

Appendix E: A comparative chart of events that affected the violin development and techniques of the era.

The following table lists in chronological order the composers, violinists, and developments in both the violin and the bow, and violin techniques that were important in the Romantic Period. It also lists some of the repertoire of composers – especially their key works (a more detailed list is given in Appendix C), and places all of these in context by listing other historical events, including events in art and architecture. The table has been split into decades or half-decades for easier referencing.

The table necessarily must start its timeline before the start of the Romantic Period because many of the people and events that shaped the period occurred before it began. Hence the decade of 1740 was chosen as a starting point as this was also the decade when some of the techniques which were developed in the Romantic Period were born.

One shortcoming of this type of table is that it is very difficult to show relationships between people, places, and events and how they may, or may not, have interacted with each other. Appendix A, adapted from Milson's (2003, p. 15) book, shows graphically the pedagogical relationships that existed between some of the key violinistic figures of the nineteenth century.

As one can see from the schematic in Appendix A, Giovanni Battista Viotti (1755-1824) is recognized as “the link connecting the modern school of violin-playing with the schools of the past” (Ferris, 1881, p. 36). The “modern school” here is referring to the nineteenth century. Viotti was acknowledged as the leading violinist of his time. His influence on violin music, as well as music in general, was of a very substantial order. He embodied the accomplishments of the great virtuoso as well as the gifts of the composer.

Romanticism for Violin – Comparative Chart

Date	Composers	Violinists	Development of Violin and Bow	Development of Violin Technique	Musical Events and violin compositions	Literature and Principal violin treatises	Art and Architecture	Historical Events
1740			1740 Tartini played the bow in fig. E-1.1 (page 317) Anon bow (fig E-1.2): 58g, 70.2cm, playing length (PL) = 59.5cm	1740 Geminiani: Close Shake (vibrato) – to perform it, one must press the finger strongly upon the string of the instrument, and move the wrist in and out.			1740-86 Berlin Opera House was built	1741 Celsius develops his own thermometer scale, <i>Celsius</i> , a centigrade scale 1746 Wearing of the kilt is banned in Scotland by the Dress Act
1750		Giovanni Viotti (1755-1824) Rodolphe Kreutzer (1766-1831)	1750 Edward Dodd (fig E-1.3): 46g, 73cm, PL = 62cm Anon (fig E-1.4): 52g, 71.1cm, PL = 63.1cm 1760 Tourte Père (fig E-1.5): 49g, 73.8cm, PL = 64.4cm	1756 Mozart: vibrato- one must always approximate nature as nearly as possible. He was the first to pin-point the relationship between bow speed and volume, and mentions three types of vibrato: slow; accel-erating; and fast. He commented that necessity, convenience, and elegance were the only reasons for using positions other than the First	1761 The tune to <i>Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star</i> was published in France	1751 Geminiani: The Art of playing on the Violin 1756 Leopold Mozart: Violin Method 1761 L'abbé: le fils's principes du violon	1750 Westminster Bridge is officially opened in London 1764 Carlisle House, Soho Square in London	1750 A small earthquake hits London 1752 Pennsylvania Hospital, the first hospital in the U.S. is opened The British Empire adopts the Gregorian calendar, making it necessary to skip eleven days – September 2 was followed by September