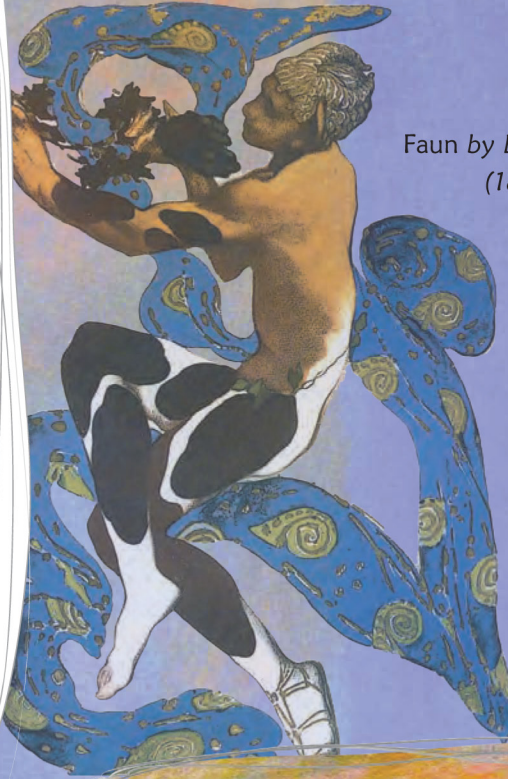


Unit 7

The Turn of the 20th Century

By the 20th century, developments in science and technology began to influence society and the arts. International communication allowed musicians to develop an awareness of cultures from around the world. Musical trends and styles changed quickly as composers explored new ideas. Many even wrote in multiple styles throughout their musical careers. The music was often a reaction against the overly emotional style of the Romantic period. Composers continued to use musical forms and instruments of the past but in new and unique ways.



Faun by Léon Bakst
(1866–1924)



Impression, Sunrise (1872)
by Claude Monet

Impressionism

At an art show in 1874, the painting *Impression, Sunrise* by Claude Monet (1840–1926) was described as unfinished—a sketch. Monet and other artists used brush strokes of pure color to show the reflection of light on objects. This style of art was called **Impressionism**.

Impressionism was also used to describe the music of Claude Debussy (1862–1918). Inspired by a poem by Stéphane Mallarmé, Debussy wrote *Afternoon of a Faun*, a piece of music that uses unusual instruments and orchestration.

CD Track 16: *Afternoon of a Faun* (Debussy)

SAMPLE

Claude Debussy

