

ORCHESTRAL INSTRUMENT TIMELINE

BAROQUE ERA (1600-1750)

1600s

Violin Family

Standardization of the Violin, Viola, and Cello by Italian masters like Amati and Stradivari.

1690

The Clarinet

Invented by Johann Christoph Denner as an evolution of the chalumeau.

CLASSICAL ERA (1750-1820)

1770s

Orchestral Flute

Addition of keys to the transverse flute, increasing chromatic capabilities.

1810

Double-Action Harp

Patented by Sebastien Erard, allowing the harp to play in all keys.

ROMANTIC ERA (1820-1900)

1835

Modern Tuba

First patented by Wieprecht and Moritz, providing a powerful bass foundation.

1840s

The Saxophone

Adolphe Sax creates the saxophone family, occasionally integrated into large orchestral scores.

1870s

Celesta

Invented by Auguste Mustel; famously used by Tchaikovsky in 'The Nutcracker'.