Categories and Genres of Choral Literature

A. Sacred Music
   1. Offices: Canonical Hours developed before the Mass, includes Psalms and canticles from scripture, hymns, readings, and prayers
      • Matins (during the night or before daybreak)
      • Te Deum (only on special days, sung before closing prayer)
      • Lauds (sunrise/dawn)
      • Prime or Early Morning Prayers (First Hour or 6 a.m.)
      • Terce or Mid-Morning Prayer (Third Hour or 9 a.m.)
      • Sext or Midday Prayer (Sixth Hour or noon)
      • None or Mid-Afternoon Prayer (Ninth Hour or 3 p.m.)
      • Vespers/Evening Prayer (sunset; “at the lighting of the lamps”)
      • Magnificat
      • Compline or Night Prayer (after sunset before retiring)
        • Alma Redemptoris Mater (Advent to Feb. 1)
        • Ave Regina caelorum (Feb. 2 to Wed. of Holy Week)
        • Regina caeli laetare (Easter to Trinity Sunday)
        • Salve Regina (Trinity to Advent)
   2. Mass
      • Missa brevis
      • Missa solemnes
      • Requiem mass
   3. Motet
   4. Passion
   5. Oratorio
   6. Cantata
   7. Canticle:
      • Apocrypha
      • Old and New Testaments
      • Marian texts
      • Other sources
   8. Sequence
      • Stabat Mater (also labeled as a hymn)
   9. Hymn
      • Te Deum (also included in the Office of Matins)
   10. Psalm
   11. Carol
   12. Lamentations
   13. Anthem (English/Anglican church)
   14. Chorale (Lutheran church)
   15. Spiritual/Gospel/Folk Hymns

B. Secular Music
   1. Middle Ages troubadour, Minnesinger, Meistersinger, jongleur songs: chanson, ballade, rondeau, madrigal
   2. Renaissance French chanson; Spanish villancico; English madrigal; German madrigal, lied; Italian madrigal, caccia, canzone, canzonetta, frottola, villanelle, balleti, canti carnailleschi (carnival songs)
   3. Baroque Continuo Madrigal, Opera Choruses, secular Oratorio/Cantata
   4. Folk Song, Ethnic or World Music, Work Songs, American Spirituals
   5. Romantic mixed-voice or gender-based part songs, 20th century glee
   6. Art Songs and Occasional pieces
   7. Vocal Jazz, Show Choir, and Pop Idiom