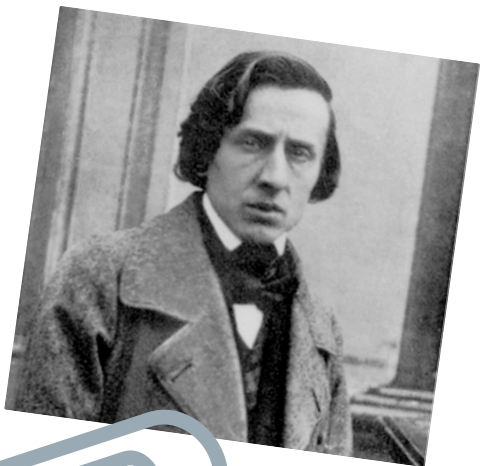


Frederic Chopin

(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 years old, 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 trip to Majorca in 1838–39. In his final years, an admirer supported him financially as his health declined.
- Chopin composed 2 concertos, 4 piano & orchestra works, 19 songs for voice & piano, 4 pieces for chamber ensemble and 226 solo piano works.



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