

# BEETHOVEN ON THE BEACH

SUN March 10 ♦ 7PM ♦ Miami Beach Bandshell  
FRI March 15 ♦ 8PM ♦ Pinecrest Gardens  
SAT March 16 ♦ 6PM ♦ Gateway Park, Sunny Isles Beach



♦ THANK YOU FOR SPENDING YOUR EVENING WITH  
ORCHESTRA MIAMI! ♦

## Here are the pieces you will enjoy today



Aaron Merritt, *soloist*

**Saint-Saëns:** Cello Concerto  
No. 1 in A minor, Op. 33

**Mozart:** Overture to Don Giovanni

**Mendelssohn:** “Italian” Symphony  
No. 4 in A Major

**Beethoven:** Overture to the ballet  
The Creatures of Prometheus Op. 43

**Fun activities for the  
kids at the end!**

# Cello Concerto No. 1 in A minor, Op. 33

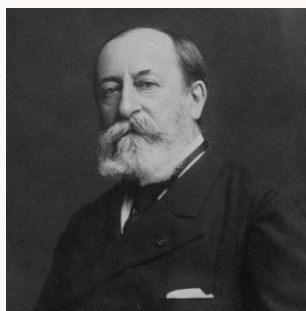
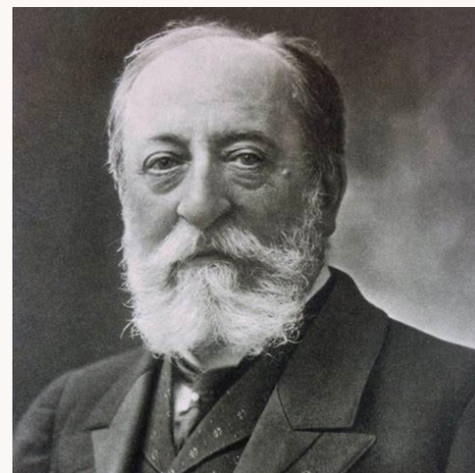
## Camille Saint-Saëns

AARON MERRITT, SOLOIST

Saint-Saëns' Cello Concerto No. 1 remains a cornerstone of the cello repertoire, celebrated for its seamless integration of technical brilliance and emotional depth within a single, captivating movement.

At the age of 37, Camille Saint-Saëns completed this piece in 1872. It was written for the French cellist Auguste Tolbecque, who was also a viola da gamba player and instrument maker.

The concerto begins with a striking cello entrance, introducing a dramatic and passionate theme that sets the tone for the entire piece. Saint-Saëns seamlessly weaves the soloist's lyrical lines with the orchestral accompaniment, creating a rich tapestry of sound.



**Born:** October 9, 1835, Paris, France.

**Died:** December 16, 1921, Algiers, Algeria.

**Piece Composed:** November 1872.

**World Premiere:** January 19, 1873.

Soloist: Auguste Tolbecque (its dedicatee)

Conductor: Édouard Deldevez

at the Société des Concerts du Conservatoire de Paris

ORCHESTRA MIAMI  
Artistic Director, Elaine Rinaldi

# Aaron Merritt

SOLOIST

Praised by the Miami Herald for his “eloquent” and “cathartic” playing, Aaron Merritt enjoys a varied career of teaching and performing. He regularly performs with Miami’s Orchestra Miami, Nu-Deco Ensemble, the Palm Beach Opera, and the Naples Philharmonic, and has performed with the Florida Grand Opera and New World Symphony under Michael Tilson Thomas from 2004-2008. He has performed across the United States, Austria and the Netherlands and he performs at the Colorado Music Festival in Boulder and the Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music in Santa Cruz, California during the summer months. With his colleagues in the Sona String Quartet, Mr. Merritt has presented over one hundred educational concerts for underserved schools and communities in the Greater Miami area. He was previously the Adjunct Professor of Cello at Miami’s New World School of the Arts for over 10 years. His students have been laureates and participants at national and international competitions, including the Sphinx and Tchaikovsky. Mr. Merritt studied at Indiana University (BM) and Rice University (MM). Principal teachers include Lynn Harrell, Emilio Colón and Helga Winold.





# “Don Giovanni” Overture

## Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Mozart himself described his opera *Don Giovanni* as a “drama giocoso,” which literally translates to “drama with jokes.”

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, born in 1756 to a family of professional musicians, was a prodigious and prolific composer of the Classical era. Mozart was famously a child prodigy, performing songs on the harpsichord at the age of four and composing his first symphony at the age of eight!

His unparalleled ability to craft melodic beauty, structural perfection, and emotional depth is evident in his masterpiece *Don Giovanni*. The Overture, which you’ll hear today, serves as a brilliant prelude to this iconic opera.

Mozart was an incredibly gifted musician but a terrible procrastinator. He could hear the music clearly in his mind but dreaded the mechanical act of writing it out. Mozart had put off writing out this Overture until the *night* before the dress rehearsal. Imagine that!



**Born:** January 27, 1756. Salzburg, Austria.

**Died:** December 5, 1791. Vienna, Austria.

**Piece Composed:** 1787.

**World Premiere:** October 29, 1787.

The Estates Theater, Prague.

DON GIOVANNI  
Overture  
W. A. Mozart  
(1756-1791)

Andante

2 Flauti  
2 Oboi  
2 Clarineti in A  
2 Fagotti  
2 Corni in D  
2 Trombe in D  
Timpani in D and A  
Violino I  
Violino II  
Viola  
Violoncello  
Contrabasso  
Fl.  
Ob.  
Fag.  
Cor in D  
Tr. in D  
Timp.  
Viol. I  
Viol. II  
Viola  
Vc.  
Cb.



# “Italian” Symphony No. 4 in A Major, Felix Mendelssohn

Felix Mendelssohn's Symphony No. 4 in A Major, often referred to as the "Italian" Symphony, stands as a vibrant representation of the composer's journey through Italy in the early 1830s. Completed in 1833, the symphony reflects Mendelssohn's keen observations of the Italian landscape, culture, and folk music.

Mendelssohn expressed his joy in a letter addressed to his Father in October of 1830:

*“This is Italy! And now has begun what I have always thought ... to be the supreme joy in life. And I am loving it. Today was so rich that now, in the evening, I must collect myself a little, and so I am writing to you to thank you, dear parents, for having given me all this happiness.*”

Mendelssohn's "Italian" Symphony is a testament to his ability to weave together classical forms with colorful orchestration, creating a work that remains a perennial favorite for its infectious joy and picturesque musical storytelling.

Mendelssohn described this symphony to his sister Fanny as being *“the jolliest piece I have ever done.”*



**Born:** February 3, 1809. Hamburg, Germany.

**Died:** November 4, 1847. Leipzig, Germany.

**Piece Composed:** March 13, 1833.

**World Premiere:** May 13, 1833. London.

Conducted by Mendelssohn himself.

First performed in the United States in Boston on November 1, 1851.

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SYMPHONY No 4

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, Op. 90  
(1809-1847)

Allegro vivace

Flauti

Oboi

Clarineti in [A La]

Fagotti

Corni in [A La]

Trombe in [D Re]

Timpani in [E A Mi La]

Allegro vivace arco

Violino I

Violino II

Viola

Violoncello e Contrabasso

B. & H. 8702 Printed in England



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Artistic Director, Elaine Rinaldi

# Overture to the ballet The Creatures of Prometheus Op. 43, Ludwig van Beethoven

Ludwig van Beethoven, a German composer and pianist, is one of the most revered figures in the history of Classical music. *The Creatures of Prometheus*, Beethoven's only ballet, tells the famous myth of the Greek Titan Prometheus.

In Greek mythology, Prometheus shaped man out of clay, brought them to life, and exposed them to music, arts, and sciences. He tricked the god Zeus and defied him by stealing fire and giving it to humans. Prometheus was eventually punished by Zeus for his disobedience.

Inspired by the story of Prometheus, the ballet focuses on the theme of human enlightenment and progress. However, the ballet doesn't depict Prometheus' rebellion or punishment, which Beethoven was said to find disappointing.

Beethoven's Werke. **O U V E R T U R E** zum Ballet **DIE GESCHÖPFE DES PROMETHEUS** **L. VAN BEE THOVEN.** Op. 43. VOLUME NO. 23.

Adagio.



**Born:** December 16, 1770. Bonn, Germany.

**Died:** March 26, 1827. Vienna, Austria.

**Piece Composed:** 1801.

**World Premiere:** March 28, 1801.

Vienna, Austria. 28 performances.

Premiered in New York on June 14, 1808. The first full-length work by Beethoven performed in the United States.



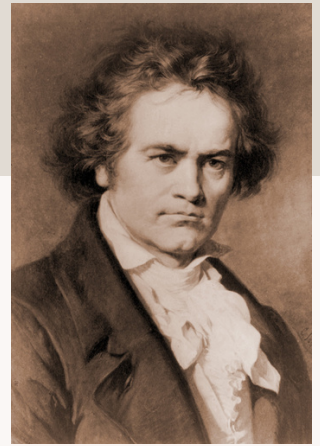
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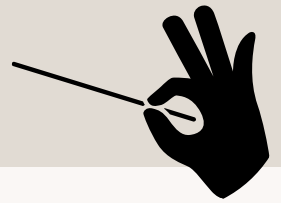


## Composer Spotlight: *Beethoven*



- ❖ Ludwig van Beethoven was born in 1770 in Bonn, Germany, but we don't truly know his actual birthday.
- ❖ He wrote his first piece of music at 12 years of age!
- ❖ He wrote over 700 compositions in the span of 45 years.
- ❖ When he was 14, he was hired to work as a musician for the court chapel.
- ❖ At 17, during his first visit to Vienna, Beethoven performed for Mozart who said "Keep your eyes on him, someday he'll give the world something to talk about."
- ❖ Beethoven was only 5'4" tall, the same height as Mozart!
- ❖ In his early 20s, Beethoven took lessons from Joseph Haydn, the father of the symphony. The pair often got frustrated with one another and ultimately didn't like each other very much!
- ❖ At the age of 27, he began to hear constant buzzing and he completely lost his hearing at the age of 44. Even though he could no longer hear, he composed some of his best music after he was deaf!
- ❖ Beethoven died at the age of 56 of unknown causes during a thunderstorm.

# Meet our Conductor



## Elaine Rinaldi



Elaine Rinaldi, Founder and Artistic Director of Orchestra Miami, is a Miami native who has chosen to return home and reinvest in her community.

Under her artistic supervision, Orchestra Miami has performed high quality classical music concerts to literally thousands of people through its annual “Beethoven on the Beach” Free Outdoor Concerts and introduced over 33,000 school children to classical music through its collaborations with the Miami-Dade County Public Schools and the Family Fun Concert series at Pinecrest Gardens.

Her “Discover Miami Through Music” series has encouraged scores of Miamians to learn more about their city through music. In addition to her work in Miami, Ms. Rinaldi is one of the nation’s top vocal coaches, focused on training the next generation of opera singers, and is a frequent guest conductor at opera companies and summer music festivals. She loves animals of all kinds, and encourages you to consider adopting a cat or dog from one of our local shelters or rescue groups.





# About Orchestra Miami

Orchestra Miami exists to build community and to educate through music by bringing high quality symphonic music at affordable prices to all the diverse communities in South Florida.



Founded in 2006 by Artistic Director Elaine Rinaldi,

Orchestra Miami exists to fill the unique cultural needs of our community. Our main goal is to provide low-cost, high-quality artistic experiences that build community and provide programming which would otherwise be unavailable in South Florida. Equally important goals are to provide children and their families with opportunities to experience classical music, make it a part of their lives, and use it as a tool for learning and enjoyment.

Over the course of its 16 year history, Orchestra Miami has performed everywhere from the Adrienne Arsht Center to art galleries to public parks. Our signature programs include the annual Beethoven on the Beach free outdoor concerts performed in Miami Beach, Pinecrest and Sunny Isles Beach, the Discover Miami Through Music series performed at landmarks across Miami-Dade County, and the Family Fun Concert Series at Pinecrest Gardens. Orchestra Miami consists of a select group of professional musicians, all permanent residents of South Florida, whose collective body is unparalleled in terms of musical excellence and experience. Our many collaborations with the Miami-Dade County Public Schools have introduced over 30,000 school-aged kids to classical music for free.

Led by Founder and Artistic Director Elaine Rinaldi, Orchestra Miami continues to exceed expectations in terms of programming and artistic quality.

# THANK YOU FOR SPENDING YOUR EVENING WITH ORCHESTRA MIAMI

We hope to see you back at one of our upcoming concerts!



**Connect with us online:**  
Instagram @OrchMiami  
[www.orchestramiami.org](http://www.orchestramiami.org)

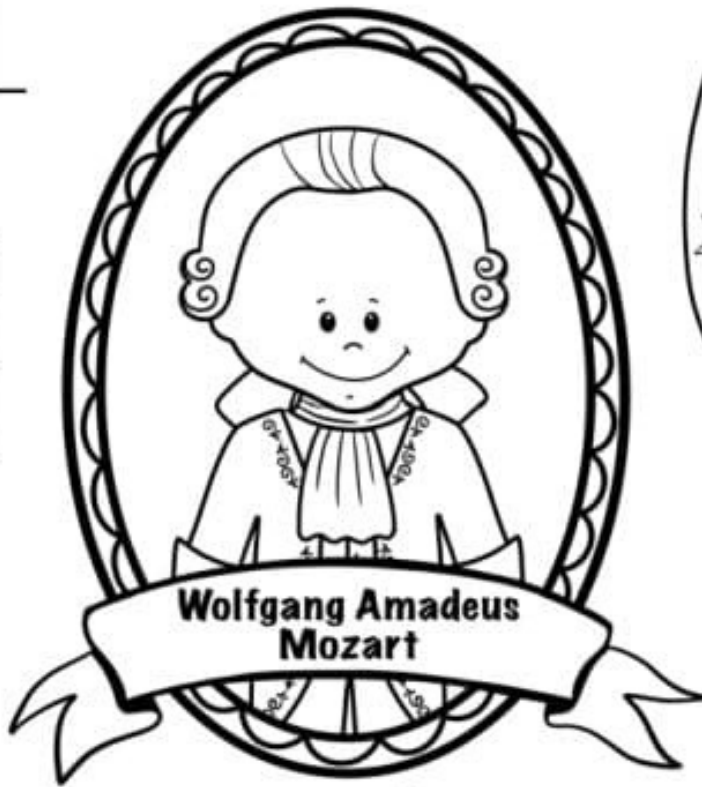
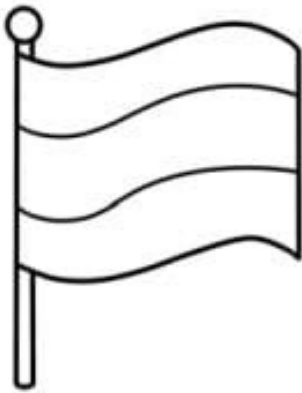
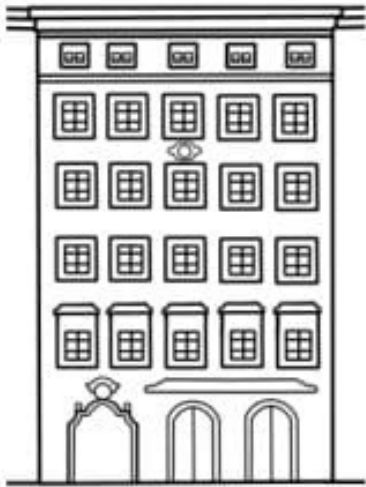
Program Notes by our Director of Education & Outreach, Stephanie Jaimes



**ORCHESTRA MIAMI**  
Artistic Director, Elaine Rinaldi



# Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart



*Mozart*<sup>ca</sup>



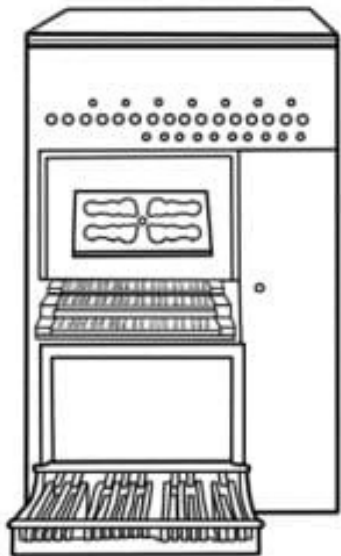
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart



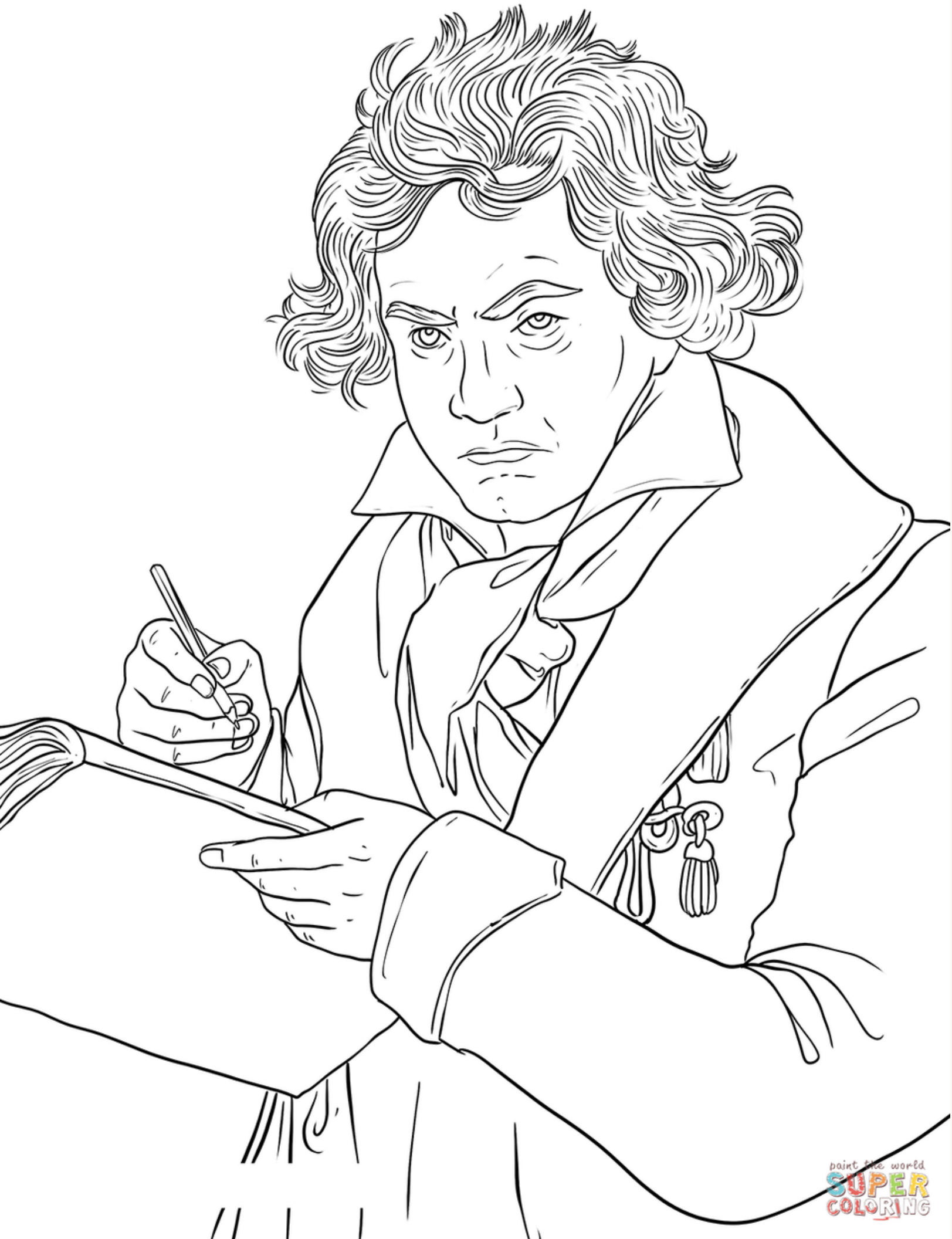
# Ludwig van Beethoven



*Ludwig van Beethoven*



Ludwig van Beethoven



# Ludwig van Beethoven

1770 - 1827

*Ludwig van Beethoven was born in Bonn, Germany and rose to fame as a pianist. He began to go deaf at the age of 30, but continued to write music, leaving behind an amazing legacy of symphonies, operas, choral works and*



ARISTOCRACY

AUSTRIA

BONN

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CHORAL

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CONCERTO

DEAF

FUR ELISE

GENIUS

GERMANY

IMPROVISATION

LUDWIG

MOZART

OPERA

OPUS

ORCHESTRA

PASTORALE

PERFORMER

PIANO

SONATA

STRING QUARTET

SYMPHONY

VAN BEETHOVEN

VIENNA

VIOLIN

VIRTUOSO



# Ludwig van Beethoven

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