

Edvard Grieg

15 June 1843 – 4 September 1907

Edvard Grieg was a Norwegian composer born in 1843 who left an enduring mark on the world of classical music. His compositions are like vibrant pictures painted with sound, capturing the essence of Norway's rugged landscapes and folk traditions.

Grieg was born in Bergen, Norway, a picturesque coastal city surrounded by mountains and fjords. From a young age, he showed a deep love for music, learning to play the piano at just six years old. Despite facing challenges throughout his life, including health issues and financial struggles, Grieg's passion for music never waned.

One of Grieg's most famous works is his "Peer Gynt" suite, which features music he composed for the play of the same name by Henrik Ibsen. The suite includes pieces like "Morning Mood," which evokes the tranquility of a Norwegian sunrise, and "In the Hall of the Mountain King," a lively and playful tune that brings to mind mischievous trolls dancing in the mountains.

Grieg's music often reflects the beauty of Norway's natural landscapes. In pieces like "Norwegian Dance No. 2" and "Norwegian March," he incorporates elements of Norwegian folk music, including lively rhythms and catchy melodies that celebrate the country's rich musical heritage. At the time, it was not common to blend classical music with Norwegian culture, yet Grieg's melodies helped to popularize the idea and forge a sense of national pride.

Despite facing criticism from some traditionalists who thought his music was too modern, Grieg's compositions gained popularity both in Norway and abroad. His music was celebrated for its originality and ability to evoke a sense of national identity. This helped to cement his legacy as one of Norway's most beloved composers.

In addition to his compositions for the concert hall, Grieg also wrote many smaller pieces for piano, which are beloved by musicians and audiences alike. Pieces like "Wedding Day at Troldhaugen" and the rest of the compositions within his collection Lyric Pieces showcase Grieg's gift for melody and his ability to capture a wide range of emotions in music.

Throughout his life, Grieg remained deeply connected to his Norwegian roots, drawing inspiration from the country's landscapes, folklore, and traditions. His music continues to be performed and enjoyed by people all over the world, ensuring that his legacy as one of Norway's greatest composers will endure for generations to come.

Classical Pieces

Week 1 - In the Hall of the Mountain King

Week 2 - Wedding Day at Trolldhaugen

Week 3 - Puck

Week 4 - Morning Mood



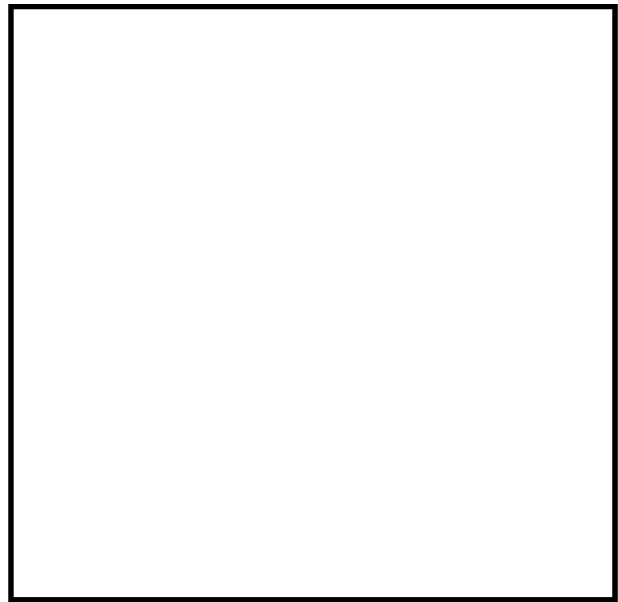
Composer Study

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Composer Fun Facts:



Instruments Used: _____

Famous Compositions: _____

Further Study:
