GET TO KNOW

Ludwig Van Beethoven

GERMAN COMPOSER OF THE 18TH CENTURY

**BORN**  December 17, 1770 in Bonn (Modern-day Germany)

**DIED**  March 26, 1827, Vienna, Austria

**FAMOUS WORKS INCLUDE:**

- Piano Sonata No. 14, Moonlight Sonata – 1802
- Symphony No. 5 – 1804
- Symphony No. 9 – 1824
- Symphony No. 3, Eroica – 1804
- Fidelio – 1814 (his only opera)
- String Quartet No. 14 in C Sharp Minor – 1826
- Piano Concerto No. 5 in E-flat Major – 1812
- And dozens more works for piano, string quartet, concertos, and chamber music.

**INTERESTING FACTS:**

Beethoven first publicly performed when he was eight years old. Beethoven's father advertised his son as the next musical child prodigy by claiming that he was two years younger than he actually was.

By age 11 Beethoven had to leave school; at 18 he was the breadwinner of the family.

As a teen he traveled to Vienna to study with Mozart, who saw great talent in young Ludwig – “this young man will make a great name for himself in the world.”

Before 1800 Beethoven realized he was becoming deaf. The first symptoms had appeared even before 1800. By 1802 he was deep in depression because of the hearing loss. His music kept him going: “it seemed unthinkable for me to leave the world forever before I had produced all that I felt called upon to produce…”

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**BEETHOVEN**  
**FIDELIO**  
**MOONLIGHT SONATA**  
**SONATA**  
**SYMPHONY**  
**BONN**  
**GERMANY**  
**PIANO CONCERTO**  
**STRING QUARTET**
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