

# Happy Birthday, Mozart!

Classical Composer Turns 250

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IN AUSTRALIA: Members of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra perform a concert on a pontoon in Sydney harbor to honor the 250th anniversary of the birth of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. The child prodigy, who was born in Salzburg Austria in 1756, composed over 600 musical works and traveled to 200 European cities in his short lifetime. (DAVID HANCOCK/AFP/Getty Images)

[High-res image](#) (1757 x 2600 px, 300 dpi)

LOS ANGELES — Last Friday January 27th marked an important day in the world of classical music. Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, the short-lived Austrian composer who staked out a lasting reputation in thirty-five short years, turned 250 years old.

Named by his Austria's official Mozart 250th website as the most famous Austrian of all time, his talent has long been recognized in the musical community, and classical fans all over the world are taking full advantage of the occasion to remember him. Numerous all-Mozart concerts and concert series have been or are being held.

The largest already took place on his birthday weekend. Some, such as the celebration in his hometown of Salzburg, included cake and wine or other treats.

Los Angeles is celebrating his birthday, too, both with birthday concerts and series. The Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, for example, is planning to perform all of Mozart's one hundred and fifty concertos

over a fifteen-month span.

Professional musicians are not the only ones participating. At Scripps College in Claremont, students recognized the composer with a 250th birthday concert followed by a reception that ended with a rendition of Happy Birthday to Mozart. The college will have a conference in honor of the composer in March.

Although Mozart's birthday is already past, the world of classical music will be remembering him through the end of the year.

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