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The ground floor of the museum offers changing special exhibitions, as well as the museum shop and a chamber music hall that seats 140 for concerts, film screenings and presentations. Four audio guides that take individual visitors on an audio journey through Schumann's life are available for individual visitors. Guided tours need to be booked in advance and are available in different languages. Tours with emphasis on special topics and for children are also offered. Your visit to the museum can be combined with a concert or a city tour on Schumann's footsteps upon request.



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Cover image
Johann Anton Völlner, Robert and Clara Schumann at the piano, Hamburg 1850 (Photo of a daguerreotype)

- [1] Special exhibition in the foyer
- [2] Concert in the chamber music hall
- [3] Permanent installation by Janet Grau



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The Robert Schumann House Zwickau is a member of the Schumann Network.

Opening hours

Tuesday to Friday 10am to 5pm
Saturday, Sunday and holidays (also on Mondays) 1pm to 5pm

Closed on Good Friday, Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve

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Schumann
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ZWICKAU



ROBERT SCHUMANN HOUSE ZWICKAU

MUSEUM, CONCERT HALL AND
RESEARCH CENTRE

www.schumann-zwickau.com



Welcome to one of the most beautiful German music museums

On 8 June, 1810, the composer and music critic, Robert Schumann, is born at the Hauptmarkt in Zwickau. The Robert Schumann House was opened 1956 on the 100th anniversary of his death. Today, it is home to the world's largest Schumann collection with more than 4,000 manuscripts, original portraits and personal belongings of the composer and his wife, the pianist Clara Wieck (1819-1896).

The room in which he was born is furnished entirely with exhibits from the estate of the world famous couple.



“Do you know Schumann”

The American performance artist Janet Grau created an installation with Schumann busts and posters in the first floor foyer. Through a variety of multimedia presentations, it is possible to encounter the composer from a modern-day perspective. There is a reading and games’ corner on the gallery level, an audio point with comparative recordings of Schumann’s works as well as exhibits that highlight the lasting relevance and topicality of Robert and Clara Schumann, including ca. 50 different Schumann stamps from around the world.

Intimate insights

In eight rooms the permanent exhibition takes you through the life and work of Robert and Clara Schumann. More than 350 exhibits, from a lock of Clara Wieck’s hair to Robert Schumann’s chess board and the Schumann children’s doll cutlery, give intimate insight into the daily life of the famous artist couple. Theme-related quotations guide you through the individual rooms. Schumann’s piano works from the early 1830s resound on a musical marble run or from the sound installation “Dancing letters”. When looking through opera glasses from the 19th century, a coloured original scene of the premiere of Schumann’s opera “Genoveva” can be seen in 3D.

Inventor of the pocket books

Robert Schumann’s father, August Schumann, worked as a successful publisher and bookseller in this house. A large part of his published stock, which consisted of classic editions in various languages, including numerous personal copies of Robert Schumann, can be admired in the exhibition rooms.



- [4] Exhibition Room “Courtship and Marriage”
- [5] Magical opera glasses
- [6] Musical marble run ABEGG
- [7] August Schumann’s classic editions
- [8] Installation “Do you know Schumann?”
- [9] Robert Schumann’s bookcase with his father’s encyclopedia volumes



- [10] Schumann busts by Eugen Schlipf, Hermann Knauer and Johannes Hartmann
- [11] “Saxonia” model. In 1839, Robert Schumann participated in the maiden voyage from Leipzig to Dresden.
- [12] Reading and games’ corner
- [13] Audio point



- [14] Room of Schumann’s birth with items belonging to Robert and Clara Schumann
- [15] Wilhelm Wieck grand piano
- [16] André Stein grand piano, westplank
- [17] Rosenkranz square piano with “hand guide”

Schumann for children

Schumann, himself a father of eight, applied himself to creating special compositions for children and youth like no other great composer. His “Musical House and Life Rules” are still relevant today, and pieces from his “Album for the young” are played by piano students all over the world. The museum has a special range of activities for young visitors, such as a children’s audio guide, a Schumann quiz and a whole lot more waiting to be discovered.

“Honour the old, yet also warmly embrace the new.” Robert Schumann

Collection of instruments

Outstanding among the seven keyboard instruments of Schumann’s time are the Viennese grand piano made by André Stein on which Clara Schumann gave her first concert in 1828 at the age of nine at the Gewandhaus in Leipzig, as well as a pedal piano, which – similar to an organ – has a keyboard also for the feet. Three instruments in the collection were built by Clara Schumann’s cousin, Wilhelm Wieck. On pressing a key, mechanical models illustrate the three competing piano actions common during Clara Schumann’s time.