommy Weather’ (Howard Arlen); ‘Easter Parade’; ‘Anything Goes’ (C Porter) and ‘Who’s Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf?’ all popular in USA
— Record sales $6 million USA (cf 1927)
— Ban laboratories develop digitalised recording

1930
— Record racks introduced in USA
— In the German elections, the Nazis gain 107 seats from the centre parties
— Nazis disrupt perf. of Weill/Brecht ‘Mahagonny’ in Frankfurt and enact ordinance against Negro Culture
— Schönberg: Begleitmusik Lichtspielszene
— ‘Hillbilly’ accounts for 25% of all US popular record sales in USA
— Popular songs: ‘Georgia On My Mind’ (Hoagy Carmichael); ‘I Got Rhythm’ (Gershwin); ‘Body & Soul’ (John Green)
— Xavier Cougat records ‘Peasant Vendor’ (‘El manisé-ro’)
— 10-inch 78 rpm becomes standard
— Recording cartridge developed

1931
— Hitler’s storm troopers (SA) start terrorising political opponents. Start of German inflation
— German millionaire Hugenberg undertakes to support the 800,000-strong Nazi Party. Other capitalists follow suit
— Empire State Building completed
— Nazis order effacement of Bauhaus murals and remove Klee, Kandinsky etc. from Weimar museum.
— Brecht and Eisler flee Germany
— Hanns Eisler: mus for ‘Kuhle Vampe’
— Essex Music International (EMI) opens its Abbey Road recording studio in London – largest recording facility in the world
— RCA Victor fails to market successfully its vinyl plastic 33.3 rpm discs due to popularity of the 78 rpm alternative
— Electrical & Musical Industries EMI formed. Merger of HMV and English Columbia records (which had swallowed the Carl Lindström chain in 1925 and Pathé Frères in 1928), leaving only Deutsche Grammophon-Polydor and a few small ‘independents’ as rivals in Europe
— BPI British Phonographic Industries Ltd. Formed to represent the UK record industry in early 1920s (date inexact)
— Society of European Stage Authors and Composers formed to handle music licensing in USA
— 127 sound films made (only 8 in 1929)
— ‘Minnie The Moocher’ (Cab Calloway) popular in USA
— Gershwin: ‘An American in Paris’
— Bartók: String Quartet NÝ4
— ‘Makin’ Whoopee’ popular
— Ravel: ‘Boléro’
— Kurt Weill, Bert Brecht: ‘Die Dreigroschenoper’ (Berlin)
— Fox buy Triergern rights - Movietone, optical
— $650 million radio receiver sales USA
— CBS founded. Overtakes RCA by 1934
— Dobro: acoustic guitars with metal resonators
— Capacitor microphones (DC voltage)
— Fritz Pflueumer invents magnetic tape (D)
— Machtübernahme, Reichstagsbrand, Hitler granted dictatorial powers. First concentration camps
— ‘Sophisticated Lady’ (Ellington); ‘Smoke Gets In Your Eyes’ (Kern); ‘Stommy Weather’ (Howard Arlen); ‘Easter Parade’; ‘Anything Goes’ (C Porter) and ‘Who’s Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf?’ all popular in USA
— Record sales six million USA (cf 1927)
— Bell laboratories develop digitalised recording

1928
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— Film & sound as postmix (Riefenstahl)
— Price war USA records
— ‘Blue Moon’ (Rogers & Hart); ‘Stars Fell On Alabama’ (Frank Perkins) popular in USA
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— Fritz Pflueumer invents magnetic tape (D)
— Machtübernahme, Reichstagsbrand, Hitler granted dictatorial powers. First concentration camps
— ‘Sophisticated Lady’ (Ellington); ‘Smoke Gets In Your Eyes’ (Kern); ‘Stommy Weather’ (Howard Arlen); ‘Easter Parade’; ‘Anything Goes’ (C Porter) and ‘Who’s Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf?’ all popular in USA
— Record sales $6 million USA (cf 1927)
— Bell laboratories develop digitalised recording
— Hammond organ and electric piano patented
— Edward Elgar (b. 1857) dies
— Korngold from Vienna to Hollywood
1935 'You Hit Parade' sponsored by Lucky Strike, first broadcast on NBC
— Coal Face (Britten)
— Films: 'Anna Karenina' (Garbo); 'David Copperfield'
— Gershwin: 'Porgy & Bess'
— 'Begin The Beguine' and 'Just One Of Those Things'
— Rita Hayworth
1936 Spanish Civil War begins (ends 1939)
— Germany occupies the Rhineland
— First BASF/AEG tape recording made of a live classical concert performance conducted by Sir Thomas Beecham
— 150,000 juke boxes in USA
1937 Germany, Japan (warring in China) and Italy (having occupied Abyssinia) form Anti-Comintern pact to rid the world of communism (sound familiar?)
—Films: 'Snow White & the 7 Dwarves' (Disney); 'Life of +mile Zola' (starring Paul Muni)
— Carl Orff (living in Germany): 'Carmina Burana'
— 'Bei mir bist du Schön?'; 'The Lady Is A Tramp' (Fr 'Pal Joey', Richard Rodgers); 'A Foggy Day in London' (Gershwin); 'It's Nice Work If You Can Get It'; 'I've Got My Love to Keep Me Warm' (I Berlin) all popular in USA
1938 32,000 people die in US road accidents
— Honegger: Jeanne d'Arc au bûcher (Ondes M)
— Alexander Nevsky (Eisenstein/Prokofiev)
— Films: 'Le quai des brumes' (Jean Gabin); 'Alexan-
der Nevski' (Eisenstein / Prokofiev); 'The Lady Van-
ishes' (Hitchcock)
1939 2nd world war starts (1 Sept)
— Sigmund Freud (b. 1856) dies
— Broadcast Music Inc formed to rival ASCAP
— One o'clock Jump (Baisie)
— 'The Sea Hawk' (Curtiz, Flynn, Korngold); 'Gone With the Wind' (Selznick / Max Steiner); 'The Wizard of Oz' (starring Judy Garland)
— 'Lili Marlene' (sung by Lale Andersen) becomes popular with German soldiers
— 51 mill radio sets in USA
— 90% of UK homes have a radio set
— Philip Tagg's parents married on 15 August

1940

1940 Leon Trotsky (b. 1879) assassinated in Mexico
— Of Mice and Men (Copland)
— Stereophonic recording demonstrated in Carnegie Hall, New York
— ASCAP ban material from airplay in US
— Hemingway: 'For Whom the Bell Tolls'
— The Philadelphia Story (Cukor, Waxman)
— Films: 'The Grapes of Wrath' (John Ford); 'The Great Dictator' (Chaplin); 'Fantasia' (Disney)
— 'You Are My Sunshine'; 'How High The Moon'; 'When You Wish Upon A Star'; 'South Of The Border'; 'Blueberry Hill' all popular in USA
— 350,000 jukeboxes in USA. Or: 225,000 juke boxes, using 13 mill records a year
— Central European composers moved to USA by 1940: Schönberg, Stravinsky, Bartók, Hindemith, Krenek, Milhaud, Martinu, Weill
1941 In December, Japanese attack Pearl Harbour. USA joins war
— Capitol Record start servicing US radio DJs with free releases
— 1st electric blues broadcast in USA. Sonny Boy William-
son on the KFFN 'King Biscuit Show', Chicago
— 'Citizen Kane' (O. Welles, B. Herrmann)
— 'Bewitched'; 'Deep In The Heart Of Texas'; 'Chat-
tanooga Choo-Choo' popular in USA
1942 27 month AFM ban on radio performance. American Federation of Musicians. From 1942-44
— Hangmen Also Die (Eisler)
— Irving Berlin’s ‘White Christmas’ sung by Bing Cros-
by
— Casablanca (Warner, Max Steiner)
— 'White Cliffs Of Dover' (Vera Lynn); 'Paper Doll'; 'That Old Black Magic' (Porter)
— 1st black musician in US radio band
1943 Over 600 'hillbilly' stations in USA
— Rodgers & Hammerstein: 'Oklahoma!' (New York, 2,248 performances), incl 'Oh What A Beautiful Morning!'
— US Army/Navy's Magnetic Wire Sound Recorder. Later adapted to use tape
— Sergei Rachmaninov dies
1944 Ivan the Terrible 1 (Eisenstein/Prokofiev)
— Double Indemnity (Wilder, Rózsa)
— Decca issue ffr (sort of HiFi 78 rpm) recording. Based on war technology
— Allies take Radio Luxembourg and its magneto-
phone
— My year of birth
1945 United Nations formed
— 2nd world war ends
— Landslide victory for Labour in UK. Clement Atlee, Welfare State (until 1951)
— Atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima & Nagasaki
— US record sales $109m, highest since 1921
— George Orwell: 'Animal Farm'
— Herman Hesse: 'Das Glasperlenspiel'
— Spellbound (Hitchcock, Rózsa)
— The Lost Weekend (Wildor, Rózsa)
— Henry V (Walton)
— Television sales boom until 1957 (USA)
— Labour government under Clement Atlee until 1951
— Béla Bartók (b.1881) dies
— Anton von Webern (b. 1883) dies
1946 Philippines independent
— US record sales double in 1 yr to $218 mill
— RCA press their billionth record. J-P Sousa's 'The Stars and Stripes Forever'
— Charlie Parker: Ornithology
— Ivan the Terrible 2 (Eisenstein/Prokofiev)
— Irving Berlin: 'Annie Get Your Gun' (New York)
— DGU use tape for recording
— BBC restructure: Home, Light, 3rd programme
1947 India proclaimed independent and partitioned into
1948

- Marshall Plan: $17 bill for Europe (another $5.43 bill in 1949). The Berlin blockade and airlift
- Ceylon (Sri Lanka) and Burma independent from UK
- State of Israel established
- Atlantic Records formed in USA
- Hamlet (Walton)
- R Strauss: 'Vier letzte Lieder'
- Columbia introduce 33.3 rpm LP microgroove. 12-inch unbreakable discs made from vinylite
- 172,000 TV sets in USA
- Decline of national radio listeners USA
- 1st solid electric guitar (Fender, USA)
- Les Paul records Lover layer on layer mono (cf Leiber & Stoller 1954)
- ABC buys 24 Ampex tape machines. Also 2.5m feet of tape, all from US distributors, Bing Crosby Entertainments Inc.
- Armstrong, unable to sell VHF/FM radio ideas,
1960

- Paul Hindemith publishes 'A Composer's World'
- Sergei Prokofiev (b. 1891) dies

1954

- French defeated by Vietnamese socialist army at Dien Bien Phu; colonial loss of N Vietnam
- Senator J McCarthy in nationally televised hearing 'proving' communist infiltration in US army; McCarthy censured by US Senate
- US Supreme Court rules that segregation by colour in public schools is a violation of the 14th Amendment to the Constitution
- 'The Man With The Golden Arm' (Sinatra / E. Bernstein); 'On The Waterfront' (Brand / L. Bernstein)
- 'Oh Mein Papa' 9 weeks #1 UK (Eddie Calvert); 'Hernando's Hideaway' (Archie Bleyer); 'Mister Sandman' (4 versions incl 1955: Chordettes, Dickie Valentine, Four Aces, Max Bygraves); 'Young At Heart', '3 Coins In A Fountain', 'Hey There, You With The Stars In Your Eyes' (Sinatra). However: 25 June Ken Colyer Skiffle Group, incl Alexis Korner, record for Decca. 13 July Chris Barber Band record skiffle for Decca incl 'Rock Island Line'. December: 'Shake Rattle and Roll' (Bill Haley & his Comets) reaches UK no4
- Benjamin Britten: 'The Turn of the Screw' (Venice)
- Olsen's RCA MK II synthesizer
- Fender twin reverb amplifier
- George Esche invents tape cartridges (USA)
- 45s overtake 78s sales in USA
- Leiber & Stoller overdub on 2 mono machines? cf Les Paul 1948
- Stereo recordings on reel-to-reel tape in US?
- 1st transistor radio available on US market

1955

- Most record companies use stereo (cf 1880, 1931, 1940)
- Since 1942 I Berlin earned $1 million on 'White Christmas'
- 65% of US homes have a TV
- Bill Haley: 'Rock Around The Clock UK' #1 UK 3 weeks Nov 55, 2 weeks Jan 56. Meanwhile Slim Whitman 11 weeks UK #1 with 'Rose Marie'. Also 'The Yellow Rose Of Texas', 'Love Is A Many Splendoured Thing' and 'Sixteen Tons'
- RCA introduce 'Electronic Music Synthesizer'
- Top 100 singles, Top 15 albums charts. Billboard (USA)
- RCA start price cutting on LPs in USA
- Sales value of LPs overtakes singles in UK & USA?
- Top 40 programming format introduced. 1st Storz
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1956

- Hungarian uprising
- Suez Crisis (Nasser, Eden)
- Marocco and Tunisia independent from France

1960

- Seventeen ex-colonies in Africa become independent
- John F Kennedy elected US president
- USA send military 'advisors' to Vietnam
- Nigeria independent of UK
- 20% of US domestic record sales are singles
- 'Psycho' (Hitchcock, B. Herrmann)
- 'Last Year at Marienbad' (Resnais); 'Saturday Night and Sunday Morning' (Karel Reisz); 'Rocco and his Brothers' (Visconti / Rota)
- Bing Crosby sells 200 millionth record, his version of 'White Christmas' (I Berlin) selling 20 million units since 1942

1957

- 'The Six' sign Rome Treaty: start of Common Market
- Gold Coast becomes Ghana, independent of UK
- Malaysia independent from UK
- 'Itsy Bitsy Teenie Weeni Yellow Polka Dot Bikini' (Bryan Hyland); 'The Twist' (Chubby Checker)
- 'Never on a Sunday' (Manos Hadjidakis)
- 'Offen negro'; 'La dolce vita' (Fellini); 'Ben Hur' (William Wyler / Charlton Heston / Miklós Rózsa)
- 'Walk, Don't Run' (Ventures); 'Tom Dooley' (Kingston Trio); 'He's Got The Whole World In His Hands' (Laurie London); 'Mack The Knife' (Weill / Bobby Darin)
- Richard Rodgers: 'The Sound of Music'

1958

- Race riots in London and Nottingham
- School desegregation opposed in Little Rock (Arkansas)
- TV licences exceed value of radio licences in UK
- 45 sales overtake 78 sales in UK
- Melody Maker publishes 1st UK album chart
- Mass prod breakthrough for stereo (cf 1955)
- World standard agreed for stereo records established
- National Association of Record Dealers formed in USA
- US Songwriters' Protection Society becomes the American Guild of Authors and Composers
- Formation of US Country Music Association
- 1st RIAA gold record awards in USA. For Perry Como's 'Catch a Falling Star' b/w 'Magic Moments'
- Domenico Modugno: 'Volare'
- 78s for dance and 'race' music only
- 1st Shure Bros 4-track recorders in USA
- Stereophonic discs introduced in USA
- 1st pirate radio broadcasts in UK
- Ralph Vaughan Williams (b. 1873) dies

1959

- Cuban revolution
- 'Orfeu negro'; 'La dolce vita' (Fellini); 'Ben Hur' (William Wyler / Charlton Heston / Miklós Rózsa)
- Motown Records founded by Berry Gordy in Detroit
- 500,000 juke boxes in USA use 47 million records
- Miles Davis: Milestones (So What?)
- Miles Davis: Milestones (So What?)
- 'Walk, Don't Run' (Ventures); 'Tom Dooley' (Kingston Trio); 'He's Got The Whole World In His Hands' (Laurie London); 'Mack The Knife' (Weill / Bobby Darin)
- Richard Rodgers: 'The Sound of Music'
1962 Cuba Crisis: Khrushchev offers to withdraw Soviet bases if USA moves bases in Turkey; Kennedy refuses
- Algeria independent of France after bitter war of liberation
- "The Magnificent 7" (E. Bernstein)
- "Dr. No" (Barry)
- "Lawrence of Arabia" (David Lean / Maurice Jarre)
- Marilyn Monroe (b. 1926) dies
- Getz, C Byrd: "Desafinado" (Gilberto)
- Beatles: "Love Me Do"
- "Blowin' in the Wind" (Peter, Paul & Mary)
- Wurlitzer EP 200 into production

1963 Profumo scandal; De Gaulle rejects GB from Common Market
- Racism police and white civilian attacks on civil rights demonstrators in Birmingham (Ala)
- Kennedy assassinated (Nov) in Dallas
- Andy Warhol & Co exhibit soup cans, comic strips, etc. at Guggenheim Museum in New York
- "Dr. Who" starts on BBC TV (D. Darbyshire)
- "The Silence" (Bergman); "Tom Jones"; "The Birds" (hitchcock / Herrmann); "Dr Strangelove" (Kubrick / Sellers)
- Dutch-owned electronics firm Philips demonstrates its compact audio cassette tape
- Beatles: "She Loves You" and 1st album. 1st album costs £400 to make in UK
- Album "The Freewhelin" Bob Dylan"
- Stereo 8-track cartridge introduced
- Paul Hindethm (b. 1895) dies
- + dith Piaf (b.) dies

1964 Tonkin incident: a US destroyer allegedly attacked off N Vietnam; US accraft attack Vietnamese terriory; escalation
- Legrand: "Parapluies de Cherbourg" (Bécaud)
- "Un pugno di dollari" (Leone, Morricone)
- "Zorba the Greek" (Theodorakis)
- "A Hard Day's Night" (Lester, Beatles)
- The Watusi, Frug, Monkey, Funky Chicken and other Twist variants lure many to discothèques where go-go girls set the pace
- "La fabbrica illuminata" (Nono)
- "Fidler on the Roof" (Jerry Bock at New York)
- "Hello Dolly!" (L. Armstrong); "I Want To Hold Your Hand" (Beatles)
- "Where Did Our Love Go?" (Supremes)
- Mellotron Mark I
- Rolling Stones: "Satisfaction"
- Beatles at Shea Stadium - 50 watt Vox PA
- Stereo FM broadcasting begins?
- Multitrack recording begins?
- Cole Porter (b.) dies

1965 Martin Luther King (w Nobel Peace Prize 1964) leads procession of 4,000 civil rights marchers from Selma (fired on by KKK) to Montgomery (Ala)
- Ian ("One Man One Vote Doesn't Mean Counting Sheep") Smith declares White-lead Rhodesia independent (UDI). Wilson's labour govt imposes oil embargo
- Dylan booted for going electric at Newport Jazz/Folk Festival
- "Help!" (R Lester / Beatles); "Dr Zhivago" (David Lean / Maurice Jarre)
- First network experiment in which two computers "talk" to each other and the first time data packets are used to communicate between computers. This paves the way for the Arpanet in 1969, a physical network linking academics at 4 US universities. This in turn becomes the internet
- Yardbirds: "Heart Full of Soul" (use of distortion - fuzz)
- Los Incas version of 'El condor pasa'
- "Who: 'My Generation'"
- "Rolling Stones: 'Satisfaction'"
- "King of the Road" (Roger Miller); "Downtown" (Petula Clark / Tony Hatch); "A Hard Day's Night" (Beatles)
- Philips music cassettes at Berlin Radio Show
- Edgar Varèse (b.) dies

1966 "The Green Berets" (Staff Sgt Barry Sadler)
- Mao Tse-tung: "Quotations of Chairman Mao"
- "Fahrenheit 451" (Trufaud, B. Herrmann)
- US cars equipped with 8-track stereo cartridge players, developed by William (Learjet) Lear, Ampex and RCA/Victor
- US Music Publishers' Protection Association becomes the National Music Publishers' Association
- Beatles: "Revolver"
- F Zappa & Mothers of Invention: "Freak Out"
- Frank Zappa produces the first commercially successful double album of popular music - "Freak Out" by The Mothers of Invention
- Moog's voltage control synth into prod (GB)
- Fender Rhodes piano into mass production
- Jim Marshall's "stacks" (50 watt PAs)
- Tape cartridges launched in USA
- P Tagg completes studies and moves to Sweden

1967 6-Day War: Israel occupies West Bank (incl Jerusalem), Sinai and Gaza strip
- 50,000 demonstrate in Washington against US war in Vietnam
- African Americans riot in the ghettos of Cleveland, Newark and Detroit
- "The Graduate" (Simon & Garfunkel)
- "Blow-Up" (antonioni, / H Hancock); "Bonnie & Clyde"; 'In the Heat of the Night (S Poitier, K Hepburn, S Tracy)
- Pirate radios outlawed
- Small Faces: "Itchycoo Park" (use of phaser)
- Beatles: "Sergeant Pepper". Done on 4-track machine for £25000
- Hendrix: 'Are You Experienced?'
- 'Respect' (Aretha Franklin)
- Marshall amps
- WEM 1000 watt PA system
- 8-track recording becomes standard

1968 Student riots in Paris. De Gaulle given special powers
- Robert Kennedy assassinated in Los Angeles
- Soviet troops into Prague to oust (legally elected) Dubcek government
- Newly elected US president R Nixon promises to end Vietnam War
- US forces in Vietnam using napalm and Agent Orange - human and ecological disaster
- Martin Luther King assassinated (5 April)
- Jerry Goldsmith (b. 1929): mus for 'Planet of the Apes' (Schaffner)
- 'The Thomas Crown Affair' (Jewison / S McQueen / M Legrand); 'Funny Girl' (B Streisand); '2001' (Kubrick / R Strauss, Ligeti, J Strauss). Mickey Mouse 40 yrs old
- Woodstock festival with 300,000 present
- Walter Carlos: 'Switched On Bach'
- 'Congratulations' (Cliff Richard); 'Hey Jude' (Beatles); 'Mrs Robinson' (Simon & Garfunkel)
- 'I Say A Little Prayer For You' (Bacharach / Aretha Franklin)
- Quadraphony first developed
- More LPs than singles produced in the UK
- 1st home video system produced

1969 British troops sent to Ulster
- UK singles sales bottom out at 46.8m
— Easy Rider
— Hair
— 'Tommy' (Who) 1st full-length rock opera
— Led Zeppelin: 'Whole Lotta Love'
— 'Aquarius' from 'Hair'
— 16-track recording standard
— Dolby noise reduction system adapted for pre-recorded tapes and cassettes

1970

1970 Unidad Popular elected to power in Chile under Allende
— Bing Crosby sells 300 millionth disc
— A Man Called Horse (Rosenmann)
— 'White Christmas' sells its 30 millionth
— Commercial breakthrough for cassettes
— 1st attempts for quadraphony at home
— Jimi Hendrix dies

1971 USA extends bombing to Laos & Cambodia. Heavy bombing of Hanoi
— Lt W Calley found guilty of premeditated murder at Mylai (Song My), Vietnam
— 'The Godfather' (Rota)
— 'A Clockwork Orange' (Kubrick); 'Investigation of a Citizen' (Elio Petri / Morricone)
— Intel produces large-scale integrated circuits which feature in digital audio processors and the Philips compact disc (see 1969, 1972, 1980)
— Popular Music in Higher Education starts in Gothenburg (S-MUS) and in Boston (Berklee)
— 'Shaft' (I. Hayes)
— Igor Stravinsky (b.) dies
— Max Steiner (b.) dies

1972 Bloody Sunday in Ulster
— Watergate. Nixon's landslide re-election
— UK record sales value tops £100m
— First CD prototype tested in Holland (see 1969, 1980)
— US Copyright Act covers now sound recordings
— Bowie: 'Rise & Fall of Ziggy Stardust'
— Deep Purple: 'Smoke on the Water' (from 'Machine-head')
— 'Jesus Christ Superstar' (Time Rice / Andrew Lloyd-Webber)
— 24-track becoming standard (early 1970s)

1973 USA kicked out of Vietnam. c. 55,000 US deaths, 303,640 wounded. Vietnamese losses: 2 million deaths of which 1 million civilians
— Fascist military coup in Chile (3 September)
— 'American Graffiti'
— Pink Floyd: 'Dark Side of the Moon'
— Genesis: ' Selling England by the Pound'
— 'Independent Local Radio' starts in UK. BBC and Capital Radio in London

1974 The Sting' (Paul Newman / Joplin: 'The Entertainer')
— The Rockford Files (M. Post)
— ABBA win Eurovision contest: 'Waterloo'
— 'Bitches Brew' (Miles Davis)
— Chorus pedals (e.g. Boss, MXR, Ibanez) on market
— UK cartridge prod peaks at 7.9 mill units
— Duke (Edward Kennedy) Ellington (b. 1974) dies
— '1900' (Bertolucci, Morricone)
— US Copyright Act covers published & unpublished sound
— Polyphonic synthesizers first available

1975 Margaret Thatcher succeeds Edward Heath as Tory leader
— 'White Christmas' has now sold 135m units
— Japanese record market overtakes UK's
— Taxi Driver (Scorsese, B. Herrmann)
— Bob Marley: 'No Woman No Cry'
— Kraftwerk: 'Autobahn'
— Promotional videos start
— Bernard Herrmann (b. 1911) dies

1976 Military coup in Argentina
— West German record market overtakes UK's
— RIAA: 1st platinum awards single/album (US)
— '1900' (Bertolucci, Morricone)
— Musician's Union organiser for rock artists. UK 1st time
— Polyphonic synthesizers first available

1977 'Saturday Night Fever' (J Travolta / Bee Gees)
— 'Close Encounters' (Spielberg, J. Williams)
— Vinyl sales peak at 344 mill units in USA
— Sex Pistols: 'God Save The Queen'
— Prophet 5 on market
— Philips show CDs at Tokyo Audio Fair
— 3M's 32-track digital recorder $15,000 (USA)
— Musician's Union organiser for rock artists. UK 1st time
— 'Local Hero' (Knopfler)
— 'Merry Christmas Mr. Lawrence' (Sakomoto)
— 'Flashdance' (Moroder)
— 'Bitches Brew' (Miles Davis)
— 'Local Hero' (Knopfler)
— 'Aquarius' from 'Hair'
— 'A Clockwork Orange' (Kubrick); 'Investigation of a Citizen' (Elio Petri / Morricone)
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1978 UK vinyl LP production peaks
— Formation of International Federation of Popular Music Publishers
— Worldwide decline starts in vinyl sales
— 'The Wall' (Parker, Pink Floyd)
— Ry Cooder: 'Bop till you Drop' (digital recording)
— Dimitri Tiomkin (b.) dies

1980 Solidarnosc movement (Poland)
— Soviet army into Afghanistan
— EEC retail music business sales overtake US temporarily. i.e. countries either in or later to join EEC
— Phillips/Sony CD standard finalised after 11 years of development (see 1969), 1 year after production of second CD prototype
— US juke box count down to 300,000
— Digitally recorded albums available in USA
— Peter Gabriel III
— Police: 'Zenytta Mondatta'
— commercial breakthrough for video
— Simmons SDS V electronic drum kit
— 12-inch single introduced to UK
— Tape cartridges obsolete in UK
— Sony Walkman sells 5 mill units in 1st yr (USA)
— Tascam 4-track portastudio $1,500 in USA
— MTV starts in USA with $20 mill capital
— IASPM (International Association for the Study of Popular Music) formed
— Journal 'Popular Music' started by Cambridge University Press
— World over Falklands/Malvinas
— Israel invade Lebanon
— Grand Master Flash: 'The Message'
— MIDI sequencers available
— Philips introduce CDs on to market
— Cassette sales peak at 78.2m units in Japan
— World market bottoms out at $9.35m
— 'Flashdance' (Moroder)
— 'Merry Christmas Mr. Lawrence' (Sakomoto)
— 'Local Hero' (Knopfler)
— CDs launched in USA and UK. World's then only pressing plant at Hannover (D)
— Worldwide cassette LP sales overtake vinyl LPs
— Sony introduce the first portable CD player, the D-S
— UK record sales top $500 mill
— MTV (US) earning $1 mill a week
— Miami Vice starts (Jan Hammer)
— Michael Jackson: ‘Thriller’ (cf 1992)
— Madonna: ‘Like A Virgin’
1985
— Gorbachev party secretary (Soviet Union)
— ‘Paris Texas’ (Wim Wenders / Ry Cooder)
— Sony and Philips produce standard for CD-ROM which uses same laser technology as audio CD
— Dire Straits album "Brothers in Arms" helps boost popularity of the CD format
— Steve Case funds America Online as Quantum Computer Services, an online service for owners of Commodore computers. Subsequently introduced for other computers, AOL’s stock is listed on the Nasdaq index in 1992
— Sales value of UK singles peaks at £82.1 mill
— Beatles disc & tape sales estim at 1 billion units
— 1st Home Taping Audio Bill defeated in USA
— commercial breakthrough for CDs
— Quantec introduce Room Simulator (c.)
— Foster reel-to-reel 8-track costs $1,600
— Still only 2 CD pressing plants in operation
1986
— Challenger disaster (NASA)
— Olof Palme murdered (Stockholm, 28 Feb)
— Chernoby disaster (26 April)
— Sales value of cassette LPs overtake vinyl LPs (UK)
— US Immigration Reform and Control Act tightens up granting of temporary work permits to overseas artists who do not qualify as ‘pre-eminent’
— Concert Promoters’ Association formed in UK
— Samplers readily available on market. Casio model
1990
— Thatcher out after 16 years. Major PM
— Germany reunited
— Iraq invades Kuwait
— No identifiable singles sales in 19 nations. No identifiable vinyl LP sales in 9 countries, no CD sales in 5 countries
— Vinyl LPs obsolete in Japan
— Enigma: ‘Sadness’
— M Jackson: 15-yr contract w Sony for $890 mill
— Philips market Digital Compact Cassette DCC
— Agreement on e.g. DAT standard formats in US
— Southworth Jam Box. Have your own jam session
— Kohler Human Clock (closed drumming)
1992
— Tories 4th term - 2 million officially unemployed
— Digital Audio Tape (DAT) and players launched
— America Online stock listed on Nasdaq index
— Sony Corporation makes first ever trading loss of o86m
— W.H Smith announce their intention of stopping selling vinyl LPs in UK
— DCC marketed by Philips. BASF close US tape-manufacturing plant. MD marketed by Sony
— Thorn-EMI buys Virgin Records for o560m
— Sony begin selling MiniDiscs, Philips launches Digital Compact Cassette
— M Jackson’s ‘Thriller’ 40 mill units in 10 yrs
— Madonna’s 7-year $700 mill contract. Signed between her Maverick Entertainment Group and Time-Warner
— Bob Geldof’s company, Planet, wins o10m Channel 4 TV contract
— Sales of Michael Jackson’s ‘Thriller’ album reach 40m units after 10 years. World record sales estimated to be worth $28.7bn. Mike Oldfield’s Tubular Bells sells 16m over 20 years - still selling 100,000 a year
— Madonna’s Maverick Entertainment Group signs a contract with Time-Warner estimated to be worth $700m over seven years
— John Cage (b.) dies
1994
— BBC announce plans for digital audio broadcasting
— Viacom buy Paramount (including MTV) for almost $10bn
— German inventor sues Sony over patent rights to Walkman
— CD-Interactive launched in UK
— Blockbuster and IBM unveil NewLeaf Entertainment, a joint venture developing a technology that will enable consumers to download and manufacture CDs and cassettes in store. The joint venture falls apart a year later due to lack of record label support
— Matsushita announce first portable DCC player
— 100m walkmans sold worldwide to date (10% in UK), valued at o3bn
— Pavarotti’s audio and video sales top 50m units
— Philips makes 4,800 more workers redundant
— MTV opens in Russia
— Thorn-EMI sells defence business to Thomson-CSF of France. Thorn-EMI buys Intercode Tonggesellschaft for o35.2m
— Cerberus Sound and Vision strike deal with Mechanical Copyright Protection Society to market music on the Internet
— Three surviving Beatles refuse o2.5m for one concert appearance on the Isle of Wight
— Video Hits One (VH-1) launched by MTV Network Europe as ‘adult MTV’
— Ageing US ‘rock’ stars sue for millions of dollars in unpaid back-royalties
— George Michael loses case against Sony for release from his contract, and pays o3m costs
— Paul McCartney estimated to be worth o420m, Tom Jones o252m
— Virgin open first national ‘rock’ radio station in UK
— Factroy Records closes in Manchester, UK
— Philips announce plans to sack 15,000 more employees. Thorn-EMI lighting sold to Investcorp for o162m
— Pink Floyd sell 2.2m tickets before tour begins
— Sales of Thriller reach 48m
— CDs outsell cassettes in UK
— Sony Music lends $452m to Sony Pictures
— W H Smith Our Price chain and Branson’s Megastores plan joint venture. W H Smith sacks 600 managers
— Gaylord Entertainments (including Grand Ol’ Opry) on the market for $3bn
— Polygram buys Motown for $300m.
— EMI pays $50m to manage Michael Jackson’s Northern Songs for five years
— IBM opens CD-on-demand kiosk in Florida, USA
— Grateful Dead concert in Ohio grossed over $1.242m
1995
— Thorn-EMI close Rumbelows UK high street chain with loss of 2,900 jobs. W H Smith announces 1,000 job losses. Thorn EMI sells $100m stake in SGS-Thomson of France.
— Country 1035, first UK ‘country music’ radio station, opened in London
— Michael Jackson sells Beatles’ song rights to Sony for $60m
— President Clinton threatens $3bn sanctions (and a possible trade war) over China’s alleged piracy of US-owned video and CD material
— Janet Jackson signs $80m contract with Virgin Records. REM sign $50m, five-year deal with Warner Brothers
— EMI (worth $7.3bn) demerged from Thorn. W H Smiths make first loss in 204 years
— Cliff Richard knighted by UK Tory government
— George Martin knighted and Van Morrison awarded OBE by UK Tory government
1996
— Blair’s “New Labour” government comes to power in the UK
— Philips launch affordable CD-recorder
— MP3.com founded by Michael Robertson
— Elton John’s Candle in the wind becomes best-selling single of all time: 31.8m copies. Pre-orders of 1.5m copies for Elton John’s Candle in the wind single in UK, 8m in USA
— Andrew Lloyd Webber made a lord and Paul McCartney knighted by UK Tory government
— Noel Gallacher’s annual income estimated at over £25m. Richard Branson estimated to be worth £1.7bn
— Elvis Presley remains RCA’s best-selling artist, with annual earnings estimated at $40m
1998
— “New Labour” government sets up the Department for Culture, Media and Sport in UK
— California-based Diamond Multimedia launches its Rio digital download player, beating off a subsequent legal action by the Record Industry Association of America (RIAA)
— Specifications for DVD-Audio agreed
— Reginald Dwight (Elton John) knighted by UK Labour government
1999
— US President Clinton survives impeachment; “oral sex” part of everyday vocabulary
— The World Trade Organisation meets in Seattle. Delegates are met with lively demonstrations against the unchallenged global power and unethical arrogance of international corporations whose interests are represented by the WTO
— Kossovo crisis
— “New Labour” set up “New Deal” for musicians
— CA*net3 fibre optic network in Canada becomes the world’s fastest computer network, capable of transmitting all nine of Beethoven’s symphonies in 0.065 seconds
— Source Digital Music Initiative (SDMI) - designed to protect music downloaded via the internet - finally established. Major record companies join the rush to commercially release tracks via the internet

2000
— AOL announces purchase of Time Warner in the biggest deal in business history. AOL Time Warner’s businesses will include: Warner Music Group, Warner Bros., CNN, Time Warner Cable, HBO, America Online, CompuServe, Netscape, AOL MovieFone, Winamp, Spinner