Camille Saint-Saens lived from 1835 to 1921 and was heavily exposed to the drama of romantic music. He was very aware of music from the past and created the foundation of his music by studying some of the great classical composers: Bach, Handel, Haydn, and Mozart. He composed in a romantic style and was quite opposed to modernist music. He even went so far as to speak against modernist music at the premier of *The Rite of Spring*. While many composers started to compose in similar modernist styles, Saint-Saens stayed rooted in the Romantic Era. Even though the end of his life took place during a time of change in music, he continued to compose in the dramatic style of romantic music using many sweeping gestures. Saint-Saens composed his *Sonata for Clarinet and Piano* during that last year of his life. Though this composition was written later in his life, it still holds many of the same elements as his earlier pieces such as self-contained melodies with obvious phrasing. Saint-Saens seemed to almost be stuck in time with his compositions. While most of the world was moving forward into modernist music, he was still composing as though it was the height of the Romantic Era.