



Claude Debussy 1863-1918

Baby Debussy was born in a small suburb just outside of Paris, France. His mother taught him to play the piano. He was a very good pianist but his parents were very poor so his Aunt gave him piano lessons for free. When he turned 11, he was so talented that he went to the Paris Conservatory and studied music composing and piano .

At 22 years old he won the Grand Prix De Rome for his composition, the most famous, Clair de Lune .

In 1884, Mr. Debussy moved to Rome Italy to study more piano and composing . He also travelled all over Europe meeting Russian and German composers from The Romantic Era of Music that helped inspired his music . Debussy taught the piano to many young and wealthy students. He became very famous and people came from all over the world to study the piano with Claude .

Mr. Debussy had a daughter , Claude-Emma , and she inspired her father to write many children's songs . He wrote music for solo piano, Operas, Ballets, Large Orchestras and the String Quartet that Storytime Quartet Plays .

Mr. Debussy was part of the Impressionist composers of the Late 19th Century. His style of music was inspired by the French artist Monet and other Impressionistic painters. These painters used soft colors and very loose lines to create and “ impression” of a scene of feeling in their paintings.

The sound of Mr. Debussy’s music is not as structured as Classical composers; it creates a mood or feeling through different harmonies and scales, just like the paintings . It gives a listener a chance to use his or her imagination to create their own picture or idea from the music they hear.

