cal sections are arranged in a rondo-like structure. The main theme (A) is gracious, a quality that is maintained by the faster-moving B section. The C section, darker in tone, centers about C minor and is heard against a restless background of quick notes. The movement is brought to a close with a return to the A section.

The minuet and trio is an Allegretto in G major, marked by regular four-bar phrases set in rounded binary form. The minuet opens brightly and decisively. The trio, with its polished soaring melody, presents a lyrical contrast. The opening music then returns, satisfying the Classical desire for balance and symmetry.

The last movement, a sprightly Allegro in the home key of G, alternates with an idea in the key of the dominant, D major. We have here a prime example of the Classical sonata-rondo finale—bright, jovial, and stamped with an aristocratic refinement. This work is Mozartean from its first note to its last, and is a perfect introduction to the master's astonishing creative talents.

**Listening Guide**

Mozart: *Eine kleine Nachtmusik (A Little Night Music)*, K. 525

**DATE OF WORK:** 1787

**MEDIUM:** String quartet with double bass, or chamber orchestra

**MOVEMENTS:**

I. Allegro; sonata-allegro form, G major

II. Romanza, Andante; sectional rondo form, C major

III. Allegretto; minuet and trio, G major

IV. Allegro; sonata-rondo form, G major

**First Movement:** Allegro; sonata-allegro form, 4/4 meter, G major

**WHAT TO LISTEN FOR:** Intimate string chamber music style.

Quick-paced movement with 3 themes, sonata-allegro form.

Overall homophonic texture.

First theme is disjunct, marchlike, and ascends quickly (rocket theme);

second theme graceful and conjunct.

(Shorter recordings include first and third movements only.)

**EXPOSITION**

Theme 1—aggressive, ascending "rocket" theme, symmetrical phrasing, in G major:

Transitional passage, modulating.

Theme 2—graceful, contrasting theme, less hurried, in key of dominant, D major:
Closing theme—insistent, repetitive, ends in D major:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{\small \text{etc.}}
\end{align*}
\]

Repeat of exposition.

DEVELOPMENT
Short, begins in D major, manipulates theme 1 and closing theme; modulates, and prepares for recapitulation in G major.

RECAPITULATION
Theme 1—in G major.
Theme 2—in G major.
Closing theme—in G major.
Coda—extends closing, in G major.

Second Movement: Romanza, Andante; sectional rondo form, duple meter, C major

WHAT TO LISTEN FOR:
Gentle, lyrical melodies in slow tempo.
Rondo-like structure, with opening section (A) recurring, A and B sections in rounded binary form

A section—lyrical, serene melody in 2 parts, each repeated (A B A):

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{\small \text{Andante}}
\end{align*}
\]

First violin with faster movement at beginning of second part of A:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{\small \text{Andante}}
\end{align*}
\]

B section—more rhythmic movement, varies idea of a, brings a back at end; in 2 sections, each repeated (B D B):

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{\small \text{B section}}
\end{align*}
\]

Return of a theme (first time).
C section—in C minor, active rhythmic accompaniment; exchanges between violins and cellos; in 2 sections (C D C).
A section—return of first section in tonic, without repeats (A B A).
Coda—3 loud chords extend the idea of a.
**Third Movement: Allegretto; minuet and trio form, 3/4 meter, G major**

**WHAT TO LISTEN FOR:**
- Strongly rhythmic dance, in triple meter.
- Lyrical, expressive trio.
- Regular 4-measure phrases.
- Marked contrast between minuet and trio.
- Balanced, regular form (minuet returns at end).
- Homophonic texture.

**Minuet theme**—in accented triple meter, decisive character, in 2 sections (8 measures each), both repeated:

```
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allegro</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>G Major</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```

**Trio theme**—more lyrical and connected, in 2 sections (8 + 12 measures), both repeated:

```
| Minuet returns, without repeats. |
```

**Fourth Movement: Allegro; sonata-rondo form, 4/4 meter, G major**

**WHAT TO LISTEN FOR:**
- Light and graceful finale, in homophonic texture.
- Rocket theme, quick and spirited.
- Contrasting second theme.
- Form combines principles of rondo and sonata-allegro.

**EXPOSITION**

Theme 1—merry, quick-paced rocket theme, symmetrical, 4-measure phrases, each repeated, in G major:

```
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allegro</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>G Major</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```

Transition and modulation to dominant key.

Theme 2—begins with downward leap, opposite in character to theme 1, in D major:

```
| Minuet returns in varied setting as closing. |
Exposition repeated. |
```

**DEVELOPMENT**

Theme 1—modulates through various keys, ends up in G minor.

**RECAPITULATION**

Theme 2—returns in tonic.

Theme 1—in tonic, as closing and extension of cadence.

Coda—theme 1 returns as in exposition, in G major.