



Classical Composers Beethoven and Mozart

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Ludwig van Beethoven are both famous Classical composers.

Mozart was born in Austria in 1756. He started playing the piano when he was four years' old. Mozart was composing short pieces of music by the time he was 5 years' old! His father had to write down his music for him.

Mozart also learned to play the violin and organ. Mozart published his first two sonatas for the harpsichord (which he also played) when he was 8 years' old. When he was just 13 years' old an emperor asked him to write an opera. By the time he was in his twenties, Mozart was an accomplished composer of symphonies and operas.

Beethoven was born in 1770 in Bonn, Germany. He started playing the piano, organ and viola by the age of 9. He also started composing music while he was young.

Beethoven traveled to Vienna in 1787. He hoped to study with Mozart. By his twenties, Beethoven was losing his hearing. He continued to compose, conduct and perform symphonies and operas, even after he lost his hearing completely.