

Ludwig van Beethoven didn't wear a wig.



**LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN**  
**1770-1827**

**German Composer and Pianist**

*Portrait by Joseph Karl Stieler, 1820*

# Ludwig van Beethoven

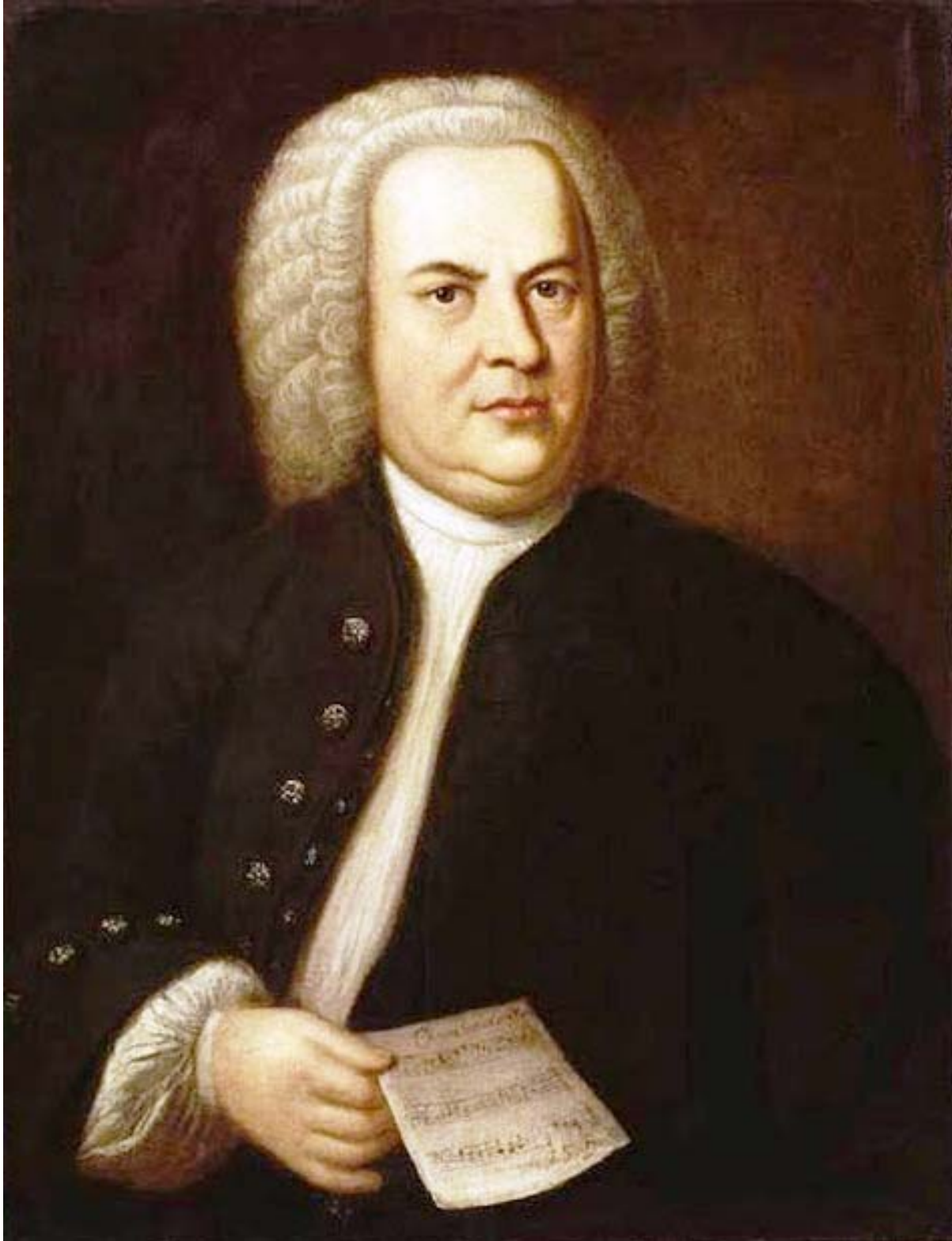
1770 -1827

Ludwig van Beethoven was a German composer and pianist. He remains one of the most famous and influential of all composers. His best known compositions include 9 symphonies, 5 concertos for piano, 32 piano sonatas, and 16 string quartets. He also composed other chamber music, choral works, and songs.

Born in Bonn, Germany, then the capital of the Electorate of Cologne and part of the Holy Roman Empire, Beethoven displayed his musical talents at an early age. Beethoven moved to Vienna in 1792 and began studying with Haydn, quickly gaining a reputation as a virtuoso pianist. He lived in Vienna until his death. In about 1800 his hearing began to deteriorate, and by the last decade of his life he was almost totally deaf. He gave up conducting and performing in public but continued to compose; many of his most admired works come from this period.

*(Information adapted from Wikipedia)*

Johann Sebastian Bach DID wear a wig!



**Johann Sebastian Bach**

**1685 – 1750**

**German Composer**

*Portrait by Elias Gottlob Haussmann, 1746*