

Trio in D Major, Op. 6 (1797)

Ludwig van Beethoven/Verdehr Trio

Trio, Opus 6 was published by Artaria in October, 1797 and was probably composed a little prior to that date. Originally scored for four hands, this little sonata in D major consists simply of an *Allegro molto* and a *Rondo*. In form and content it resembles the little sonatas for four hands in D and B-flat by Mozart. The opening 3/4 rhythmic statement recurs often throughout the movement and is prophetic of the *Symphony in C Minor*. The setting for violin, clarinet, and piano was done by the Verdehr Trio.

German composer Ludwig van Beethoven (1770–1827) bridged the period between the classic and romantic eras in music and is considered one of the greatest composers of all time. He is renowned for his symphonies, concertos, vocal works, and his great variety of chamber music for many combinations. Notable in particular are the sixteen string quartets and the piano sonatas which clearly illustrate the different periods of his compositions as well as the development of his style over the course of his life.