



COMPOSER: Giacomo Puccini

HOW TO SAY THE NAME:

'Puccini' is said like **Poo-chee-knee**. 'Giacomo' is said like 'Jee-ah-ko-mo'.

BORN: December 22, 1858 – Lucca Italy

DIED: November 29, 1924 – Brussels, Belgium
(Diagnosed with throat cancer and died of a heart attack)

BURIED: A specially built chapel in the grounds of his estate in Torre del Lago, Toscana, Italy.

FULL NAME: Giacomo Antonio Domenico Michele Secondo Maria Puccini

SPOUSE: Elvira Gemignani

CHILDREN: Antonio Puccini

FAMILY INFO:

- Five generations of his family were musicians and church organists.
- His father died when he was 6 years old and his uncle ensured that he continued his music studies.
- Puccini he became a choirboy at San Martino and San Michele and at the age of 14 he began to play organ for the convent church - his wages helped to support his family

MOST POPULAR COMPOSITIONS (all operas):

Madame Butterfly

La bohème

Tosca

Turandot

SOME INTERESTING FACTS:

- His music is very popular, especially in Italy.
- He was a leading composer during the Romantic Period.
- His music is full of long and beautiful tunes.
- *Gianni Schicchi* is different from all his other operas—it's a comedy!
- His last opera, *Turandot*, wasn't finished when he died. It was finished instead by Franco Alfano.
- He died very rich.
- In 1903 Puccini was involve in a car accident and was seriously injured. The car was driven by his chauffeur and his wife, Elvira and their son, Antonio, were also in the car when it off the road and flipped over. Both mother and child were spared any serious injury receiving only minor scrapes and bruises.