The Emergence of Spanish Impressionism and its Interaction with French Impressionism in Music at the Turn of the Twentieth Century: selections from the solo and collaborative piano repertoire
Impressionism in music's wiki: Impressionism in music was a movement among various composers in Western classical music (mainly during the late 19th and early 20th centuries) whose music focuses on suggestion and atmosphere, “conveying the moods and emotions aroused by the subject rather than a detailed tone-picture”. “Impressionism” is a philosophical and aesthetic term borrowed from late 19th century French painting after Monet's Impression, Sunrise . Composers were labeled impressionists by analogy to the impressionist painters who use starkly contrasting color. Impressionism gave composers of piano music a new way of looking at things. The Bridge to Twentieth Century Music. Of course, Impressionism didn’t just appear out of thin air. It marks a progression from the heights of Romanticism directly into what we now call twentieth-century music. And the bridge between those two is believed to have been one particular piece of music written by Claude Debussy, entitled Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune. You can listen to its haunting opening flute melody, making use of the chromatic scale, in the video below. Debussy's l'après-midi d'un faune. Where Does Impressionism Come From? Impressionism in music was a movement in European classical music, mainly in France, which appeared in the late nineteenth century and continued into the beginning of the twentieth century. Similarly to its precursor in the visual arts, musical impressionism focuses on a suggestion and an atmosphere rather than on a strong emotion or the depiction of a story as in program music. Musical impressionism occurred as a reaction to the excesses of the Romantic era. Impressionist composers. Musical impressionism was based in France by the French composer Claude Debussy. He and Maurice Ravel were g