



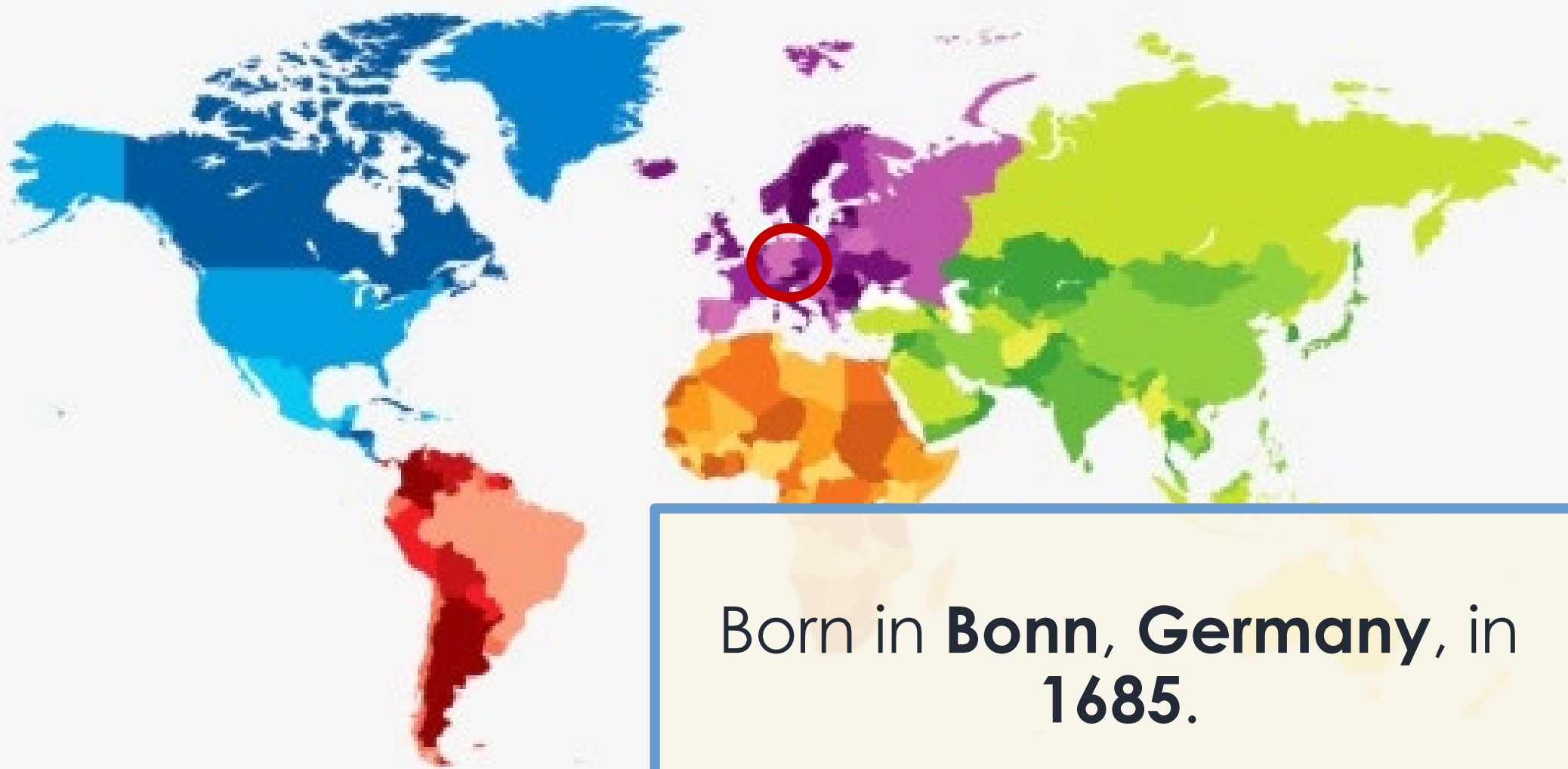
# Ludwig Van Beethoven

Composer of the Week



**Ludwig Van Beethoven**





Born in **Bonn, Germany**, in  
**1685.**



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**1685.**



Born in **Vienna, Austria**, in  
**1827.**



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He first performed publicly at the age of 8.

He is regarded as one of the greatest **composers** of all time.

He was almost completely deaf when he died.

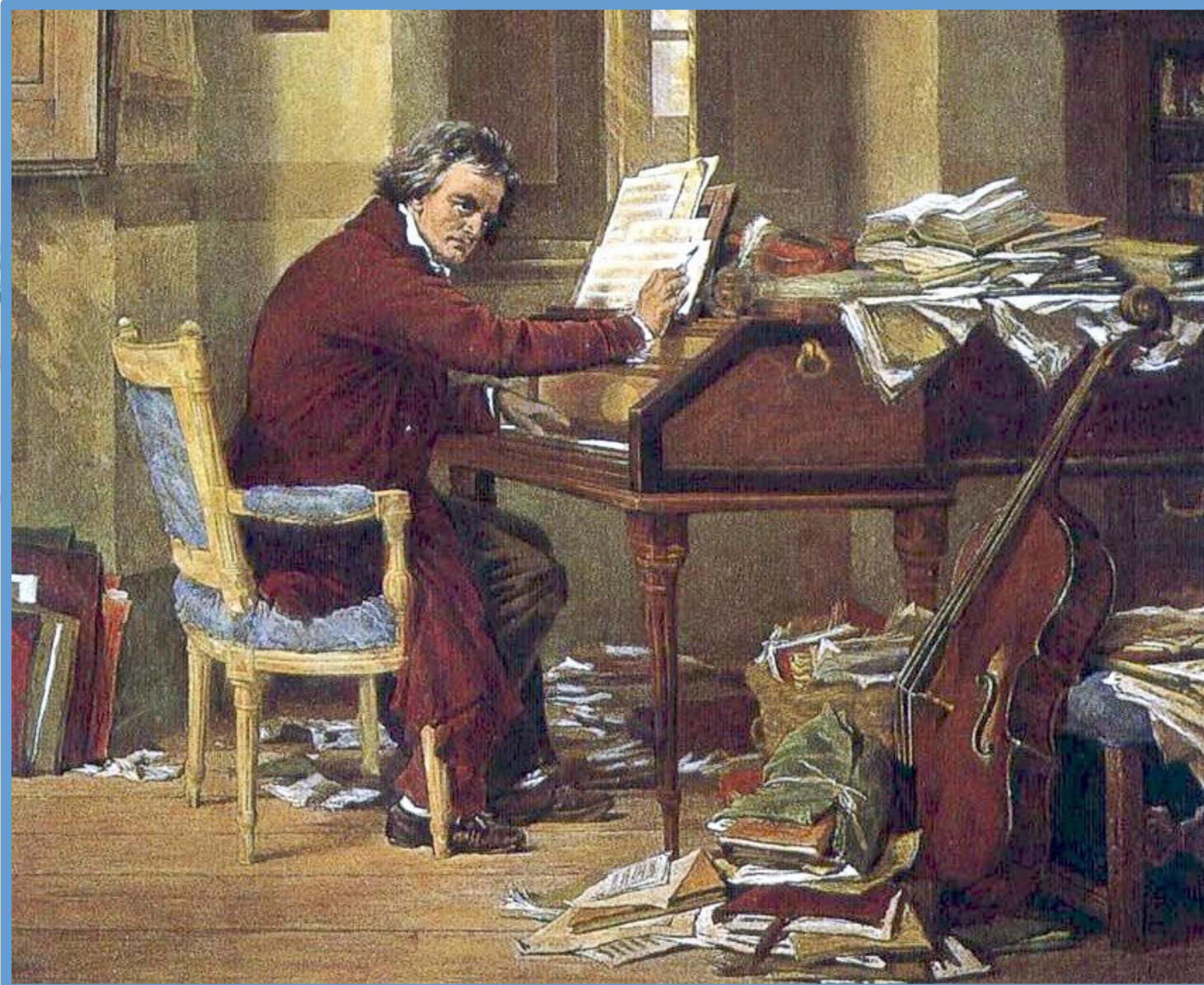
Imagine composing music that you can't hear!



He was one of the first **composers** to write music that did not rely on words – **text**.

He wrote some the most famous pieces of **piano** music.







The **Beethoven Broadwood** was manufactured in **London** in **1817** by **John Broadwood** and sent to Beethoven in **Vienna**.

He wrote many of his later works on this instrument.


He wrote 9 **Symphonies**, which are long works of music created for an **orchestra**.

Beethoven's orchestra



Today's orchestra



A background illustration of a tree with a brown trunk and a canopy of colorful musical notes and instruments like trumpets and saxophones. The text is overlaid on this background.

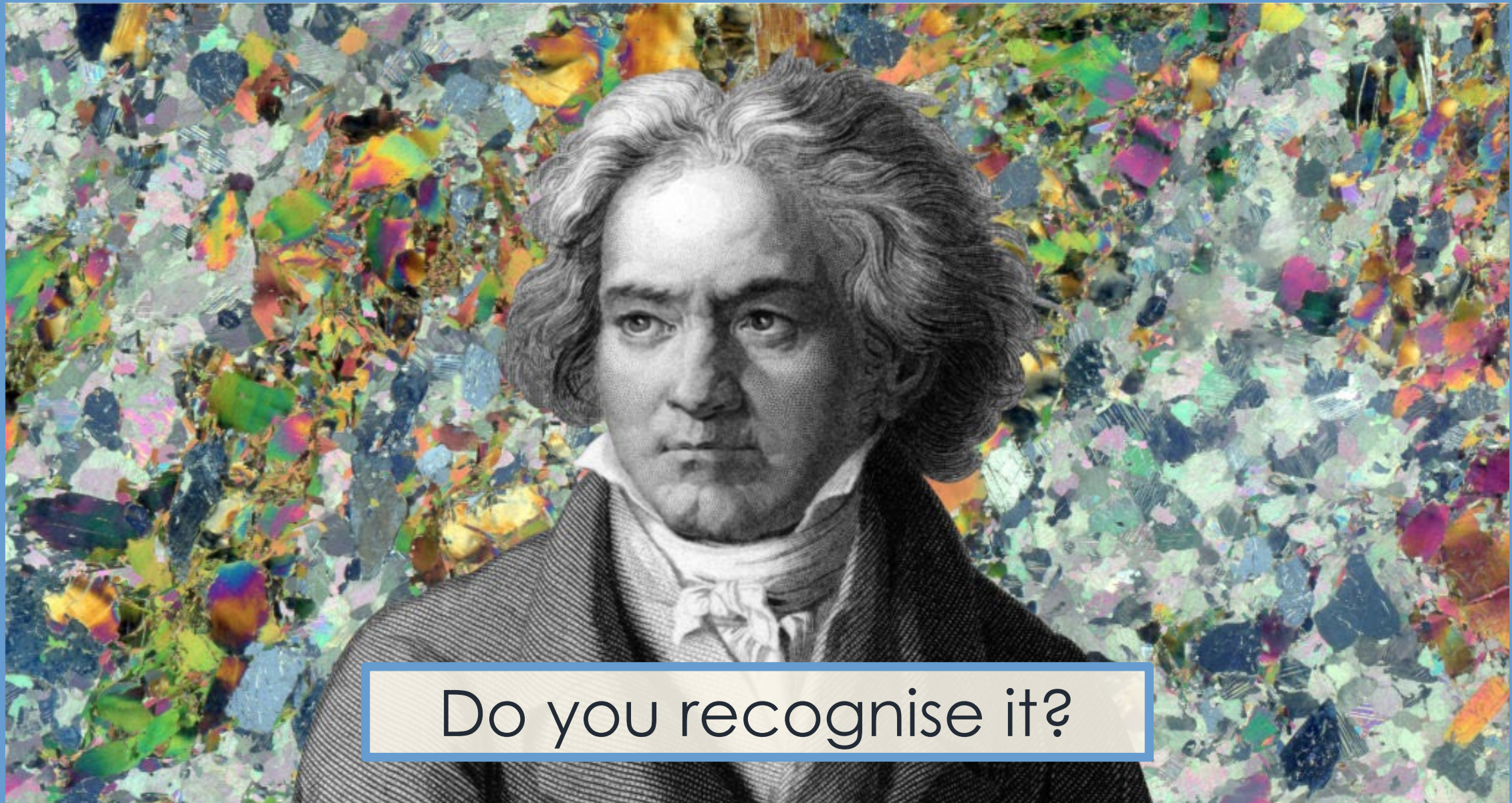
Beethoven's greatest achievement was to raise instrumental music to the same level as art and literature. Music became just as important. His music became more dramatic and romantic.

Before Beethoven composers had to rely on writing **Church Music** to make a living. Beethoven was able to create music which depicted nature and feelings for the first time.

He was influenced by many of the great writers and philosophers of his time. Beethoven believed that all men were created equal and deserved to be treated with dignity.

The last **movement** of his **Ninth Symphony** uses text by **Schiller**, a famous German poet – **Ode to Joy**.

It is a song  
we sing  
often at  
school.



Do you recognise it?



Beethoven's **Ninth Symphony** was first **performed** in **Vienna** in **1824**.

At the end of the performance, because Beethoven was completely deaf by then, one of the players made him turn around to face the audience so he could see the amazing applause.

“To play a wrong note  
is insignificant.  
To play without passion  
is **inexcusable!**”

