

Aram Khachaturian

(AR-uhm kach-uh-Too-ee-uhn)

1903 – 1978



- He was born near Tiflis in the Russian Empire, now the capital of Georgia.
- Without any music background he enrolled at Gnessin Musical Institute in Moscow in 1921. After his studies there he attended the Moscow Conservatory.
- His first major work, Piano Concerto, was published in 1936, when he was 33.
- Khachaturian emerged with Prokofiev and Shostakovich as one of the most popular and successful composers of the Soviet period.
- His unique musical ideas were marked by his Armenian heritage; his scores are noted for their sensuous, singing melodic writing, colorful orchestration, and elemental rhythmic drive. He is known in the West for his instrumental concertos and the vivid scores for ballets.
- Khachaturian composed 3 ballets, 6 concertos, 4 voice & orchestra pieces, 20 orchestral works, 76 vocal pieces, 2 chamber works, 15 instrumental pieces, 17 piano pieces, 21 incidental works, 7 brass band songs and 17 film scores.



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