

Trio in D Major, K. 381 (1772)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart/Verdehr Trio

The *Trio in D Major, K. 381* is a transcription of one of six original compositions for piano duet. In his early years, Mozart did not write out his piano sonatas or variations, he improvised them. Only when he needed material for his pupils, or when eventual publication became a possibility, did he bother to write down his creations. It was also necessary for his four-hand sonatas to be written out as they were intended for performance by Wolfgang and his sister, Nannerl, as seen seated at the keyboard in the well-known family portrait of 1780. A kind of keyboard chamber music, these compositions were ideally suited for music in the home. The *Trio in D Major* was composed in 1772 when Mozart was in his seventeenth year. It is particularly charming and entertaining with its overture-like first movement, sensitive and lyrical *Andante*, and brisk *Allegro molto*. The arrangement for violin, clarinet, and piano was made by the Verdehr Trio.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–1791) was a prolific German composer whose more than six hundred works—symphonies, operas, concertos, chamber music—epitomized the classical period of music.