

The Works of Franz Peter Schubert

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Who was Franz Peter Schubert?

Born near Vienna, Austria, in 1797, Franz Peter Schubert was an Austrian composer who played a role in the development of Romantic music. Schubert led a quiet life compared to many other composers and spent most of his life in Vienna.



A portrait of Schubert

Vienna is the capital of Austria.





The house where Schubert was born, just outside of Vienna

Schubert suffered poor health from the age of twenty-five. This caused him great sadness which can be heard in some of his music. Schubert only lived to the age of thirty-one, but he produced a large body of work. He wrote over 1,500 works during his short life!

Schubert spent most of his life in the capital of Austria.





Schubert played the violin, the piano, and the organ.



Schubert was the son of a schoolteacher. His father taught him to play the violin at the age of eight, and, recognizing his son's talent, he found a music teacher

to give him piano and organ lessons. Schubert, his father, and two of his brothers played together in a string quartet.



← A quartet is a group of four musicians.

Schubert was also a talented singer. In 1808, he was accepted as a student at the Stadtkonvikt, a school in Vienna, because of his singing voice. While at the school, he started to compose music. When he left the Stadtkonvikt, he trained to be a teacher and got a job at his father's school. During this time, he continued to write music.



As a child, Schubert sang in a chapel in this building.



Schubert worked as a music teacher.

Schubert was especially interested in song composition. In 1814, he set a poem by the famous German writer Goethe to music. The combination of poems and music was a feature of the move toward Romantic music. Romantic music was influenced by nature, literature, poems, and art.

Schubert
in 1814



A monument to Goethe,
the greatest German poet





People often think Schubert lived in this house, but he did not.

In 1816, Schubert moved out of his parent's home. He continued to compose music. During that time, he started to attend small parties where he and his friends read poems and listened to performances of music.



↗ A small music party

Writing music was
Schubert's true love.



Austria used to
have money called
"schilling."




Schubert gave up teaching
in 1818. He wanted to spend all
his time creating music. He made money from
writing music, but he left many pieces unfinished.

Although he applied for several important jobs in the world of music, he did not get any of these jobs. In 1822, Schubert became ill, but he continued writing music. His illness got worse, and he died in 1828, just eight months after his first ever public concert.

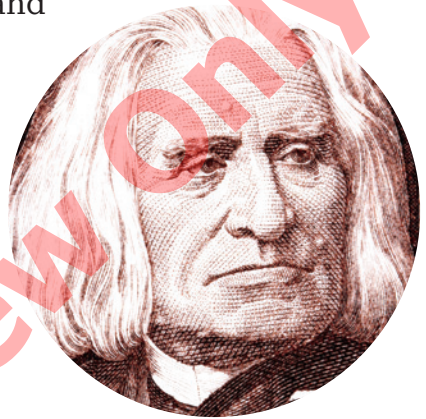


A memorial to Schubert in Austria



This image shows Schubert writing music outdoors.

While Schubert was alive, his music was enjoyed by a small group of people in Vienna. But more grew interested in it after he died. Felix Mendelssohn, Robert Schumann, Franz Liszt, and Johannes Brahms were among the musicians who shared his work after his death.



Liszt was a Hungarian composer.



Mendelssohn and Brahms were German composers, as was Schumann.