

# **Classical Period the mid-18th to the early 19th century**

**Neo-Classical art**



## **Keywords**

**Greco-Roman culture**

**Enlightenment, a philosophical movement**

**Composers: Franz Joseph Haydn, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, and Ludwig van Beethoven.**

**Sonata-allegro form**

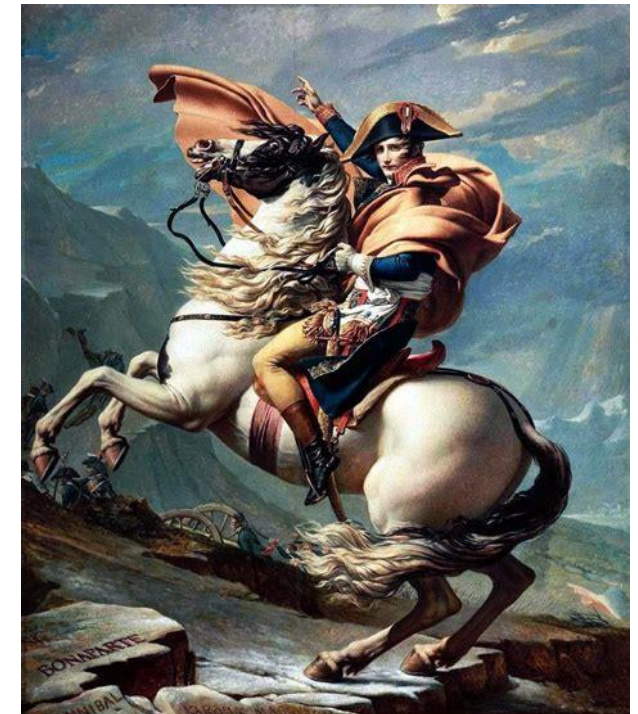
**Viennese Classical style**

**Symphony**

**Middle class**

# What is a Classic?

- **'Classic' was used to describe things relating to the culture of Ancient Greece and Rome. Take it from the famous neoclassical painter Jacques-Louis David.**
- **courage and patriotism,**
- **Classical-era composers organized their music into orderly forms using repetition and contrast. One example: sonata-allegro form.**
- **Sonata-allegro form is a three-part structure used in instrumental music. It starts with a first section called the exposition, which introduces two contrasting themes, or melodies. Its second section is called the development, in which the two themes explore a musical landscape. The third section, the recapitulation, is a repeat of the exposition, with a few changes.**



# Enlightenment

**Age of Reason; “Enlightenment” “The Century of Philosophy”.**

**an intellectual and philosophical movement that dominated the world of ideas in Europe during the 18th century,**

**Advance ideals such as liberty, progress, tolerance, fraternity, liberty, progress, fraternity, constitutional government.**

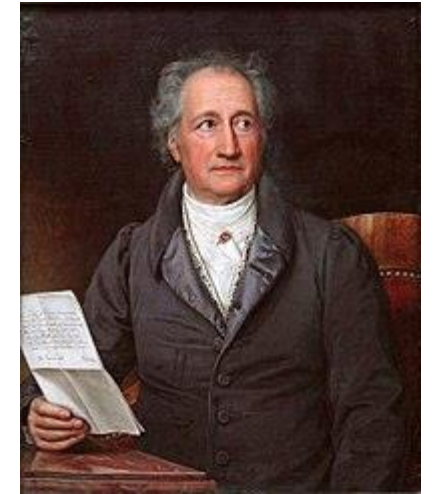
**Haydn and Mozart, Viennese Classical styles started.**

**Spread to France, Germany, England, Poland, Italy, Hungary**

**...**

# Writer and philosophers

- William Shakespeare**
- **John Locke**
- **Johan Wolfgang von Goethe**
- **Immanuel Kant**
- **Jean-Jacques Rousseau**
- **Charles-Louis Montesquieu**
- **Thomas Jefferson**
- **René Decartes**
- **Denis Diderot**





# Franz Joseph Haydn

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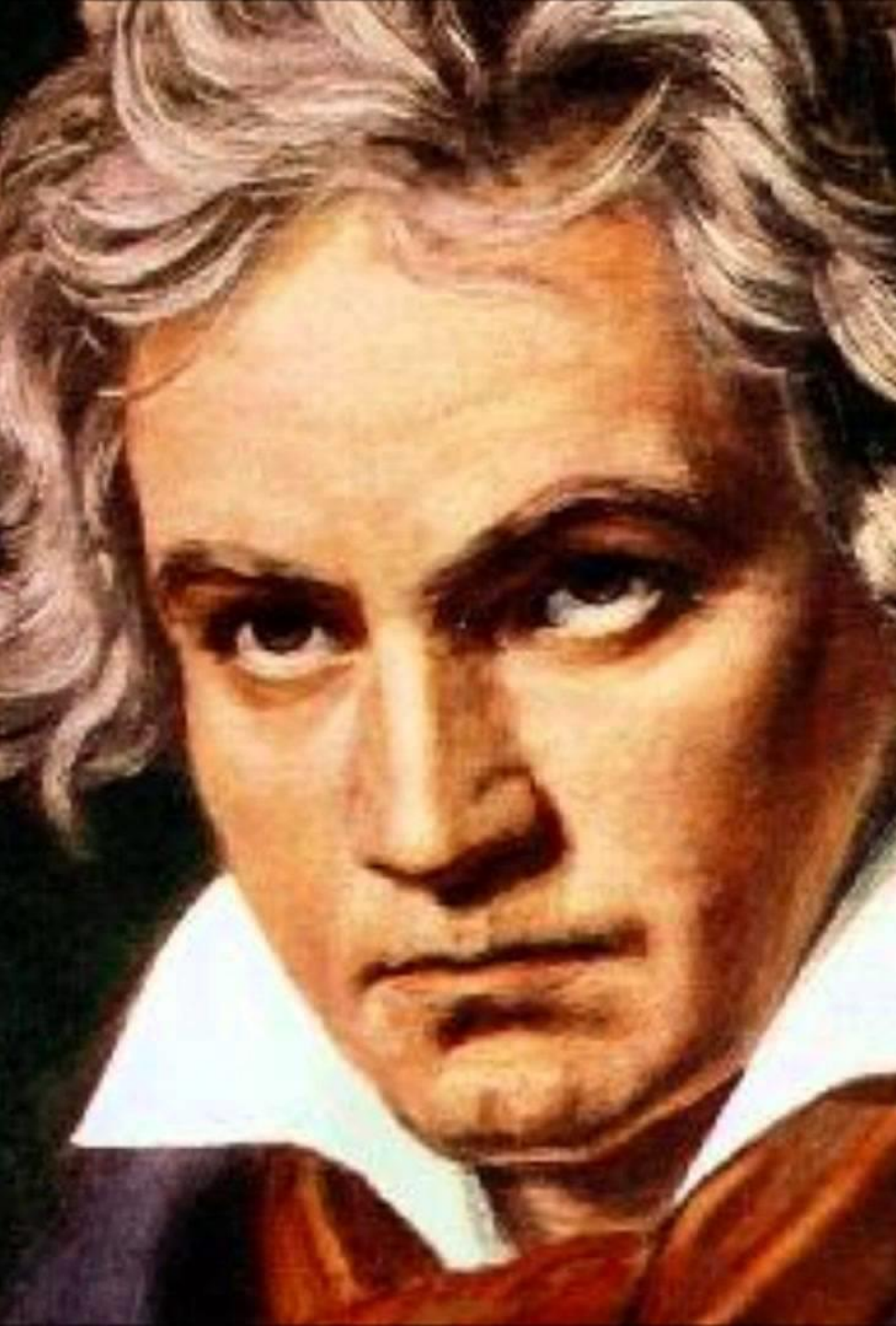
- Haydn grew up near Vienna in the Austrian countryside. At the age of seven, he embarked on a musical education, working as a choirboy at St. Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna. Vienna was a musical epicenter during the Classical period, so going to Vienna to learn music was sort of like going to Hollywood to get into the movies.
- Haydn started a job as music director at the court of a Hungarian aristocrat, Prince Paul Esterházy. working as a court musician for a powerful aristocrat was one of the highest-profile jobs a musician could do.
- he organized concerts as the leader of a large group of staff musicians. nicknamed 'Papa Haydn.'
- Haydn spent 30 years working for the Esterházy's. His works included instrumental music like symphonies and string quartets.



# Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

- **(1756-1791). Born in Salzburg, Austria. An astonishing musical prodigy who could play the harpsichord and compose by the age of six. His father, Leopold Mozart, was eager to showcase his son's talent; Mozart spent most of his childhood touring Europe with his father and sister, performing concerts for royalty and dignitaries.**
- **Before he was 20, he was working as a court musician for a powerful archbishop in Salzburg. Leopold Mozart was happy to see his son in such a respectable position, and Mozart in 1781 moved to Vienna and be a freelance musician. In Vienna, Mozart published compositions, concertized as a pianist, and had his operas produced.**
- **Mozart enjoyed a happy marriage with the singer Constanze Weber. Mozart also became buddies with Haydn; they played in a string quartet together. Mozart died of a sudden fever in 1791, just as he was starting to write operas and symphonies.**





# Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

- Beethoven grew up in Bonn, Germany. His father's alcoholism pushed Ludwig to provide for his mother and brothers from a young age.
- Beethoven moved to Vienna in 1792, where he studied composition with Haydn and began working as a pianist and teacher for aristocratic patrons. He gained a reputation around Vienna for powerful, moving piano playing.
- Beethoven's deafness ended his career as a pianist, but it made him determined to express himself to the world through composition. His 5th Symphony, composed between 1807 and 1808, is longer, louder, and more intense than any of Mozart's symphonies. It portrays a dynamic musical journey from the dark key of C minor to the triumphant key of C major. Many think this symphony expresses Beethoven's own determination to overcome his adverse fate.
- Through his symphonies, piano sonatas, and other works, Beethoven injected Classical style with a new level of dramatic intensity. His challenging life became as legendary as his music, and later composers looked to him as a model of a brand-new concept: the idea that music can express a composer's own personal story. Beethoven's life and music helped inspire musical Romanticism, a style which dominated the mid-to-late 19th century. In Romanticism, composers use music to tell stories and communicate passionate emotion.

# Germany

- By the mid-18th century, the *Aufklärung* (The Enlightenment) transformed German high culture in music, philosophy, science and literature. movement of proto-Romanticism.
- Weimar Classicism(*Weimarer Klassik*) was a cultural and literary movement based in Weimar that sought to establish a new humanism by synthesizing Romantic, classical and Enlightenment ideas.
- The movement (from 1772 until 1805) involved Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749–1832) and Friedrich Schiller(1759–1805), a poet and historian.