

WHAT IS A SONATA?

❖ A sonata usually consists of an instrument accompanied by a piano (eg. a violin sonata has a violin and a piano) or a solo piano.

The Movements:

❖ 1st movement: Allegro (fast) in sonata form

2nd movement: Slow

❖ 3rd movement: Minuet and Trio or Scherzo

4th movement: Allegro

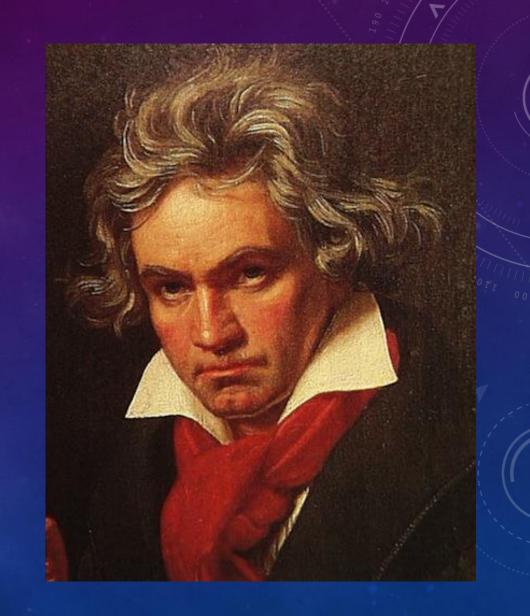


TOP COMPOSERS

Beethoven

Wrote 'Moonlight Sonata'

Was deaf near the end of his life (he was 40 and had tinnitus) and relied on the vibrations of the instruments in order to compose things. He said, "... For two years I have avoided almost all social gatherings because it is impossible for me to say to people "I am deaf". If I belonged to any other profession it would be easier, but in my profession it is a frightful state..."



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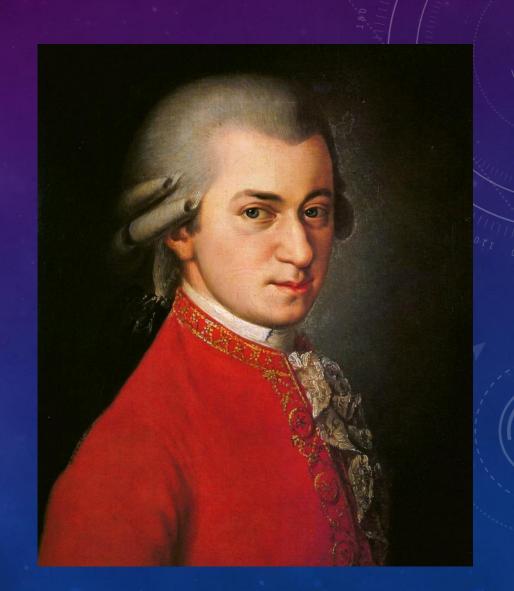
Mozart

He was a child prodigy – by the age of 5 he had started his musical career. (He was a virtuoso).

He wrote 18 sonatas in total

FACTS:

- He was bankrupt when he died
- Legend has it that at the age of two, he identified a pig's squeal as a G Sharp
- Mozart learned to speak 15 different languages



(an extract from) Drei Sonaten (Beethoven)