**Давидов Д.**

**DEVELOPMENT OF BRITISH MUSIC**

Through its history, the United Kingdom has been a major exporter and source of musical innovation, drawing its cultural basis from the [history](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_the_United_Kingdom), from [church music](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Church_music), from [Western culture](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_culture) and from the ancient and traditional [folk music](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Folk_music) and instrumentation of [England](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/England), [Scotland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scotland), [Northern Ireland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northern_Ireland) and [Wales](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wales).

**Classical music.** Musical composition, performance and training in the UK inherited the European classical traditions of the 18th century and saw a great expansion during the 19th century. [Romantic nationalism](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Romantic_nationalism) encouraged clear national identities within the [countries of](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Countries_of_the_United_Kingdom) the UK, producing many composers and musicians of note and drawing on the folk tradition. These traditions have continued to evolve through the work of such composers as [Sullivan](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arthur_Sullivan), [Holst](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gustav_Holst), [Elgar](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edward_Elgar), [Parry](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hubert_Parry), [Williams](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ralph_Vaughan_Williams) and [Britten](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Benjamin_Britten).

**Folk music.** Each of the four countries of the UK has its own diverse [folk music](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Folk_music) forms. In addition, there are numerous folk traditions brought by immigrants from [Jamaica](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jamaica), India, the [Commonwealth](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Commonwealth_of_Nations) and other parts of the world. Folk music flourished until the era of industrialisation when it began to be replaced by new forms of popular music, including [music hall](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Music_hall) and [brass bands](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brass_bands). Realisation of this led to two f[olk revivals](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roots_revival), one in the late-19th century and the other in the mid-20th century, which kept folk music as an important sub-culture within society.

**Early British popular music.** Technological, economic and social changes led to new forms of music in the 19th century, including the [brass band](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brass_band). Similarly, the [music hall](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Music_hall) sprang up to cater for the entertainment of new urban societies, adapting existing forms of music to produce popular songs and acts. In the 1930s the influence of American Jaz led to the creation of [British dance bands](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_dance_band), who provided a social and popular music that began to dominate social occasions and the radio airwaves.

**Modern British popular music.** In the early 20th century, influences from the United States became most dominant in popular music, with young performers producing their own versions of American music, including [rock n' roll](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rock_n%27_roll) from the late 1950s and developing a parallel music scene. In the early 1960s the [British Invasion](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Invasion), led by the [Beatles](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Beatles), helped to secure British performers a major place in development of pop and rock music. Since then, rock and popular music contributed to a British-American collaboration. Genres originating from or developed by British musicians include [blues rock](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blues_rock), [heavy metal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heavy_metal_music), [progressive rock](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Progressive_rock), [hard rock](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hard_rock), [punk rock](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Punk_rock), [Bhangra](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bhangra_%28music%29), [electric folk](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Electric_folk), [folk punk](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Folk_punk), a[cid jazz](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acid_jazz), [trip hop](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trip_hop), [shoe gaze](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shoegaze), [drum and bass](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Drum_and_bass), [grime](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grime_%28music%29), [Britpop](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Britpop) and [dubstep](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dubstep).

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