

Ludwig van Beethoven

An Introduction

Who was Ludwig van Beethoven?

Ludwig van Beethoven is considered to be one of the world's most accomplished musicians and composers who has ever lived. We do not have any recordings of Beethoven performing his own works, or conducting, but the music he composed lives on.

Ludwig was born around December 16th, 1770 in Bonn, Germany. We do not know his exact birthday, but as he was baptized on December 17th and it was the custom then to baptize babies almost immediately, it was likely he was born in mid-December.

Beethoven died on March 26, 1827 in Vienna, Austria. The years of his life saw great changes in human history, not only in the realms of music, art, and philosophy, but also in social and political history. The American and French Revolutions had a great effect on the western world. The Industrial Revolution, which began in Britain around the same time, had a profound effect on society, and forever changed music.

Beethoven was a great composer but he also is an inspiration to people who live with disabilities. In his mid-twenties Ludwig began to lose his hearing and he was completely deaf by the age of forty.



Above: a formal painted portrait of Beethoven when he was a young boy, and before he became deaf.



Beethoven's Childhood

When Ludwig was born in 1770, his hometown, Bonn, was part of the Holy Roman Empire. In another hundred years the German states would unite and become one country, as it is today.

Ludwig's parents rented a few rooms in a larger house in Bonn. His father, Johann, was a local musician, as was his grandfather, also named Ludwig. Johann was a music teacher as well, and while the family was not wealthy, they were not desperately poor either.

Ludwig was Johann and Maria Magdalena's second child. Their first son died at a fairly early age, and families lost at least one child in 18th century Europe. The Beethovens only had two more children that survived infancy: Nikolus, and Caspar.

Ludwig's mother was kind and patient, but his father was difficult to get along with. He had a bad temper and was often drunk. When it became obvious that young Ludwig had musical talent, his father pushed him hard to excel. In Johann's view Ludwig was a child prodigy who could help support the family. Ludwig did not have an easy childhood, but he did have his music, which he loved.



Bonn, Beethoven's hometown, is located in the western part of Germany. During the time of Napoleon Bonn came under French control and later part of the Kingdom of Prussia (in 1806-7) of became part of unified Germany.

Beethoven Illustrated Biography Fix Gerimo

Simon Ferris

Beethoven Illustrated Biography Fix Gerimo:

A Manual of Music Wilber M. Derthick,1888 **The Illustrated London News** ,1849 **Music Lover's Guide** ,1933
School Library Journal ,1994 Ludwig von Beethoven Ernst Herttrich,2000 Examiner ,1842 *The Examiner*
,1842 **Comfort** ,1893 *Beethoven* Simon Ferris,2016-07 Lavishly illustrated throughout this fascinating new biography sets Mozart s musical revolution in the context of the times Beethoven. an Illustrated Biography Felix Geronimo,2015-12-08 Beethoven s life though outwardly uneventful was one of the most pathetic of tragedies His character has had the same fascination for his biographers as it had for his friends and there is probably hardly any great man in history of whom more is known and of whom so much of what is known is interesting *Ludwig Van Beethoven* Robert Bory,2023-07-22 Ludwig van Beethoven His Life and His Work in Pictures is a beautiful and informative illustrated biography of one of the greatest composers in the history of music The book features more than 100 full page color plates of paintings drawings and photographs of Beethoven his works and his contemporaries The text provides a concise and engaging account of Beethoven s life his artistic vision and his enduring legacy This book will appeal to music lovers art enthusiasts and anyone interested in the cultural history of Europe This work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it This work is in the public domain in the United States of America and possibly other nations Within the United States you may freely copy and distribute this work as no entity individual or corporate has a copyright on the body of the work Scholars believe and we concur that this work is important enough to be preserved reproduced and made generally available to the public We appreciate your support of the preservation process and thank you for being an important part of keeping this knowledge alive and relevant Beethoven. [A Biography.] Illustrated [with Plates, Including Portraits.]. Marion Margaret Scott,1965 **Beethoven** Wendy Lynch,2000 A simple biography of the man who composed such musical works as his Ninth Symphony featuring the Ode to Joy *Portrait of Beethoven* Fritz Zobeley,1972 **What's So Great About Beethoven?** Sam Rogers,2014-02-19 If you ever study music chances are that you will end up hearing the name Beethoven somewhere along the line The German composer is one of the most famous musicians of all time and throughout his life he penned absolutely beautiful music that is still popular today Ludwig van Beethoven wrote music that today is considered part of the classical genre You may know Ludwig van Beethoven s name but perhaps you ve wondered What s so great about him This book part of the What s So Great About series gives kids insight into life times and career of Ludwig van Beethoven **New Illustrated Lives of Great Composers: Ludwig van Beethoven** Simon Ferris,2018-03-22 The New Illustrated Lives of Great Composers Ludwig van Beethoven brings to life the works the key performances and the personal story of one of the world s greatest composers with rich illustrations One of the most celebrated and influential composers of all time Ludwig van Beethoven was a child prodigy who At 21 moved to Vienna to study with Joseph Haydn He would subsequently create a monumental body of work including 9 symphonies 5 piano

concertos 1 violin concerto 32 piano sonatas 16 string quartets the Missa Solemnis and the opera Fidelio Yet Beethoven was a troubled man often intolerant of the intrusions of day to day life upon his work and a victim of both chronic abdominal pain and encroaching deafness While his gradual loss of hearing did not affect his ability to compose it did eventually caused him to abstain from performing and conducting At his death in 1827 he was already a legendary figure This illustrated biography is the best way to uncover the tragic life of one the most talented musicians to have ever walked the earth see the man himself the places where he lived and the people who swirled around him This is an essential read for any classical music fan

Ludwig van Beethoven Joanne Mattern,2025-08-01 Ludwig van Beethoven 1770 1827 a German composer and pianist bridged the Classical and Romantic eras Known for his emotionally charged and groundbreaking compositions including the Ninth Symphony and Moonlight Sonata Beethoven overcame deafness to create some of the most influential and best loved works in the history of Western classical music Colorful illustrations plus photographs of meaningful sites and settings connect readers to important points in Beethoven s history A timeline and B Sharp sidebars add details to the composer s life story *A Day with Ludwig Beethoven* May Byron,2021-06-08 A Day with Ludwig Beethoven has been considered important throughout the human history and so that this work is never forgotten we have made efforts in its preservation by republishing this book in a modern format for present and future generations This whole book has been reformatted retyped and designed These books are not made of scanned copies of their original work and hence the text is clear and readable

Beethoven as i Knew Him : a Biography ,1972 *Beethoven's Letters 1790-1826, Volume 2 (Illustrated)* Ludwig van Beethoven,2017-10-25 Beethoven s correspondences reveal much about his personality inner struggles and love of music This edition appends the musical staves appended by the great composer to his letters The second volume of Beethoven s letters begin with the composer in maturity In these later years several of his most accomplished and beautiful musical works were completed It is clear from these written correspondences that music occupies a greater place in Beethoven s life more frequently he appends samples of and discusses musical phrasing and notation giving readers insight into his methods of composition Although Beethoven concealed his increasing deafness for years it eventually became public knowledge His ability to compose beautiful music was however undiminished and demonstrated in concerts around Europe Thought remarkable by the public Beethoven nevertheless lived in quite modest circumstances but felt deep appreciation for the acclaim with which he was held by various orchestral and philharmonic societies In personal matters Beethoven demonstrates great affection for his nephew Carl whom he had won custody in the courts However the letters also reveal an irascible and controlling side to the composer insistent that his nephew whom he came to view as a son be musically trained the news that Carl s musical talents are negligible is a blow Carl s subsequent intention to pursue a military career strains their relationship further Despite these trials Beethoven had the support of friends until the very end his illness worsening he was able to borrow money to pay for care but it soon became clear he was on his deathbed The great composer s final words

comprise a short will in which his estate is bequeathed to Carl Ludwig van Beethoven died the next day as a thunderstorm raged outside his apartment

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