Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART
(1756-1791)
WHY MOZART?
WHY MOZART?

SHERLOCK HOLMES
A GAME OF SHADOWS

(2011)
“Mozzie”

WHITE COLLAR

(2009-2012)
“Mozart”

WHITE COLLAR

(2009-2012)
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
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART FALSE
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

Joannes Chrysostomus Wolfgangus Theophilus
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

Joannes Chrysostomus Wolfgangus Theophilus

“One who loves God”

Amadè or Amadeo
Wolfgang Amadè MOZART
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

Salzburg, Austria
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 (1756-1791)
3-year-old Mozart imitated his sister at the piano.
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

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 ARGERICH, 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
2. He wrote all his childhood compositions by himself.
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

FALSE
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

1762 – 1766

First tour of Europe
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, 1763 (7 years old)
Salzburg, Austria
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

1764 Paris
First publications
Salzburg, Austria
1764
Johann Christian Bach
(1735-1782)
The *STYLE GALANT*
[Gallant Style]

The New Musical Style that emerges in the 1720s
J. C. Bach’s style gallant music a strong influence on Mozart
CLASSICAL STYLE

Eighteenth-century pianos are often called FORTEPIANOS to distinguish them from “modern” pianos.
THE CONCERTO

Johann Christian Bach
Concerto for Keyboard and Orchestra
Op. 7, No. 5
THE CONCERTO

H. C. Koch format of Concerto
(1793)

3 “periods” for the soloist,
4 “periods” for the orchestra
THE CONCERTO

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ritornello</th>
<th>Solo</th>
<th>Ritornello</th>
<th>Solo</th>
<th>Ritornello</th>
<th>Solo</th>
<th>Ritornello</th>
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## THE CONCERTO

### Double Exposition

<table>
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<th>“Concertante Exposition”</th>
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<td>Tutti</td>
<td>Soloist and Orchestra</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theme 1, transition, 2, K</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tonic</td>
<td>Tonic  &gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ritornello</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dominant</td>
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<td>Ritornello</td>
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# THE CONCERTO

<table>
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<th>Development</th>
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<tr>
<td>“Modulatory Fantasia”</td>
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<td>Themes and modulator material</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dominant  &gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt; ?  &gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt; Dominant Preparation</td>
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<td>Solo</td>
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# THE CONCERTO

## Recapitulation

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<tr>
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<th>Tonic</th>
<th>Tonic</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Theme 1, transition, Theme 2</td>
<td>Cadenza</td>
<td>K</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tonic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ritornello</td>
<td>Solo</td>
<td>Ritornello</td>
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</table>
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

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

Absorbed local musical styles, which he synthesized into his own works
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Age (years old)</th>
<th>Composition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1761</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>First compositions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1764</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>First vocal aria</td>
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<td>1767</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>First <em>singspiel</em></td>
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<td>First concerto</td>
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<td>First opera</td>
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<tr>
<td>1768</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>First mass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1770</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>First string quartet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

1769 – 1773

3 Tours of Italy
Sistine Chapel, Rome

Choir Loft
“You have often heard of the famous *Miserere* 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.
“You have often heard of the famous Miserere 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.*)

SOP. 1.

\[ \text{Mi-se-re-re me-i D-e-us, se-cundum mag-nam} \]

SOP. 2.

\[ \text{Mi-se-re-re me-i D-e-us, se-cundum mag-nam} \]

ALTO.

\[ \text{Mi-se-re-re me-i D-e-us, se-cundum mag-nam mi-} \]

TENOR.

\[ \text{Mi-se-re-re me-i D-e-us, se-cundum mag-nam} \]

BASE.

\[ \text{Mi-se-re-re me-i D-e-us, se-cundum mag-nam} \]
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

1770 Bologna: Mozart hears Sammartini’s Music
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

Accepted as member of the
Accademia Filarmonica
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

SALZBURG (1773-81)

Mozart works for archbishop of Salzburg for eight years.

 Writes first mature symphonies, concertos

Unhappy with 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
Visits Augsburg to visit 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.
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

TRUE
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

Mozart liked fart jokes and potty humor!

TRUE
Mozart liked fart jokes and potty humor! Many of his letters contain such jokes.

TRUE
1778 Mozart introduced to Weber family in Mannheim, and falls in love with Aloysia Weber.
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

Aloysia Weber
in the operatic role of Zémire
1778 Mozart and his mother continue traveling and concertizing.
1778 Mozart and his mother continue traveling and concertizing.

In Paris writes famous K. 265 variations.
Ah! Vous dirai-je, Maman,
Ce qui cause mon tourment?
Papa veut que je raisonne,
Comme une grande personne;
Moi, je dis que les bonbons
Valent mieux que la raison.
Ah! Let me tell you, Mother,
What's the cause of my torment?
Papa wants me to reason
Like a grown-up.
Me, I say that candy has
Greater value than reason.
Variations on “Ah! vous dirai-je, Maman” K. 300e
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.”
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

SALZBURG YEARS (1773-81)

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.
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

SALZBURG YEARS (1773-81)

The opera is a considerable success, but no other offers for work follow.
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

SALZBURG YEARS (1773-81)

His employer, the ruler of Salzburg Archbishop Colloredo, summons Mozart to Vienna.
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

SALZBURG YEARS (1773-81)

Prince Archbishop Hieroymous Colloredo
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.
TRUE
Court musicians and performers were considered as “servants” and wore livery uniforms.
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…
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
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

VIENNA (1781-91)

1781 — Has piano “duel” with Muzio Clementi before Emperor Joseph II

He is soon regarded as best pianist in Vienna
1781 — Meets writer Lorenzo da Ponte with whom he will collaborate on operas *Le Nozze di Figaro*, *Così fan tutte*, *Don Giovanni*.
1782 — Receives commission to compose *Die Entführung aus dem Serail* 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

Franz Xavier (L)
Karl Thomas (R)
In 1782 Mozart meets the antiquarian Gottfried van Swieten, who introduces him to the music of J. S. Bach and George Freideric Handel.
In 1784 Mozart meets
FRANZ JOSEPH HAYDN
and the composers become friends.
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
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

OPERAS
Mozart’s next 3 operas based on libretti by Lorenzo DA PONTE
(1749-1838)

1. Le nozze di Figaro [Marriage of Figaro] (1786)
   2. Don Giovanni [Don Juan] (1787)
   3. Così fan tutte [Thus all women do] (1790)
1787—Appointed chamber-music composer to the Emperor Joseph II, which lead to a financial stipend.
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

VIENNA (1781-91)

1787 — The young LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN tries to meet Mozart, but never does.
1788—Declining income and Mozart’s mismanagement of funds lead to financial problems
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

THE FATAL YEAR: 1791

1791—Mozart composes

*The Magic Flute*

*La Clemenza di Tito*
1791—Mozart composes
The Magic Flute
La Clemenza di Tito

And is commissioned to write a Requiem…
1791—Mozart composes

*The Magic Flute*

*La Clemenza di Tito*

And is commissioned to write a *Requiem*…

*a mass for the dead*…
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

THE FATAL YEAR: 1791

Mozart becomes sick in September 1791, dies on December 5, 1791.
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

THE FATAL YEAR: 1791

Mozart becomes sick in September 1791, dies on December 5, 1791.

He leaves the Requiem incomplete.
MOZART
MYTH or FACT:

5. Mozart was poisoned by composer Antonio Salieri.
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

FALSE
Mozart died of what described as “Military Fever.” Most historians today think it was rheumatic fever.
His wife Constanze may have spread rumors about the circumstances of the Requiem to promote the work.
6. The Requiem was commissioned by an anonymous messenger who may have been DEATH himself.
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

FALSE
The Requiem was commissioned by Count Franz von Walsegg, who liked to anonymously commission musical works and pass them off as his own!
MOZART
MYTH or FACT:

7. Mozart was buried in a pauper’s grave, no one attended the funeral, and it snowed.
Mozart was buried in a communal grave, but that was customary in Vienna at the time because of the cost of funerals.

FALSE
70% of the burials the year of Mozart’s death were like his, a “third class” burial.
No one accompanied Mozart’s body to the graveyard, and no mourners were at the burial…

TRUE
No one accompanied Mozart’s body to the graveyard, and no mourners were at the burial…

TRUE but…
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

That was also customary at the time, and was not a reflection on Mozart’s reputation.
It did not snow at Mozart’s burial, and the weather was calm and sunny.
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Constanze Mozart in 1840
MOZART
MYTH or FACT:

8. There is a Mozart Candy.
Yes! There is a Mozart candy.
Mozartkugeln
were created in 1890 in Salzburg
by Paul Fürst and named after Mozart.

They consist of a blend of hazelnut nougat and pistachio marzipan covered with bittersweet chocolate.
Mozart’s concertos are in 3 movements,
Modeled on J. C. Bach
Early opera, *Idomeneo* (1781), reflects changing trends in opera away from The “opera seria” format and maturation of comic “opera buffa” as a genre.
Success of *Die Entführung aus dem Serail* (1782), a *singspiel* ("sung-play", a musical), establishes Mozart’s reputation in Vienna.
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

OPERAS
Mozart’s next 3 operas based on libretti by Lorenzo DA PONTE
(1749-1838)

1. *Le nozze di Figaro* [Marriage of Figaro] (1786)
2. *Don Giovanni* [Don Juan] (1787)
3. *Così fan tutte* [Thus all women do] (1790)
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

OPERAS

All 3 operas combine serious/comic elements

Mezza Carattere ("middle characters")

Greater depth for

opera-seria / intermezzo stereotypes
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

OPERAS

Musical forms from opera seria and intermezzo

Combinations of forms

Breakdown of “Recit-Aria” formant

Ensembles used to continue drama

“Accompanied recitative”

Orchestration defines character and situation
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

DON GIOVANNI
Based on mythic character of Don Juan and medieval morality plays

*Il Dissoluto Punito,*

*ossia,

*il Don Giovanni*

*Dramma Giocoso in due atti*
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

DON GIOVANNI

Don Juan an “anti-hero”

Libretto and Music mix

*opera seria* & *opera buffa*

Characters and Music
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

Donna Anna
Donna Elvira
Don Ottavio
Commendatore

Don Giovanni

Leporello
Zerlina
Massetto

OPERA SERIA
OPERA BUFFA
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Vocal Type</th>
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<tr>
<td>Donna Anna</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donna Elvira</td>
<td>soprano</td>
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<tr>
<td>Don Ottavio</td>
<td>tenor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commendatore</td>
<td>bass</td>
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<tr>
<td>Don Giovanni</td>
<td>baritone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leporello</td>
<td>bass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zerlina</td>
<td>soprano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massetto</td>
<td>bass</td>
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</table>
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

DON GIOVANNI

Mozart use large orchestra
double woodwinds, horns and trumpets, timpani,
basso continuo for the recitatives, and strings

Includes trombones in Act II

Overture in sonata form that states motives
used later in opera
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

DON GIOVANNI

Prague premiere (1787)…well received
Vienna premiere (1788)…cool reception
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

DON GIOVANNI
Act I, Scenes 1-2

“Notte e giorno fatticar”

Leporello (“Little rabbit”) complains in an opera buffa-style CAVATINA
(ABCBB)
“Non sperar, io non m’uccidi”

Music continues into next musical number,

An *opera seria* **DUET** for

Donna Anna and Don Giovanni,

(with comic comments by Leporello)
“Lasciala, idegno”
Duet morphs into a TRIO
With addition of the Commendatore

(And into a QUARTET with Leporello’s *buffa* asides)
Scene reaches a climax in an onstage duel that ends with Don Giovanni killing (!) the Commendatore
Scene ends on a half cadence and dissolves into *secco* recitative… and comic banter

Mozart uses both Accompanied and Secco recitative for dramatic effect
Don Giovanni, Act I, scene 1-2
Don Giovanni, Dinner scene