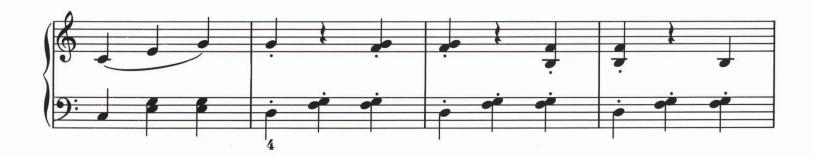
Johann Strauss, Jr. (1825–1899) was known as the "Waltz King" because of the beauty and popularity of his many waltz compositions. Two of his better-known light operas are "The Gypsy Baron" and "The Bat" (*Die Fledermaus*). The Beautiful Blue Danube is probably the world's most famous waltz.

Blue Danube Waltz

Johann Strauss, Jr.









Englebert Humperdinck (1854–1921) became instantly famous because of his opera "Hansel and Gretel." For a while he was an assistant to Richard Wagner, one of the most influential composers of the 19th century.

Wooden Shoe Dance

from "Hansel and Gretel"



Charles Gounod (1818–1893) was descended from a family of artists; his father was a painter. Gounod wrote music mainly for the theater, although he wrote several symphonies. His great success was the opera "Faust." *Funeral March of a Marionette* was used as the theme to a very popular mystery show on radio and television.

Funeral March of a Marionette

