

Robert Schumann

(ROB-ert SHOO-mahn)

1810 – 1856



- Schumann was born in Zwickau, Saxony, now a part of Germany.
- At 7, Schumann began studying music and piano with the local high school music teacher. He quickly developed a love of music, and composed his own pieces, without any help. Even though he often broke the composition rules, he wrote works impressive for his age.
- Schumann's father was a huge supporter of his music. When he died, Robert left music and studied law. After a while he decided to pursue a career as a concert pianist, but due to a hand injury, he instead pursued composition.
- In 1840, he experienced a "year of song." He was about to be married and wrote 140 vocal songs, the most he ever composed in a years span.
- Schumann was the music director in Düsseldorf for two years where he met the young violinist Johannes Brahms.
- During his lifetime, Schumann wrote 9 orchestral works, 7 concertos, 26 choral songs, 325+ solo vocal pieces, 19 chamber pieces and 100+ piano pieces.



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