

**NAME:** Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

**BORN:** January 27 1756, Salzburg, Austria

**DIED:** December 05 1791, Vienna, Austria

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was a child prodigy and musical genius who composed his first work at the age of 5.

An accomplished musician he began playing the harpsichord and violin. He later went on to play the piano, organ and viola.

At the age of 13 Mozart and his father (himself an accomplished musician and teacher) set out for Italy where they stayed for two years. His father wanted to introduce Mozart to as many people as possible and ensure that they had the opportunity to experience not only Mozart's incredible talents as a performer but that of a composer as well.

In 1773, at age 17 Mozart was given the role as the assistant concert master to newly appointed Prince Archbishop of Salzburg and received a small wage. During this time Mozart had an opportunity to work across many musical genres and he composed opera's, symphonies, small ensembles and so on.

However Mozart became bored with the confines of what was a servant to the Prince Archbishop and asked to be released from his contract. Mozart left Salzburg and travelled through Paris and Germany and returned to Austria only this time settling in the main city of Vienna. Mozart continued to compose and perform became very popular.

Mozart had a cheeky sense of humour and was very playful. He liked wearing fancy clothes and was not very good at managing his money. So although he was busily working he had very little to show for it.

Mozart was only 35 years of age when he passed away. In his short career he composed more than 600 works including some of the world's most popular operas. His most famous operatic works include The Marriage of Figaro, Don Giovanni, Cosi fan Tutte, and The Magic Flute.

**MOZART QUOTE:** *Music is my life and my life is music*



## MAGICAL MOZART