Franz Liszt (1811-1886)

Biography:
- Born in Hungary; never spoke Hungarian but espoused Hungarian Nationalism
- Child prodigy on piano, family moved to Vienna and Paris so he could study
- Concert tours all around Europe, often performing piano transcriptions of his and others' works
- Took preliminary Holy orders later in life (led to writing religious music)

Style Periods: can be confusing because of frequent revisions, different arrangements etc.
- First Period (1834-38): lots of piano music
  - *Transcendental Etudes*: some were nearly impossible for any other pianist to play; many have programmatic titles
  - *Annees de Pelerinage Books 1 and 2*: musical travelogues (Switzerland and Italy). Some are short Chopin-esque pieces, others full-fledged tone poems
- Second Period (1839-47): years as a travelling virtuoso. More piano works, many transcriptions of orchestral works
  - *Hungarian Rhapsodies*
- Third Period (1846-61): Music director at Weimar, had an orchestra
  - *Sonata in B Minor* (1853): innovative in form
  - *Mephisto Waltz*
  - *Les Preludes*
  - *Faust Symphony*: an example of thematic transformation
- Fourth Period (1861-69): mostly religious music
- Fifth Period (1869-1883): abrupt change in style, very experimental
  - Uses experimental harmony (modal, altered chords, augmented triads, parallel empty 5ths, whole tone scale)
  - *Annees de Pelerinage Book 3*

Biggest Contribution:
- new approach to harmony: "Circle of 5ths" is virtually replaced with "circle of 3rds"