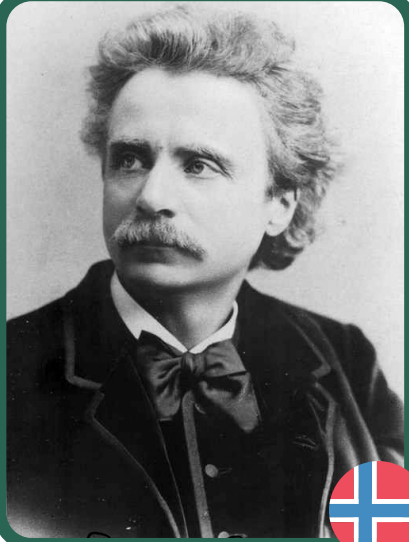




COMPOSER BIOGRAPHY

**EDVARD GRIEG**

BORN: June 15, 1843

ERA/STYLE: Romantic

DIED: September 4, 1907

HOMETOWN: Bergen, Norway

Edvard Grieg was born in Bergen, Norway into a musical home. At the age of 6, his mother became his first piano teacher. He began writing music at the age of 9. When he was a teenager, Grieg was sent to study at the best music conservatory in Europe, the Leipzig Conservatory. He graduated four years later as a talented pianist and composer. From there he continued his music studies in Copenhagen, Denmark. In 1866,

Grieg returned to Norway and established himself as a music teacher and concert performer.

In 1867, Grieg married his cousin Nina Hagerup. He received a state stipend to study in Italy and spent a winter in Rome. There Grieg flourished, performing his music meeting Franz Liszt and other European musicians. In 1872, he was made a member of the Royal Music Society in Stockholm, Sweden. In 1874, he received a state annual grant, quit teaching, and returned to his hometown of Bergen. From 1878 to 1880, Grieg and his wife Nina, a professional singer, gave concerts throughout Europe. Grieg died on September 4, 1907, in his hometown of Bergen, Norway.

Living in Bergen, Grieg composed much of his music among the picturesque landscape of forest, mountains, and sea. His admiration with the serenity and beauty of the Norwegian landscapes was an essential part of his music. He came to be regarded as a hero to the people of Norway, as many of his works include both Norwegian folksongs and painted a musical picture of the beautiful countryside.