



Johannes Brahms

Composer of the Week



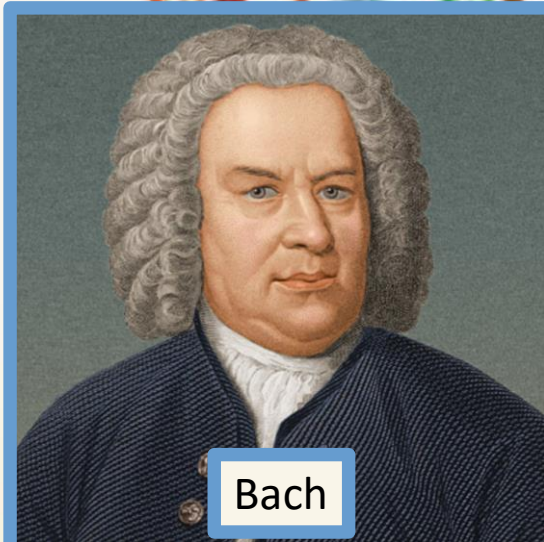


Born in Hamburg, Germany, in
1833

Died in Vienna, Austria, in 1897

He is the last of the composers known as the 'Three Great B's'.

Can you guess who the other two were?



Bach



Beethoven

Brahms is known as the person who brought together the styles of all the composers who lived before him.

After his time composers began to write in completely different ways.

He wrote many songs. You might recognise this one, it is often used in music boxes or on mobiles to send babies to sleep. song used to send babies to sleep is called...

a **lullaby**.



Brahms was very interested in the traditional music and culture of his native Germany and other countries. He became friendly with a Hungarian refugee and violinist, Edward Remenyi, who introduced him to a whole range of **folk** and **Romany** music.

Listen to **'Hungarian Dance No.5'** and imagine dancing around a camp fire.



When Brahms' mother died in 1865 he wrote his German Requiem, one of his most celebrated works.



One of the most important things for Brahms was to write an amazing **Symphony**. A symphony is a long and complicated work for orchestra. Brahms believed that writing an incredible symphony showed how great a composer was.

As a result it took him nearly 21 years to write his first symphony and he only wrote four symphonies altogether.

Mozart wrote 41 Symphonies

Haydn wrote 104

Beethoven wrote 9

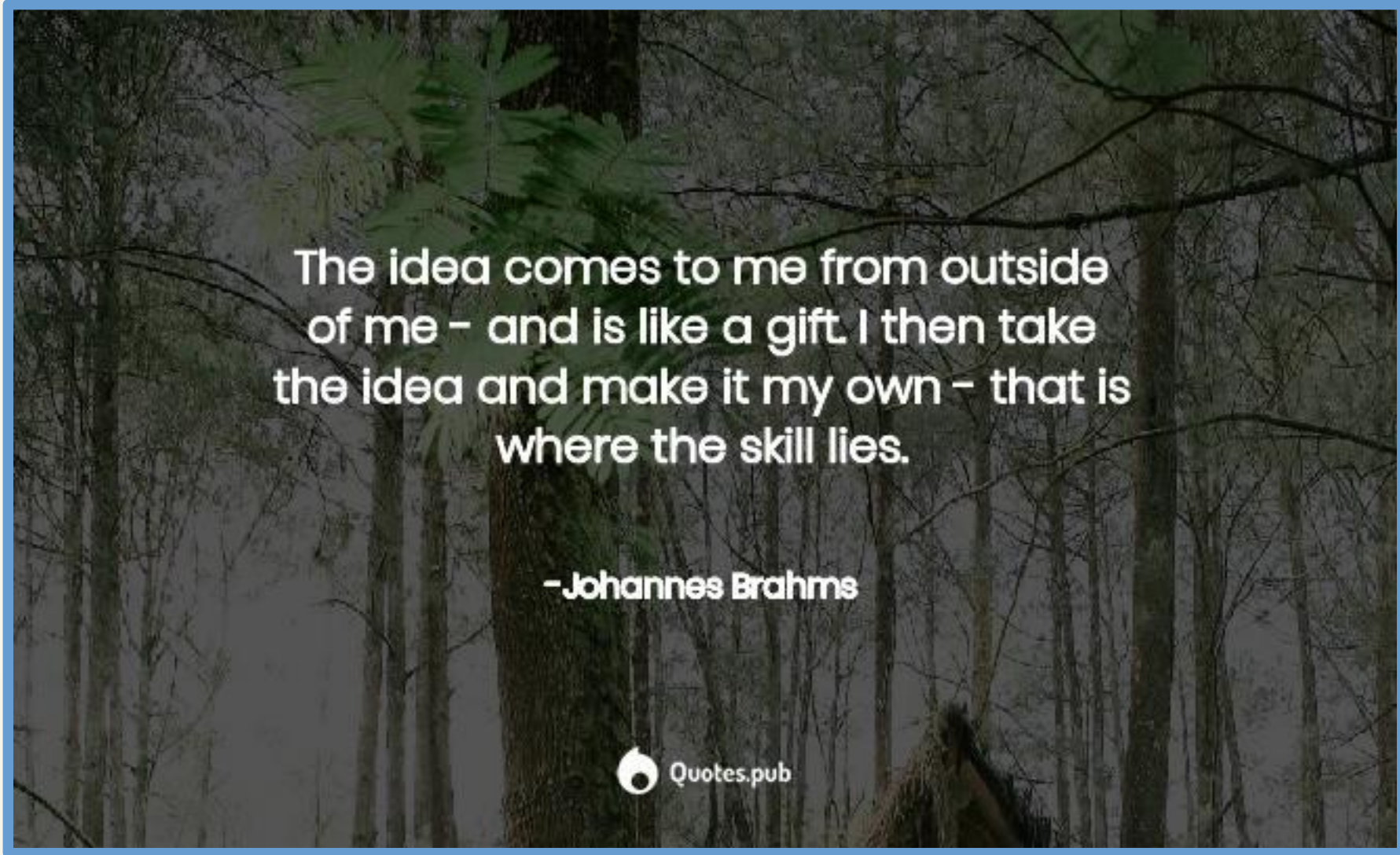
Schubert wrote 9

Brahms believed that Beethoven was the best symphonic composer to have lived.

The last **movement** (part) of Brahms' **FIRST** symphony is based on a **theme** (tune) you might recognise from Beethoven's **LAST** symphony....can you guess what it is?


It is based on **Ode to Joy!**





The idea comes to me from outside
of me - and is like a gift. I then take
the idea and make it my own - that is
where the skill lies.

- Johannes Brahms

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