



George Frideric Handel

March 5, 1685 – April 14, 1759

George Frideric Handel is one of the greatest composers of the Baroque period. He was born on March 5, 1685 in Halle, Germany and began his musical training at a young age. By the time he was 20 years old, he had already composed several operas and orchestral works.

For several years Handel traveled around Germany and Italy, where he composed various operas and choir music and even worked briefly as a choir director for the German prince George. However in 1710, Handel moved to London where he ended up settling for the rest of his life.

Handel enjoyed a successful career as both a composer and performer. His most famous work is the oratorio *Messiah*. It was first composed in 1741

and completed in just 24 days! It later premiered in Dublin in 1742 and quickly became one of his most popular pieces. In addition to *Messiah*, Handel composed numerous other world-renowned works including *Water Music*, *Royal Fireworks Music* and *Acis and Galatea*.

Later in life he suffered from various health issues which slowed his productivity but Handel remained active in composing until the time of his death on April 14, 1759. He died a wealthy man, having earned nationwide recognition after creating well over 200 musical compositions, including operas, oratorios, hymns, cantatas, and more, and even composing for royalty all across Europe.

Messiah is especially beloved for its beautiful melodies and uplifting spirit. It has become a staple of classical culture and has been performed all around the world in a variety of venues, from large concert halls to small churches. The *Messiah* is always a popular choice for Christmas concerts, and its beautiful melodies continue to delight audiences all around the world

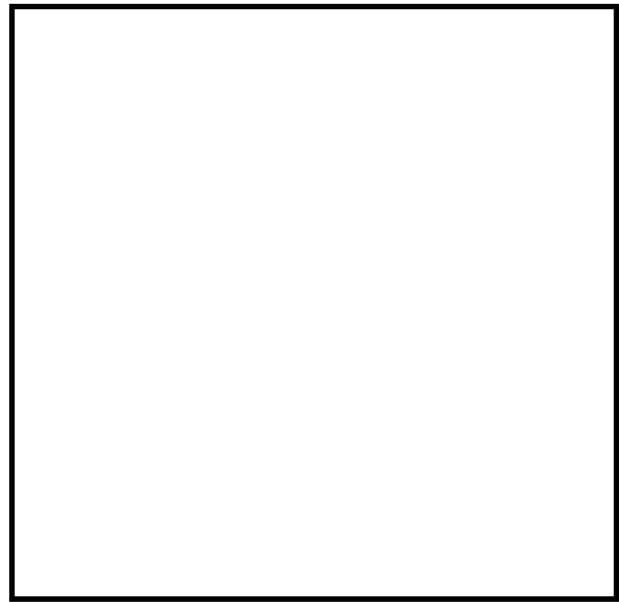
Composer Study

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Composer Fun Facts:



Instruments Used: _____

Famous Compositions: _____

Further Study:
