

Film: *Amadeus*, *Abduction* scene

Film: *Amadeus*, *Figaro* scene

Film: *Amadeus*, *Flute* scene

Mozart: *Laudate Dominum* (Valentina Naftonita, soprano)

F. Way Beyond Beethoven

Gustav Klimt's 1902 frieze in the Secession Building celebrated Beethoven, a naturalized Vienna citizen. But it was merely the preliminary salvo in a career in which, like other composers and artists of the period, he shattered conventions and dared the impossible.

Klimt: Beethoven frieze in the Secession Building

Klimt: *The Kiss* and *Danaë* (both 1907–08)

Schiele: *Death and the Maiden* (1915, Belvedere)

Montage: Schiele self-portraits (w/Schoenberg: *Orchestral Pieces*)

Neuwirth: *Orlando* (2019), sampler

George **Balanchine** (1904–83, *Russian-American choreographer*), Ludwig van **Beethoven** (1770–1827, *German composer*), HK **Gruber** (Heinz Karl Gruber, 1943–, *Austrian composer*), Gustav **Klimt** (1862–1918, *Austrian painter*), Wolfgang Amadeus **Mozart** (1756–91, *Austrian composer*), Olga **Neuwirth** (1968–, *Austrian composer*), Egon **Schiele** (1890–1918, *Austrian painter*), Arnold **Schoenberg** (1874–1951, *Austrian composer*), Dmitri **Shostakovich** (1906–75, *Russian composer*), Oscar **Straus** (1870–1954, *Austrian composer*), Johann **Strauss II** (1825–99, *Austrian composer*), Richard **Strauss** (1864–1949, *German composer*)

A Sense of Place



6. Vienna: Music in the Air

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March 30, 2026

6. Vienna: Music in the Air

FOR TWO AND A HALF CENTURIES, VIENNA HAS BEEN A MUSIC CAPITAL. The foundations were laid by generations of music-loving Habsburgs, who attracted composers and performers from all over Europe. It is also a city that has perpetuated itself in music, through folksong, café music, and the omnipresent waltz. You do not need to buy a ticket to go and hear it; in Vienna, music is in the air. In the first hour, we'll drink some of it in.

Vienna is also the product of both its two-millennium history and its geographical location, at the center of compass points facing East, South, West, and North. In the second hour, we'll consider the consequences of these factors in Viennese art and architecture, before taking a brief look at the city in two specific periods: the years of Mozart leading towards 1800, and those of Freud, following on from 1900. *rb.*

A. The Essence Distilled

After watching two video clips by outsiders trying (and largely succeeding) to distill the essence of Vienna, we turn to Johann Strauss and his depiction of the Viennese countryside.

Balanchine: *Vienna Waltzes* (Der Rosenkavalier)

Anton Karas: Theme from *The Third Man* (Carol Reed, 1949)

Zither solo: "Aber dich gibt's nur einmal für mich"

Strauss: *Tales from the Vienna Woods* (excerpt, VPO)

Strauss: *Tales from the Vienna Woods* (opening, Strauss Capelle)

B. Contrasts

The contrasts here are between the laid-back *Gemütlichkeit* typically associated with Vienna, and the occasional bursts of urban energy.

Video: Café Sperl

Video: *Schrammelmusik* in a *Heuriger* setting

Rudolf Sieczynski: "Wien, Wien, nur du allein" (Jonas Kaufmann)

Strauss: *Tritsch Tratsch Polka* (VPO, Vienna Boys' Choir)

C. Inside/Outside

The Vienna Philharmonic, one of the great orchestras of the world, typically performs in the Golden Hall of the *Musikverein*. But once a year, they also give a free outdoor concert at Schönbrunn Palace. And they are not the only musicians to play out of doors.

Shostakovich: *Waltz #2* (VPO Summer Concert)

Video: The Unique Sound of the VPO

Video: Buskers in Vienna

Straus: *Waltzertraum* (Wiener Volksoper)

D. Through the Ages

An interlude in which we make a bird's-eye overview of Vienna's history and unique geographical location.

Video: Vienna in 60 seconds

Video: Rick Steves on the Stephansdom

Video: Organ recital in the Peterskirche

Viennese Coffee House, 18th century

Video: Rick Steves on Vienna food specialties

E. Three Mozart Operas

Mozart could not have written *The Abduction* or *Figaro* without imperial patronage, or *The Magic Flute* without the presence of a popular theater. But only in a city with Vienna's geographical connections could he have written all three within the same decade.