



Ludwig van Beethoven

Born December 16, 1770 in Bonn, Germany

Died March 26, 1827 in Vienna, Austria





He struggled academically, he wasn't good at reading, writing or mathematics. He may have been mildly dyslexic.

When he was little, his father forced him to practice the keyboard for hours and hours. His father wanted Beethoven to be like Mozart.

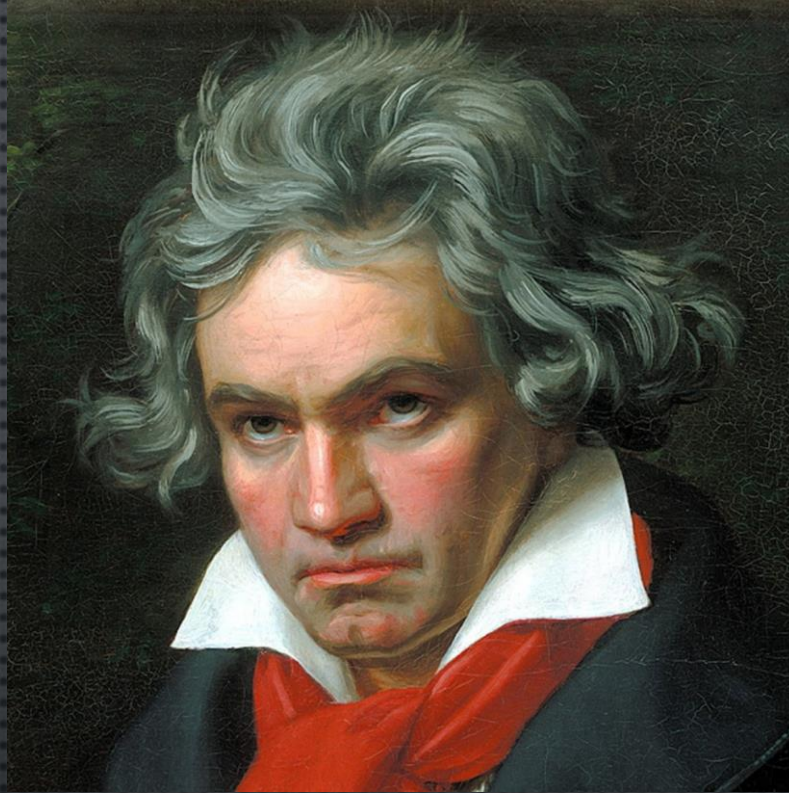
When he was 12, he was already composing pieces with funny names like "Elegie auf den Tod eines Pudels" (Elegy on the Death of a Poodle). It is assumed it was a family pet.



Studied music under Franz Joseph Haydn

Began to lose his hearing at the age of 25. He communicated using conversation books, asking his friends to write down what they wanted to say so he could respond. He still composed even after becoming completely deaf later in life!

His pianos had strings shredded by his frantic pounding in a desperation to hear. He removed the legs from one piano, so he could sit on the floor and feel the vibrations.

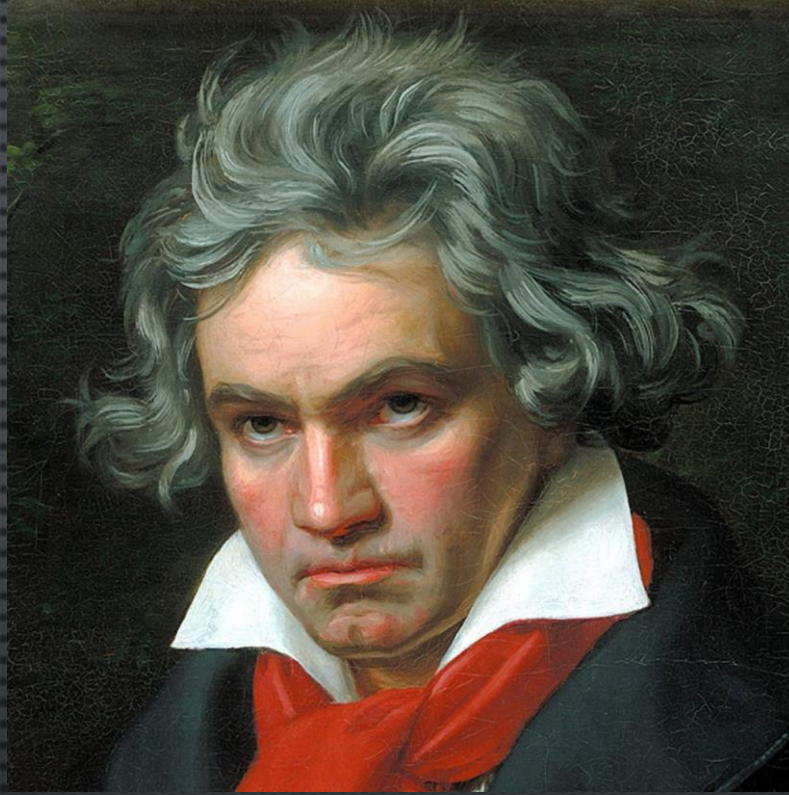


Composed 9 symphonies, 5 piano concertos, 32 piano sonatas and 16 string quartets as well as chamber music and choral works.

Beethoven was very temperamental and would end performances if he became aware of anyone in the audience talking;

Beethoven often dipped his head in cold water before composing!





Beethoven's funeral procession on 29 March 1827 was attended by an estimated 20,000 Viennese citizens.


The third largest crater on Mercury is named in his honor.






Fold your paper into 4 squares and listen to a minute of each. As you listen, draw what you are feeling/thinking. How does this music make you feel?

Für Elise 


Moonlight' Sonata 

Symphony No. 5. 

Ode to Joy' from Symphony No. 9. 



SQUILT

- SILENT
 - QUIET
 - UNINTERRUPTED
 - LISTENING TIME
- 
- *SYMPHONY #3 (THE HEROIC SYMPHONY)*
 - DID YOU LIKE IT? WHY OR WHY NOT?
 - WHAT DID IT MAKE YOU THINK OF?
 - WHAT STORY IS THIS PIECE TELLING?