

# MUSICALLY RUSSIAN

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Nationalism in the  
Nineteenth Century

# What does it mean to be Russian?

- Music as a driving force in the growth of nationalism.
- Separation from France.
- Russian thought regarding national culture creation.
- Influence of Russian musical style.
  - Musorgsky
  - Tchaikovsky
  - Rimsky-Korsakov









# Nationalism

- Advocacy of political independence.
- Driven by nationalist intellectuals who create culture.
- Culture unites a populace by giving a sense of belonging and unity.
- Russian people were seeking their identity following the French invasion.

# Music and Nationalism

- Primordialism/*Volksgeist*:
  - “The immutable national identity of a people that finds expression through music.”
- Each people group has a unique musical style.

# Mighty Kuchka

- Mily Balakirev, César Cui, Modest Musorgsky, Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov and Alexander Borodin
- Mighty Little Heap
- Incorporated folk music into their works.
- *protyazhnaya*

# Modest Musorgsky





Pyotr  
Tchaikovsky



Nikolai  
Rimsky-  
Korsakov



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