



Ludwig van Beethoven

1770–1827

- Born in Bonn in 1770 – groups can visit the house he was born in on tours to the Rhineland
- Performed in public for the first time at the age of seven
- Crucial figure in transition between 18th century classicism to 19th century romanticism
- Studied composition with Joseph Haydn in Vienna
- Composed some of his most admired works after 1811, when he went almost completely deaf – some of his hearing aids can be seen at the Beethoven House Museum in Bonn
- Composed nine symphonies, five piano concertos, one violin concerto, thirty-two piano sonatas, sixteen string quartets, two masses and the opera Fidelio
- Beethoven's music is featured twice on the Voyager Golden Record – a phonograph record containing samples of images, common sounds, languages and music of Earth which was sent into outer space on the two Voyager probes.
- Bonn has hosted Beethovenfest to celebrate his music since 1845