

GIOACHINO ROSSINI

Born: February 29, 1792

Died: November 13, 1868

Gioachino Rossini was an Italian composer. He was the most popular composer of opera of his time. Like many composers, Rossini learned about music from his parents. Gioachino's father played the horn and the trumpet. His mother was an opera singer. When Gioachino was a little boy, he learned to play the piano and to sing. Because of his parents, Gioachino also learned a lot about opera.

Gioachino wrote his first opera in 1810. His most famous was *The Barber of Seville*. Many of Gioachino's operas were comedies. He wrote his last opera, *William Tell*, in 1829, when he was only 37 years old.

After that, Gioachino did not write much music. He only wrote small pieces of music for his friends, or for the church. You might have even heard some of his songs in Bugs Bunny cartoons! But, while he was alive, no one wrote opera better than Gioachino Rossini.