

## Year 6 Music: Richard Wagner

### Tier 3 vocabulary

Leitmotif	A leitmotif is a musical theme that repeats throughout a story, like in movies or operas, and is linked to a certain character, idea, or situation
Romantic Opera	Romantic opera is a style of opera from the 19th century characterised by expressive emotion and imaginative storytelling
Dynamics	Varying levels of loudness and softness in a performance
Tempo	Fast or slow
Pulse	Music's heartbeat
Rhythm	Patterns of short and long notes



**Ride of The Valkyries – Richard Wagner**

**The Imperial March (Darth Vader's Theme) - John Williams**

### Features:

- Bold, dramatic orchestration
- Powerful brass and woodwind sections
- Triumphant and energetic melody
- Repeated rhythmic **motifs**
- Rising and falling sequences
- Use of **leitmotifs** to represent the Valkyries
- Dynamic contrasts and **crescendos**
- A sense of forward momentum and urgency

The combined effect is grand and exhilarating, evoking imagery of heroic battles and mythic adventures.



### Richard Wagner (1813 - 1883)

- German composer, conductor, writer, impresario, inventor
- Famous for his massive operas with epic stories
- Invented many theatrical conventions such as the orchestra pit and the dimming of lights before performance

Compare and contrast with other classical pieces previously studied: Year 4 - Vivaldi, The Four Seasons and Year 5 - Holst, The Planets.

KS3: develop a deepening understanding of the music that is performed and to which they listen.