WHY MOZART?
WHY MOZART?

SHERLOCK HOLMES: A GAME OF SHADOWS

(2011)
MOZART at the MOVIES
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–1791)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart grew up in Salzburg under the regulation of his strict father Leopold who also was a famous composer of his time. His abilities in music were obvious even when Mozart was still young so that in 1762 at the age of six, his father took him with his elder sister on a concert tour to Munich and Vienna and a second one from 1763-66 through the south of Germany... See full bio »

Born: Johannes Chrysostomus Wolfgangus Theophilus Mozart
January 27, 1756 in Salzburg, Austria

Died: December 5, 1791 (age 35) in Vienna, Austria

3 videos | 198 news articles »
MOZART

MYTH or FACT:

1. His name is “Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart”
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Mozart’s name is:

Joannes Chrysostomus Wolfgangus Theophilus

Mozart
Joannes Chrysostomus Wolfgangus Theophilus

“One who loves God”

Amadè or Amadeo
Wolfgang Amadé MOZART
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

Salzburg, Austria

Salzach River

Salzburg, Austria
Leopold Mozart (1719-1787)

Anna Maria Mozart (1720-1778)
Leopold Mozart’s
Treatise on the
Fundamentals of
Violin Playing
(1756)
Maria Anna “Nannerl” Mozart
(1751-1829)
Maria Anna “Nannerl” Mozart
(1751-1829)
Leopold starting giving her piano lessons when she was 7
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

3-year-old Mozart imitated his sister at the piano.
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

Mozart is a Child Prodigy

“The miracle which God let be born in Salzburg”
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

Music Prodigies

MICHAEL JACKSON, LEANN RIMES,
YEHUDI MENUHIN, ALISON KRAUS,
STEVE WINWOOD, MARTHA ARGIRICH,
BIX BIEDERBECKE, JACKIE EVANCHO,
BJORK, STEVIE WONDER, RICKY SKAGGS,
LANG LANG, BUDDY RICH,
HERBIE HANCOCK, KEITH JARRETT,
TAYLOR SWIFT, BEVERLY SILLS,
CHARLOTTE CHURCH, YO-YO MA
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

Menuet, K. 1a (1761)
Mozart was 5 years old when he wrote this.
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

K = “Köchel Number”

Catalog of Mozart’s works in chronological order
by LUDWIG KÖCHEL in 1862
MOZART

MYTH or FACT:

2. He wrote all his childhood compositions by himself.
2. He wrote all his childhood compositions by himself.

FALSE
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

Leopold Mozart “edited” many of Wolfgang’s works up through the 1770s (W.A.’s early teens)
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

1762 - 1773

6 years old – 17 years old
Touring Europe as keyboard prodigy
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

From age 6 – 10
Mozart was “on tour”
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, 1763 (7 years old)
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

1762 – 1766

Mozart’s first tour of Europe
Salzburg, Austria
1764
8
Johann Christian Bach
(1735-1782)
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

1762-1766:
Germany, Austria, France, England, Holland

Absorbed local musical styles, which he synthesized into his own works
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

1761 (5 years old)  First compositions
1764 (8 years old)  First vocal aria
1767 (11 years old) First *singspiel*
          First concerto
          First opera
1768 (12 years old) First mass
1770 (14 years old) First string quartet
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

1769 – 1773

3 Tours of Italy
Sistine Chapel, Rome

Choir Loft
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

“You have often heard of the famous Miserere [of Gregorio Allegri] in Rome, which is so greatly prized that the performers in the chapel are forbidden on pain of excommunication to take away a single part of it, to copy it or to give it to anyone. But we have it already. Wolfgang has written it down...so we shall bring it home with us...one of the great secrets of Rome…” (April 1770)
The *Miserere* of Gregorio Allegri,

*As sung in the Pope's Chapel on Wednesday and Friday in the Holy Week.*

51st Psalm, 1st Verse. *(The 4th, 8th, 12th, and 16th Verses are sung to the same.)*

\[ \text{Sop. 1.} \quad \text{Miserere mei Deus, secundum magnam} \]

\[ \text{Sop. 2.} \quad \text{Miserere mei Deus, secundum magnam} \]

\[ \text{Alto.} \quad \text{Miserere mei Deus, secundum magnam mi-} \]

\[ \text{Tenor.} \quad \text{Miserere mei Deus, secundum magnam} \]

\[ \text{Base.} \quad \text{Miserere mei Deus, secundum magnam} \]

\[ \text{so = 9} \]
Gregorio Allegri, *Miserere*
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART
SALZBURG (1773-81)

Mozart works for archbishop of Salzburg for 8 years.

Writes first mature symphonies, concertos
Eine kleine Nachtmusik

- “A Little Night Music”
- A SERENADE [Evening music]
- A SUITE of pieces
- Classical MUZAK: meant to be played as “background” music for parties
Eine kleine Nachtmusik

• Mozart wrote a lot of music like this for Salzburg (though this was written in Vienna)
• Eine kleine Nachtmusik written for string orchestra
The String Orchestra Family
Eine kleine Nachtmusik

• Four Movements:
  – 1. Allegro
  – 2. Romanze: Andante
  – 3. Minuet: Allegretto
  – 4. Rondo: Allegro
Eine kleine Nachtmusik

• 1. Allegro

• Balanced Phrasing

• Antecedent-Consequent structures
Eine kleine Nachtmusik, First Movement, Allegro
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART
SALZBURG YEARS (1773-81)

Prince Archbishop Hieroymous Colloredo

Leopold Mozart’s and W. A. Mozart’s boss
Salzburg, Austria

Bishop’s Castle

Salzburg, Austria
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART
SALZBURG (1773-81)

Unhappy with his work for the archbishop, Mozart starts to look for other employment.
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART
SALZBURG YEARS (1773-81)

Visits Vienna
Hears Haydn’s music 1773
Write “Haydn” quartets
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

SALZBURG YEARS (1773-81)

Visits Augsburg to see relatives, especially his cousin
MARIA ANNA THEKLA MOZART

“The Bäsle”
[little cousin]
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

Maria Anna Thekla Mozart

“The Bäsle”
MOZART

MYTH or FACT:

3. Mozart liked fart jokes.
MOZART
MYTH or FACT:
3. Mozart liked fart jokes.

TRUE
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

Mozart liked fart jokes and potty humor! Many of his letters to his relatives--such as the Bäsle, and even his mother, father, and sister--contain such jokes and stories.
1778 Mozart introduced to the Weber family in Mannheim.

Falls in love with Aloysia Weber.
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

Aloysia Weber
in the opera role of Zémire
1778 Mozart and his mother continue traveling and concertizing.
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART
SALZBURG YEARS (1773-81)

1778 Mozart and his mother continue traveling and concertizing.

In Paris writes famous K. 265 variations.
Variations on “Ah! vous dirai-je, Maman”
[“Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star”]
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART
SALZBURG YEARS (1773-81)

Mozart’s mother becomes ill in Paris, and dies there.
“As long as I live I shall never forget it. You know I have never seen anyone die...How cruel that my first experience should be the death of my mother! I dreaded that moment most of all...Indeed, I wished at that moment to depart with her.”
Disappointed in concertizing, Mozart finds no permanent position, and returns to Salzburg in 1779.
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART
SALZBURG (1773-81)

He receives commission to compose an opera
*Idomeneo* (1781)
by Elector of Bavaria.

Mozart is 25.

The opera is a considerable success,
but no other offers for work follow.
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART
SALZBURG YEARS (1773-81)

His employer
Salzburg Archbishop Colloredo,
summons Mozart to Vienna.

Mozart is treated badly by Colloredo,
and Mozart rudely responds.
MOZART

MYTH or FACT:

4. In Mozart’s time court composers and performers are considered (and treated as) servants.
MOZART
MYTH or FACT:

4. In Mozart's time court composers and performers are considered (and treated as) servants. TRUE
Court musicians and performers were considered as “servants” and wore livery uniforms.
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART
SALZBURG (1773-81)

Colloredo fires Mozart from his service, and has his steward dismiss him “with a kick in the ass.”

Mozart’s father sides with the Archbishop, and disinherits Wolfgang.
Free of both the Archbishop and his father, Mozart decides to try his luck in big city…
VIENNA
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

VIENNA (1781-91)

Works as freelance musician:

TEACHER
KEYBOARD VIRTUOSO
IMPRESSARIO
COMPOSER
1781 — Has piano “duel” with Muzio Clementi before Emperor Joseph II

He is soon regarded as best pianist in Vienna
Kaiser Joseph II
Opening page of concerto in Mozart’s hand
Adding in woodwind parts later
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART
VIENNA (1781-91)

He is soon regarded as best pianist in Vienna
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

VIENNA (1781-91)

1781 — Meets writer LORENZO DA PONTE

with whom he will collaborate on the operas

Le Nozze di Figaro

Così fan tutte

Don Giovanni
1782 — Receives commission to compose

*Die Entführung aus dem Serail*

[The Abduction from the Seraglio]

which premieres in 1782 to great success
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART
VIENNA (1781-91)

1782 — Marries
CONSTANZE WEBER
the sister of Aloysia Weber
Constanze Weber
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART
VIENNA (1781-91)

The couple has six children, but only two survive infancy—Karl Thomas and Franz Xavier Wolfgang.
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Karl Thomas

Franz Xavier
In 1782 Mozart meets the antiquarian Gottfried van Swieten, who introduces him to the music of J. S. Bach and George Frederic Handel.
In 1784 Mozart finally meets FRANZ JOSEPH HAYDN and the composers become friends.
Franz Joseph Haydn
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART
VIENNA (1781-91)

In 1784 Mozart joins the FREEMASONS who will later be of great assistance to Mozart financially.
Eighteenth-century Freemason initiation
Famous Freemasons

• George Washington
• Benjamin Franklin
• Paul Revere
• John Hancock
Die Zauberflöte

- Many elements in the plot are derived from Freemasonry
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

Mozart’s operas combine serious/comic elements creating what are called

**MEZZA CARRATTERE**

(“middle characters”)
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART
VIENNA (1781-91)

1787—Appointed chamber-music composer
to the Emperor Joseph II,
which lead to an annual financial stipend.
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART
VIENNA (1781-91)

1787—The young LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN tries to meet Mozart, but never does.
Symphony No. 40 in G Minor

• Symphony is a 4-movement work for orchestra
The Orchestra
Symphony No. 40 in G Minor

Symphony No. 40 in G Minor

- The first movement is always in the SONATA FORM
Symphony No. 40 in G Minor

- The Sonata Form has 3 SECTIONS
- EXPOSITION, where materials are stated
- DEVELOPMENT, where the composer “plays around” with the material
- RECAPITULATION, where the composer returns to the materials of the exposition
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPOSITION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Theme 1</td>
<td>?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transition (Bridge)</td>
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<tr>
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Theme 1 and Theme 2 should contrast with each other
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<tr>
<td>Theme 2 in <strong>E-flat major</strong></td>
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Agitated theme

Calm theme
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Piece must end in same key and mode that it starts in.
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Piece must end in same key and mode that it starts in
Mozart, Symphony No. 40 in G minor, I
Pieces to Know

- *Eine kleine Nachtmusik*, I Allegro, Track 22, *The 99 Most Essential Pieces of Classical Music*
- Symphony No. 40, I, Track 11, *The 99 Most Essential Pieces of Classical Music*
Terms to Know

- Prodigy
- Köchel Number
- Antecedent-Consequent Structure
- Serenade
- Symphony
- Sonata Form
- Exposition
- Development
- Recapitulation