



## George Bridgetower



### **Birth:**

Born in 1776, in Poland, to a West-Indian father and a German mother.

### **Early Years:**

George Bridgetower moved to London at an early age to pursue a career as a violinist. He settled in **Peckham, Southwark**. By the age of ten, he was regularly performing at Drury Lane

Theatre. He was soon spotted by George IV, who sponsored his musical education at Trinity Hall, Cambridge.

### **Achievements:**

Bridgetower became acclaimed for his talent on the violin and performed regularly in Paris and Vienna to wide audiences. Thomas Jefferson, one of the founding fathers of America, was known to attend Bridgewater's concerts.

Bridgetower is best known for his performances with the composer Ludwig van Beethoven. Beethoven even dedicated a sonnet for Bridgetower, **Violin Sonata No. 9**.

### **Death**

He died in Peckham, in 1860. He left his estate of £1,000 to his deceased wife's sister, which was a lot of money in those days!

**"A very capable virtuoso who has a complete command over his instrument."**

**— Ludwig Van Beethoven on George Bridgetower**

