



Franz Joseph Haydn 1732-1809

Baby Haydn was born in Austria. He began his music career at a very early age. Haydn sang in a children's choir when he was 8 years old. He learned to play the harpsichord and violin at school and he studied the music of Johann Christian Bach, the older brother of the famous Johann Sebastian Bach.

When he grew up, he worked for Prince Esterhazy about 30 miles from Vienna. The prince had lots of money and paid Haydn to conduct the palace orchestra and write music for two concerts a week. He lived in the Prince's palace for 30 years and had 17 children. At the age 60, he moved to London, England and kept on writing even more music.

Haydn composed 104 symphonies, 6 masses, 23 operas and 83 string quartets

Haydn is part of the Classical Era of music which Mozart also belongs to. The music of the Classical time is very neat and orderly and follows strict patterns and forms. His music is very charming and happy. He was a musical "superstar" in his time.

Haydn was nicknamed "Papa" or "Father" because he was the first person to use the **Classical** forms and patterns to compose music that we recognize as the sound of an orchestra. He also created the string quartet style that we hear at concerts today.