

Franz Joseph Haydn - Born Rohrau 1732, died Vienna 1809 aged 77. Known as the 'father of the classical' period and the 'father of the symphony'. He was equally the father of the string quartet also. Was a choirboy from age 6, which led him to work in a cathedral in Vienna aged 8. When his voice broke, he started teaching piano, and took up composition, modelling his sonatas on those of CPE Bach. At 28 he married (unwisely). He became the musical director to a nobleman in Vienna and later he was the same for the Esterhazy family (Hungarians). Being a musical director meant that he had an orchestra, choir and solo singers at his disposal for use in the chapel, theatre and concert room in the Esterhazy palace. He toured to England and the University of Oxford gave him an honorary doctorate in music. When Haydn died, Napoleon had occupation of Vienna. Among his well known works are:

The Creation - oratorio

Nelson's Mass - cantata

Emperor's Hymn string quartet

47 piano sonatas

108 symphonies

68 string quartets

Haydn's works influenced Mozart's and Beethoven's compositional styles - Haydn at one stage taught Beethoven piano also.

Franz Joseph's brother Johann Michael was also a well known musical director and composer.

Finale - Piano Sonata in G major Hob XVI:27

- Written 1776, one of 6 sonatas published together. This finale is in theme and variation form.
- Theme is first 24 bars. Modulation bar 8 to D major but then back to G major by bar 11. (repeats)
- 1st variation bars 33 to 48 follows same harmonic progression as theme. Varied by introduction of semiquaver turns and broken chords. (repeats)
- 2nd variation bars 49 to 72. Follows same harmonic progression as theme. Varied by use of scalar passages and Alberti-like treble passages. (repeats)
- 3rd variation bars 73 to 104. (no repeats) varied by use of tonic minor key, use of slurs.
- 4th variation bars 105 to end. Varied by introduction of Alberti bass, arpeggiated passages, virtuosic variation. Again this has no repeats, but all repeats are written out and varied each time they are presented.