



The Many Moods of Beethoven

Scholars have frequently divided Beethoven's creative life into three distinct stages, each marked by a series of external events that had lasting effects on his personality and artistic temperament. *The Many Moods of Beethoven* guides the audience through the works of early, middle, and late Beethoven, surveying the emotions he expresses in several of his greatest string quartets, demonstrating how he constructed some of his themes, and emphasizing his determination to create art in the midst of personal suffering.

Instrumentation: string quartet (two violins, viola, and cello)

Program Length: 45-60 minutes

Target audiences: adults; possible venues include libraries, museums, performing arts centers, colleges and universities, high schools

Musical concepts discussed: the relationship of an artist's life to his art, compositional style and development, thematic elements

Nations and cultures introduced: Austria, Germany

New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards: Visual and Performing Arts (1.1, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5); Language Arts (3.3, 3.4, 3.5); Social Studies (6.3, 6.6)

Repertoire: Movements from Beethoven's string quartets Op. 18, No. 1; Op. 59, No. 1; Op. 95; and Op. 135; excerpts from Beethoven's symphonic works

Musical genres: classical, romantic

All programs subject to change