## Ludwig Spohr

Ludwig Spohr was born on 5<sup>th</sup> April, 1784 in Braunschweig. At the 22<sup>th</sup> October, 1859 he died in Kassel. Spohr was the oldest son of the doctor Karl Heinrich Spohr. At the age



of 5 years he sang together with his mother in front of an audience. Beside his school education he had music lessons from the age of 12 on. When he was 15 years old he became chamber musician of the Duke of Braunschweig. Spohr was very famous as a violinist and at age 21 he became the concert master of Gotha. And at age 29 he became concert master in Vienna. There he met Beethoven.

After that, he went to London, Frankfurt and Dresden. In 1822 Spohr accepted the job has a director of music at the court of Kassel. There he played music till shortly before his death. Spohr married his wife Dorette in 1806 and had 3 daughters with her. After the death of Dorette, he married another time. He became famous with a new conducting technique. Spohr invented the baton.

He made music life in Kassel famous and founded a violin school which students all over Europe came to. Spohr is a citizen of honour of Kassel. Since 2009 there has been a "Spohr"-museum in the ''Kasseler Kulturbahnhof''. In the centre of "Opernplatz" in Kassel, everybody can see the sculpture of Ludwig Spohr. Besides, the music academy is named ''Ludwig Spohr'' too.

## Questions

- 1. Which instrument did Louis Spohr play most often? (1)
- 2. How old was Spohr when he died in Kassel? (1)
- 3. What was the name of his second wife? (2)

Please write your answers to Carl Jesper