

## “Music Begins” quotes

“Music Begins”, an original painting © 2001 Randall M. Hasson

### “Music Begins” Quotes

Look out! Be on your guard because alone of all the arts, music moves all around you.  
-Jean Cocteau (Wordsworth – The Dictionary of Musical Quotations)

Above our heads is a violinist, below us is another, next door is a singing master who gives lessons, and in the room opposite an oboist. This is splendid for composing; it gives you plenty of ideas. –Mozart (“Mozart” by Peggy Woodford)

Do you know that our soul is composed of harmony? -Leonardo da Vinci -notebooks  
(Wordsworth)

“You will ask where my ideas come from. I cannot say for certain. They come uncalled, sometimes independently, sometimes in association with other things. It seems to me that I could wrest them from Nature herself with my own hands, as I go walking in the woods. They come to me in the silence of the night or in the early morning, stirred into being by moods which the poet would put into words but which I put into sounds; and these go through my head ringing and singing and storming until at last I have them before me as notes.”  
-Ludwig van Beethoven, letter to a friend, 1823 (Wordsworth)

Who hears music feels his solitude peopled at once – Robert Browning (Wordsworth)

O Music,  
In your depths we deposit  
Our hearts and souls.  
Thou hast taught us to see with our ears  
And hear with our hearts.

Kahlil Gibran (The Prophet)

Music takes us out of the actual and whispers to us dim secrets that startle our wonder as to who we are, and for what, whence, and whereto. – Ralph Waldo Emerson (Wordsworth)

Great Geniuses suffer and must suffer, but they need not complain; they have known intoxication unknown to the rest of us and, if they have wept tears of sadness, they have poured tears of ineffable joy. That in itself is a Heaven for which one never pays what it is worth.  
Charles-Francois Gonoud (Exley)

Who is there that, in logical words, can express the effect music has on us? A kind of inarticulate unfathomable speech, which leads us to the edge of the Infinite and lets us for moments gaze into that. Thomas Carlyle (Wordsworth)

Music is well said to be the speech of angels; in fact, nothing among the utterances allowed to man is felt to be so divine. It brings us near to the Infinite.  
Thomas Carlyle – “The Opera” (Wordsworth)

Music is not illusion, but revelation rather. It’s triumphant power resides in the fact that it reveals to us beauties we find nowhere else, and the apprehension of them is not transitory, but a perpetual reconciliation to life. – Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (Wordsworth)

Music is the voice that tells us that the human race is greater than it knows.

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– Marion C. Garretty (Exley)

... I believe in music, in its spirituality, its exaltation, its ecstatic nobility, its humor, its power to penetrate the fineness of every human being. Henry Cowell

Music is something innate and eternal, which needs little nourishment from without, and no experience drawn from life. – Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (Wordsworth)

Music! Soft charm of Heav'n and earth  
Whence didst thou borrow thy auspicious birth?  
Or art thou of eternal date  
Sire to thyself, thyself as old as fate?

- Edmund Smith – Ode to Music (Wordsworth)

Tone is light in another shape... in music instruments perform the function of the colours employed in painting. – Honore' de Balzac (Wordsworth)

I am more and more convinced that music, by its very nature, is something that cannot be poured into a tight and traditional form. It is made up of colours and rhythms.  
– Claude Dubussy (Wordsworth)

When I hear music, I fear no danger. I am invulnerable. I see no foe. I am related to the earliest times, and to the latest. – Henry David Thoreau, Journal 1857 (Wordsworth)

Music, when soft voices die,  
Vibrates in the memory.  
- Percy Bysshe Shelley (Wordsworth)

Where words leave off, music begins. –Heinrich Heine