

# Frédéric Chopin

(FRED-uh-rik SHOH-pan)

1810 – 1849



- He was born in Zelazowa Wola, Poland.
- His mother introduced him to music at a very young age and by the time he was 6, he was playing the piano quite well and composing tunes.
- By 8, he was performing in fancy salons and writing his own compositions and by 16, he had composed several piano pieces in different styles.
- He attended the Warsaw Conservatory of Music, where he studied for three years under Polish composer Josef Elsner.
- At 21, he moved to Paris. During the last 18 years of his life he gave only 30 public performances, preferring smaller concerts in a salon. He supported himself by selling his compositions and giving piano lessons, which were in high demand.
- He wrote many pieces while on a brief trip to Majorca with Sand in 1838–39. In his final years, he was supported financially by his admirer Jane Stirling, who also arranged for him to visit Scotland in 1848.
- Chopin composed 2 concertos, 4 piano and orchestra works, 19 songs for voice and piano, 4 chamber works, 15 instrumental pieces, 17 piano pieces, 21 incidental works.



Listen to Sonata No. 2 in B flat Minor, Op 35  
Mvt III Funeral March