

# Maurice Ravel

(moh-REECE raw-VELL)

1875 – 1937



- Ravel was a French composer, pianist and conductor.
- Born to a music-loving family, Ravel attended France's premier music college, the Paris Conservatoire.
- Ravel composed during a time when music styles were changing a lot. He is one of the composers responsible for the start of Impressionism in music. It was influenced by Impressionist painters like Monet.
- The French audiences loved his music, but the other parts of the musical world took some time to accept his music.
- Ravel wrote mostly smaller scale works, not the big symphonies we often associate with classical music.
- In his mid-40s, Ravel chose to move away from Paris. He lived the rest of his life in secluded semi-retirement.
- He did continue composing and also had a hobby of collecting all kinds of mechanical toys.
- Ravel composed 19 orchestra works, 4 concertos, 10 chamber works, 32 piano solos, 16 piano duets, 30 pieces for solo voice and piano, 7 pieces for solo voice and orchestra, 12 choral pieces, 5 operas and 8 ballets.



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