Unit 8 Public and Private

Character Piece

-Mostly for piano

- ideal for domestic use (technically designed for amateurs, played for leisure time both for man and woman

-types

->stylized dances (traditional), no longer used for dance like waltz

->descriptive works

Felix Mendelssohn

1809-1847

Born in Hamburg

Highly educated

MUSICAL PRODIGY

Varied musical career

Wrote Songs without words

Character pieces: a descriptive piece, imitating a song

Mendelssohn wrote 48

“Duetto” Felix Mendelssohn 1896-1837: melody intervened between two sounds on same piano,

In a higher range and a lower range singing together, pretending two voices

\*The music is not too complicated, not approachable for a solid amateur, not so difficult

Fryderyck Chopin:

1810-1849

Child prodigy

Unsuited for public life

Paris in 1831

-teaching

-Played in salon, not a large crowd, the way people are acting paying attention to the salon, it’s not background music to chatting

MAZURKAs

-polish folk dances

-social dance by 1800s

- in Poland, Russia, Germany

-intended to contain trios, exotic to the ear at time

-exoticism, nationalism, instinctive connection of him as polish

CHOPIN’S Mazurka Op.68 No.2

Clara Schumann

-German composer and performer

-child prodigy

-Toured extensively

Part of a group of character pieces

Meant to be played in the home

-Character piece is ideal for domestic use

-approachable music

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